

## Ranking Majors on Progress Toward Degree Fall 2010 and Spring 2011

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Two studies were recently completed by IR&A, which listed student progress toward degree at different beginning earned credit levels: *Two-Semester Average Credits Earned by Major by Starting Credits Earned Level Fall 2010 (April 2012), Spring 2011 and Graduation or Return/Graduation Rates by Major Fall 2010 Majors to Fall 2011 (April 2012)*.

Seven progress measures were included in the two studies. A simple scoring mechanism was used to rank the majors: if a major's students had an above-average rate of progress on that progress measure, the major was given one point. The graduation rate of students who began with 45 or more credits was given double weight, i.e., majors where students graduated in two semesters who began with 45 or more earned credits were given two points.

Accounting, Business Administration, and Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Management all had perfect scores of eight. They scored above average on each of the seven measures.

### Progress Measures

- 1) **Graduation rate—Students with 45 or more credits earned at the start of Fall 2010.** The average graduation rate during Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 for all students enrolled with 45 or more credits in Fall 2010 was 55%. (*Double weighted.*)
- 2) **Return/graduation rate—Students with 30 to 44 credits earned at the start of Fall 2010.** The average Fall 2011 return or graduation (Fall 2010 or Spring 2011) rate for all students enrolled with 30 to 44 credits earned in Fall 2010 was 67%.
- 3) **Return/graduation rate—Students with 15 to 29 credits earned at the start of Fall 2010.** The average r Fall 2011 return or graduation (Fall 2010 or Spring 2011) rate for all students enrolled with 15 to 29 credits earned in Fall 2010 was 64%.
- 4) **Return/graduation rate—Students with 0 to 14 credits earned at the start of Fall 2010.** The average Fall 2011 return or graduation (Fall 2010 or Spring 2011) rate for all students enrolled with 0 to 14 credits earned in Fall 2010 was 60%.
- 5) **Number of Credits Earned—Students with 30 to 44 earned credits at the start of Fall 2011.** During the next two semesters, the average student who began with 30 to 44 earned credits gained 17.1 additional credits during Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.
- 6) **Number of Equated Credits Earned—Students with 15 to 29 earned credits at the start of Fall 2011.** During the next two semesters, the average student who began with 15 to 29 earned credits earned 16.6 equated credits during Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.

- 7) **Number of Equated Credits Earned—Students with 0 to 14 earned credits at the start of Fall 2011.** During the next two semesters, the average student who began with 0 to 14 earned credits earned 15.6 equated credits during Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.

Majors with zero scores are not listed in the table below. They are new majors with very few students in Fall 2010.

Major	Score	Proportion >=45 Graduated	Average Number of Credits Earned 30-44 Cr Start, Fa 10 & Sp 11	Grad/ Returned Rate 30-44 Credits	Average Number of Equated Credits Earned 15-29 Cr Start, Fa 10	Grad/ Returned Rate 15-29 Credits	Average Number of Equated Credits Earned 0-14 Cr Start, Fa 10 & Sp 11	Grad/ Returned Rate 0 to 14 Credits
Accounting	8	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Business Administration	8	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Travel, Tourism, & Hospitality Mgt	8	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Business Management	7	2	1	0	1	1	1	1
Paralegal Studies	7	2	1	1	0	1	1	1
Food Service Management	6	2	1	1	0	0	1	1
Physical Therapist Assistant	6	2	1	1	0	1	0	1
Civil Engineering Science	5	2	0	0	1	1	1	0
Communications	5	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
Criminal Justice	5	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Liberal Arts (Childhood Education)	5	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Administrative Assistant	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	1
Commercial Photography	4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
Computer Science	4	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Computer Technology	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Electrical Engineering Science	4	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Fine Arts	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Human Services: Mental Health	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
New Media Technology	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Nursing	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Programming and Systems	4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
School Food Service Management	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Writing and Literature	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Dietetic Technician	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Digital Media Arts	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Human Services: Child Development	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Human Services: Gerontology	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Liberal Arts (Ed Pgm w Sociology-Qns)	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Occupational Therapy Assistant	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Radiologic Technology	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Undeclared Health Major-Nursing	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Computer Operations	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Ed Associate-The Bilingual Child	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Liberal Arts: Social Sciences & Humes	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Mechanical Engineering	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Music Recording Technology	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterinary Technology	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
EMT/Paramedic	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Liberal Arts: Mathematics & Science	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Microcomputer Sys & Apps	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Practical Nursing	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish Translation	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0