

**Department of Counseling, Leadership, and Research Methods**  
**Master of Education in Adult and Lifelong Learning**  
**Submitted May 9, 2025**

**Academic Assessment Plan**

**Program Goals**

1. The M.Ed. degree prepares students for employment in programs that provide adult literacy and education, lifelong learning, community and nonprofit organizations, military education, postsecondary education, and continuing professional education. The program focuses on developing students as emerging scholars and practitioners.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Describe the educational needs of adult learners in a myriad of adult and lifelong learning environments.
2. Develop and implement procedures to assess learning needs for adult learners.
3. Create and design instructional programs aimed at meeting the needs of adult learners.
4. Demonstrate leadership and management skills applicable to the organization and administration of adult and lifelong learning programs.
5. Apply problem solving skills in order to research and evaluate the impact of adult and lifelong learning programs on participants.

**Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome**

1. Timeline for assessment and analysis

ADLL 52203 Applied Project serves as the program capstone, with data collection occurring annually during the spring semester. Students are required to complete this course as part of their program of study. Student performance is analyzed at the ADLL strategic planning meeting held after each academic year closes. This analysis informs potential programmatic and course changes.

Additionally, exit interviews are conducted with all students as part of the Applied Project course to gather qualitative feedback on their program experience.

2. Means of assessment and desired level of student achievement
  - a. Direct
  - b. *ADLL 52203 Applied Project* serves as a capstone experience and formative assessment that measures synthesis of program content which includes the five learning outcomes listed above. This assessment includes the following activities:
    - i. Identify a problem or an issue that exists within an adult education or lifelong learning setting.

- ii. Research interventions which have been used previously to address similar issues in adult education or lifelong learning settings.
- iii. Develop a plan to address the problem or issue within the adult education or lifelong learning setting.
- iv. Support the components of the plan which are designed to address the problem or issue.

c. Indirect

- d. Exit Interviews provide ADLL faculty with information regarding student experiences in the program. The interview includes questions related to the immediate application of course material, the relevance and significance of the learning to students' current or intended careers, whether their intended goals have been met and/or been modified since beginning the program, and what aspects of the program should be altered to meet those goals.

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**Annual Academic Assessment Report 2024-2025**

**Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**

**ADLL 52203 Adult and Lifelong Learning Applied Project**

Fifteen students initially enrolled in ADLL 52203 Adult and Lifelong Learning Applied Project for Spring 2024. Two students withdrew during the semester, citing:

- Insufficient preparation due to incomplete prerequisite coursework
- Inability to commit the necessary time for planning and implementing the culminating project

**Exit Interview**

The exit interview serves as an assessment tool designed to capture student reflections on their learning and overall experience in the ADLL Program. The structured questions focus specifically on students' perceived ability to apply M.Ed. content to both personal and professional contexts.

Full participation in the exit interview process is mandatory for meeting course requirements and completing graduation requirements.

**Changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**

**Changes Made to Degree/Certificate**

The ADLL faculty analyzed exit interview feedback collected from Spring 2024 graduates and, will review feedback collected in Spring 2025 at the close of the semester.

In response to 2024 feedback, ADLL 51303 Curriculum Development in ABE and ASE underwent significant redevelopment to:

- Better prepare adult education licensure candidates for the Praxis exam
- Enhance relevance for students in other professional fields

These modifications appear successful, with Spring 2025 course evaluations showing overwhelmingly positive feedback.