



Finish@UT
Tailored for your success

Initial Report

Academic Years 2011-2013

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Executive Summary

The Finish@UT Program was created for students who began working toward a degree but due to life's circumstances were unable to complete the degree in a traditional manner. Finish@UT provides them the opportunity to finish their degrees completely online. Students are able to select from a number of courses offered through four partnering institutions: UT Arlington, UT Brownsville, UT Permian Basin, and UT El Paso.

UT Arlington entered the Finish@UT Program in the fall of 2011. The program has grown substantially and has increased its course offerings for both the fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters. The following report will provide a brief history of the Finish@UT Program and will address the program's growth and development for the academic years 2011-2013.

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An Overview of Finish@UT

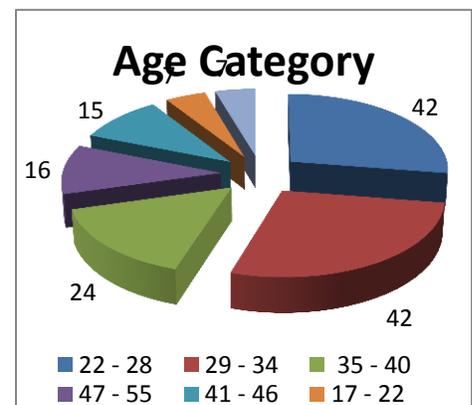
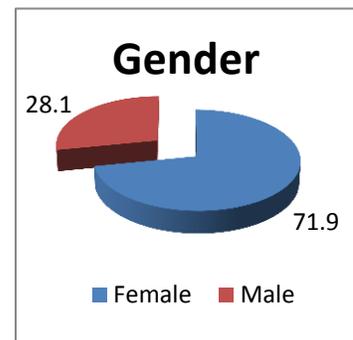
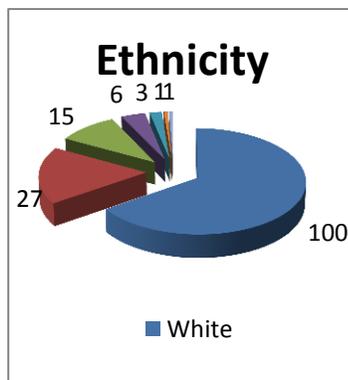
The Finish@UT Program was established as a collaborative effort between the University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at El Paso, and the University of Texas of the Permian Basin. It was originally labeled the Bachelor's Acceleration Completion, or BAC, Program. This name was confusing, leading students to believe the degree could be finished in record time when in fact it indicated that courses were offered in an abbreviated, or accelerated, format.

In the fall of 2011, the program's name was changed to Finish@UT. Hahn, TX was employed as the advertising firm charged with the creation of a website, promotional pieces, and offered scholarships as incentives for students to join the program. Kickoff events were held in the major market areas and the creation of social media pieces, Facebook, YouTube, etc. were also included.

As mentioned in the Executive Summary on page 3, Finish@UT seeks to attract those students who began working toward a four-year degree but who, for several reasons beyond their control, were unable to complete it. The need for a totally online bachelor's completion program became evident and the Finish@UT Program was established to meet those needs.

Demographics

The data presented in the charts on the right are based on the students enrolled as majors in the Finish@UT Program for the fall 2013 semester. The preponderance of our students are white females between the ages of 22 and 34. Students from all ethnic backgrounds, including Hispanic/Latino, Black/African American, Asian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, are also represented in this grouping. Students also range in age from 17 to 64. 5.2% of them have prior or current military service and 26% of these students hold an associate's degree from an accredited community college.

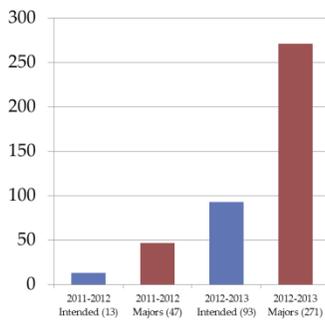


Student Population and Enrollment Growth

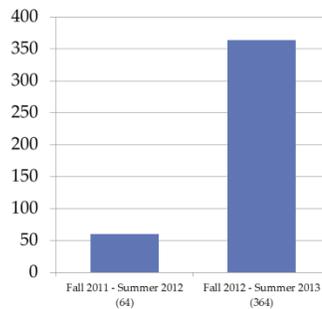
Interest and enrollment in the Finish@UT program continues to gain momentum. For the academic year 2011-2012, 60 students were admitted to the program as either full majors (47 in number) or intended majors (13 in number). An intended major is a student who has fewer than 60 hours towards a degree or who has not completed the Texas Core Curriculum, or who has less than a 2.0 GPA. All three of these criteria are required for admission to the program.

