GRADUATION RATE AND ENGAGEMENT OF STUDENTS COMPLETING AED 295B AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Abstract

Half of students who begin their higher education careers do not end up graduating within 150% of the time allotted for their degree programs. Numerous theories exist in an attempt to explain this reality and offer help to employ retention strategies to increase graduation rates. The University of Arizona offers a course that utilizes many retention strategies offered in these theories. This study sought to explore the effectiveness of these strategies and the graduation rates of students taking this course.

The study found the course to effectively connect students to the institution, faculty, and engagement activities. In addition, students who completed the course had higher graduation rates than The University of Arizona average for both 150% and 100% completion times. The results of this study show the course is successful in employing retention strategies and increasing graduation rates of students on The University of Arizona campus.