

# Survey Results & Analysis

for

## Tarleton State University Graduate Exit Survey

Monday, November 8, 2010  
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## Executive Summary

This report contains a detailed statistical analysis of the results to the survey titled *Tarleton State University Graduate Exit Survey*. The results analysis includes answers from all respondents who took the survey in the 178 day period from Thursday, November 19, 2009 to Friday, May 14, 2010. 43 completed responses were received to the survey during this time.

# Survey Results & Analysis

Survey: Tarleton State University Graduate Exit Survey

Author:

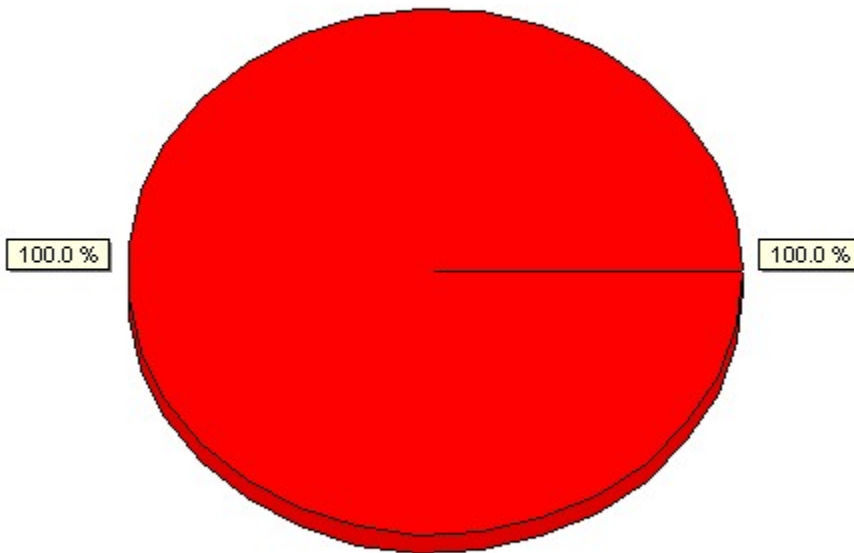
Filter:

Responses Received: 43

1) Please indicate your primary campus:

**1) Please indicate your primary campus:**

Stephenville	0
Southwest Metroplex	0
Waco	0
Online	0

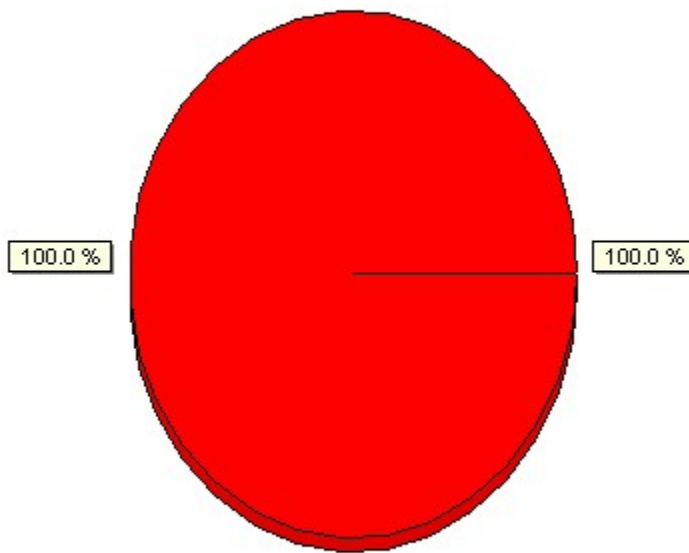




2) What College are you graduating under?

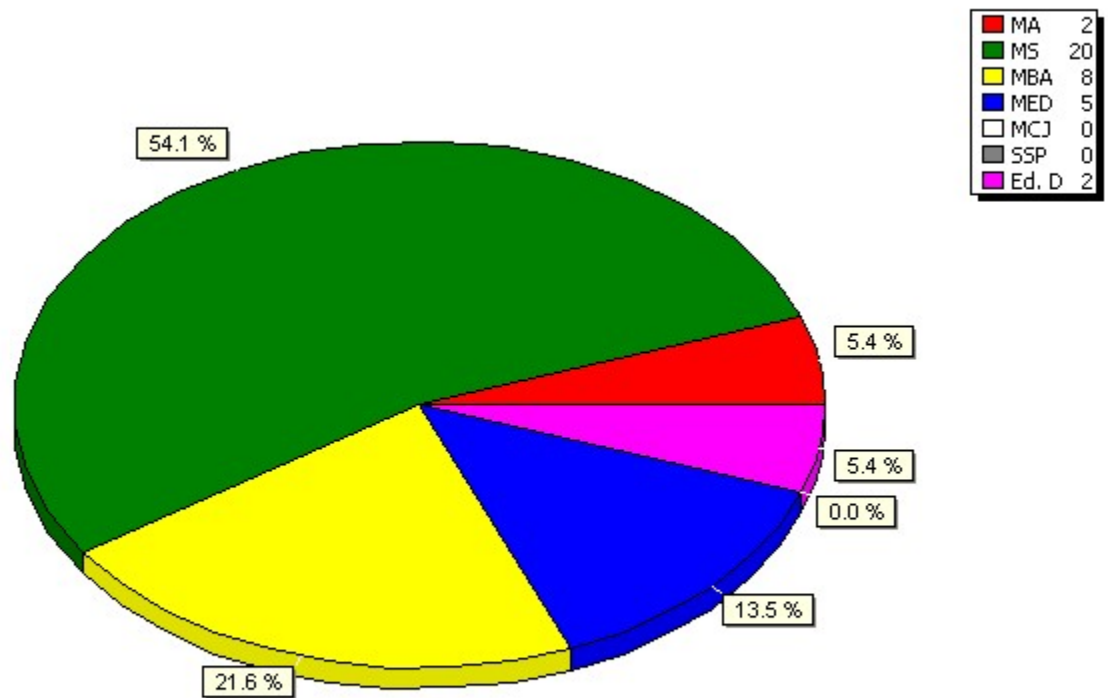
2) What College are you graduating under?