In comparison, the number of intended majors for the academic year 2012-2013 increased to a level of 93 while those students declaring the major increased to a total of 271. This represents a total of 364 students in the program. Enrollments also increased from 64 in the 2011-2012 academic year to 364 for academic year 2012-2013.

Student Population Growth



Enrollment Growth

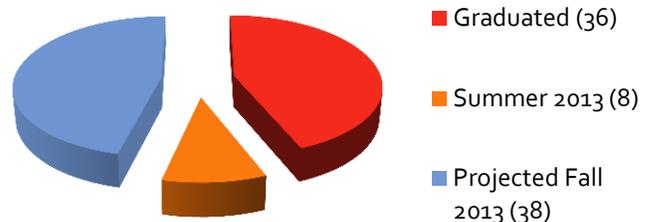


Graduation Rates

The Finish@UT Program saw its first graduates in the spring of 2011. Of note were two students who switched into the program to complete their degrees. One student, expecting her first child, would have been delayed almost a year from getting her degree had it not been for Finish@UT. The second was unable to attend on-campus courses due to a change in his work responsibilities and schedules.

To date, the Finish@UT Program here, at UT Arlington, has graduated 36 students with another 8 students finishing in the summer of 2013 and another 38 projected for fall 2013.

Graduation Figures



Advising For Finish@UT

The Finish@UT Program has a team of three advisors who work with students to ensure registration, degree plan alignment, graduation procedures, and program policies are followed. The advisors use the following methods to advise Finish@UT students:

- Telephone
- E-mail
- Online via Adobe Connect
- In Person

In addition, the advising staff has created two Blackboard organizations, one for majors and one for intended majors. Each organization is maintained and updated by the advising team and includes documents pertinent to the program, an orientation to Finish and to the UTOC systems, and they have established a FAQ page exclusively for students in the Finish@UT program.

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the University of Texas at Arlington website, including the logo and search bar. Below this is a banner for 'UNIVERSITY COLLEGE'. A secondary navigation bar contains links for 'About', 'Prospective Students', 'Current Students', 'Parents and Family', 'Faculty and Staff', and 'Resources'. The 'Current Students' link is highlighted. Below the navigation is a sidebar with 'CURRENT STUDENTS' and 'Finish @ UT' links, and a 'Frequently Asked Questions: Finish@UT at UTA' section. The main content area displays the 'Finish Program Overview' with a list of six frequently asked questions.

Finish@UT Website

The Finish@UT website, www.finishatut.org, is the mainstay for students in the Finish@UT program as well as prospective students interested in joining. The site contains information about the various schools, their degrees, a list of all courses offered in the program, a full contact list for each campus, information concerning pricing, academic calendars, and provides direct access for application to the program.

Discover Finish@UT

Get an inside look on what Advisors, Professors and Students have to say about Finish@UT.

[Watch Now](#)

Ready to finish your degree?

Apply to the Finish@UT program today and take the first step towards earning a college degree tailored for your success.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Welcome to Finish@UT

The University of Texas System Online Consortium is pleased to offer you the opportunity to Finish@UT, a fully online, bachelor's degree completion program designed to help you advance in your career, achieve your personal academic goals and meet your standards of a quality education. With several degree options, you are able to choose areas of concentration that meet your interests and career goals. Once you are finished, you will obtain your diploma from one of the accredited University of Texas System institutions: The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at Brownsville, The University of Texas at El Paso, or The University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Finish@UT Development Committee

The Development Committee meets via teleconference once a month to discuss challenges facing all four institutions. Recently, the committee developed a common language document that will be shared on the website and with all students at the individual campuses with Finish students. A copy of this document may be found at the end of this report. The committee also releases annual updates. The updates for fall 2012 and fall 2013 are also included at the end of this report.

Closing Comments

The Finish@UT program stands as a glowing model for people who believe a college degree is out of reach or simply impossible to attain. In the process of living, life gets in the way but what is important is that we have provided a means for individuals to complete their dream of obtaining an education and parlaying that degree into a better and more secure future for themselves and their families.

In the future, Finish@UT will continue to grow, adding new courses, new member institutions, and new programs that will further enhance the lives of so many people. The name of the programs says it all. Finish!! Let us strive to continually set the example for other universities and systems seeking to offer the same services and opportunities to their students.