College of Agriculture and Human ...	0
College of Business Administratio...	0
College of Education	0
College of Liberal and Fine Arts	0
College of Science and Technology	0



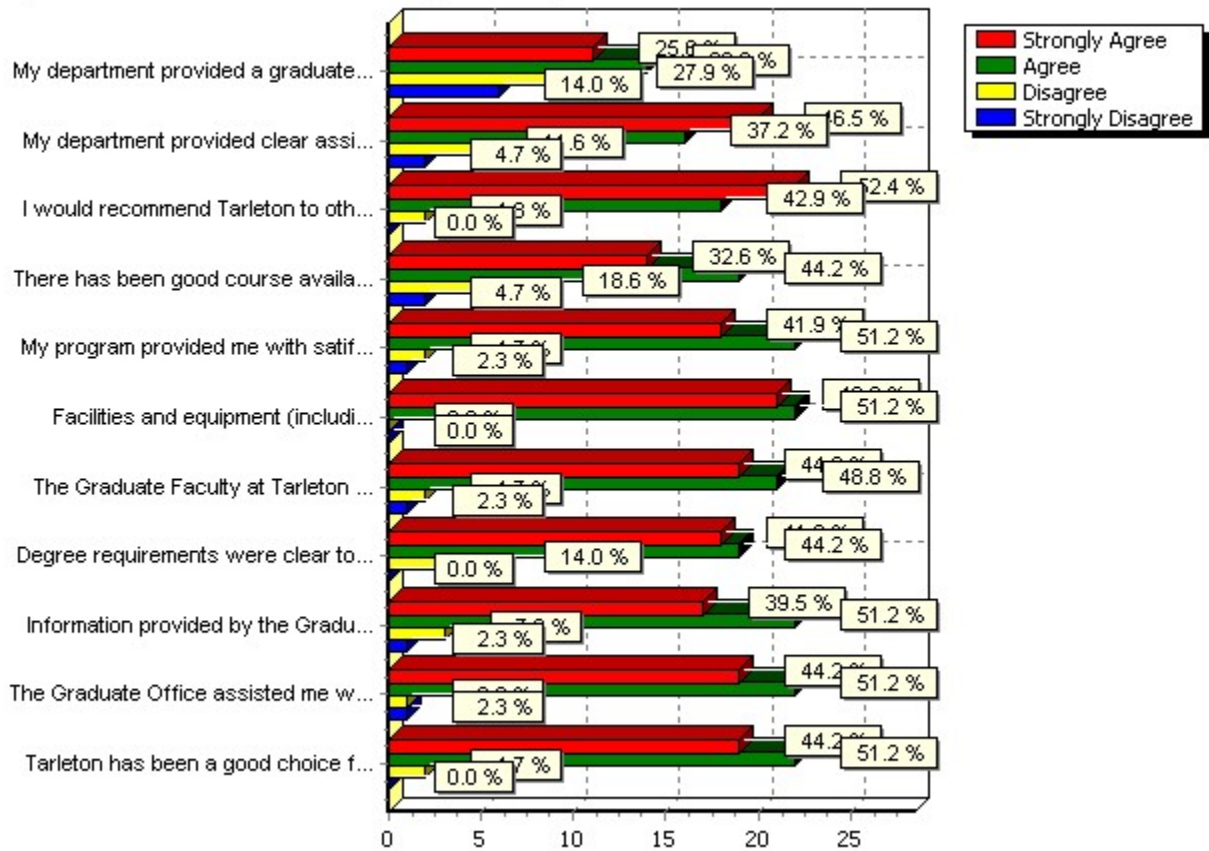
3) Please indicate which degree you will be earning:

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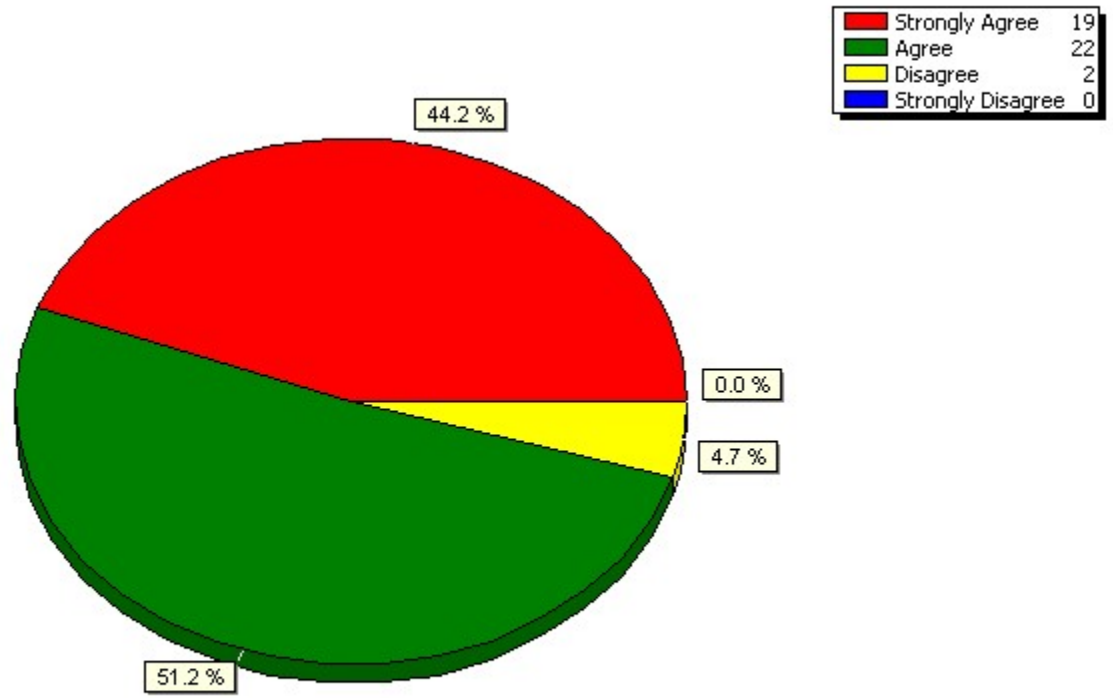
4) Please indicate one of the following for each question:

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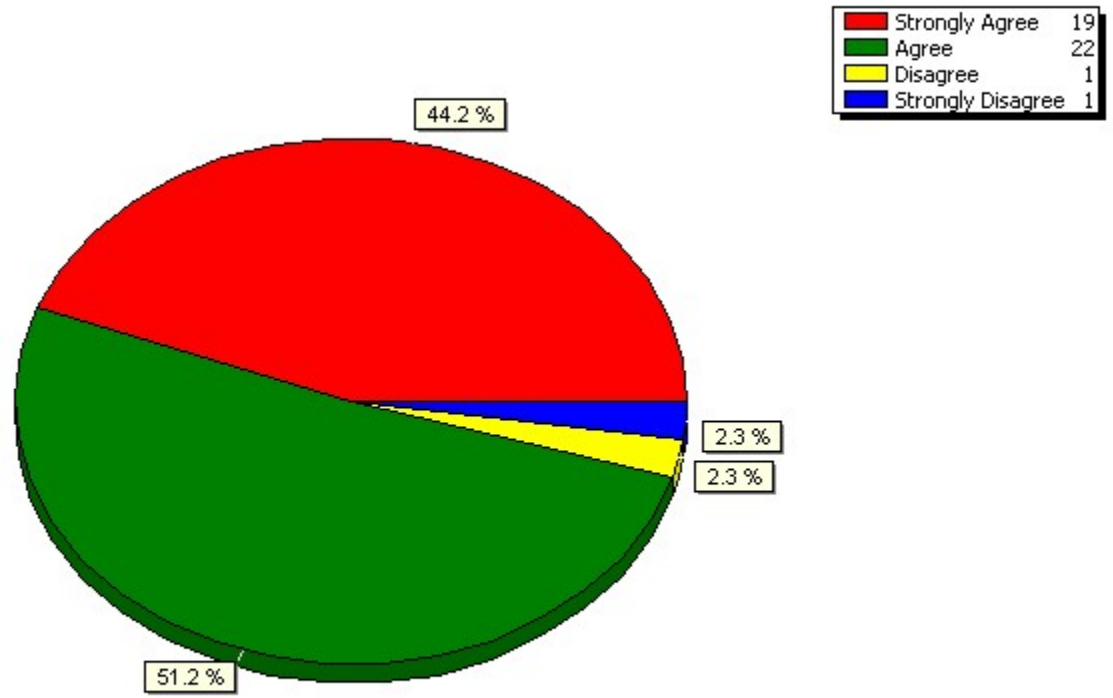
4.1) Tarleton has been a good choice for graduate study.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

1) Tarleton has been a good choice for graduate study.(Please indicate one of the following for each quest...



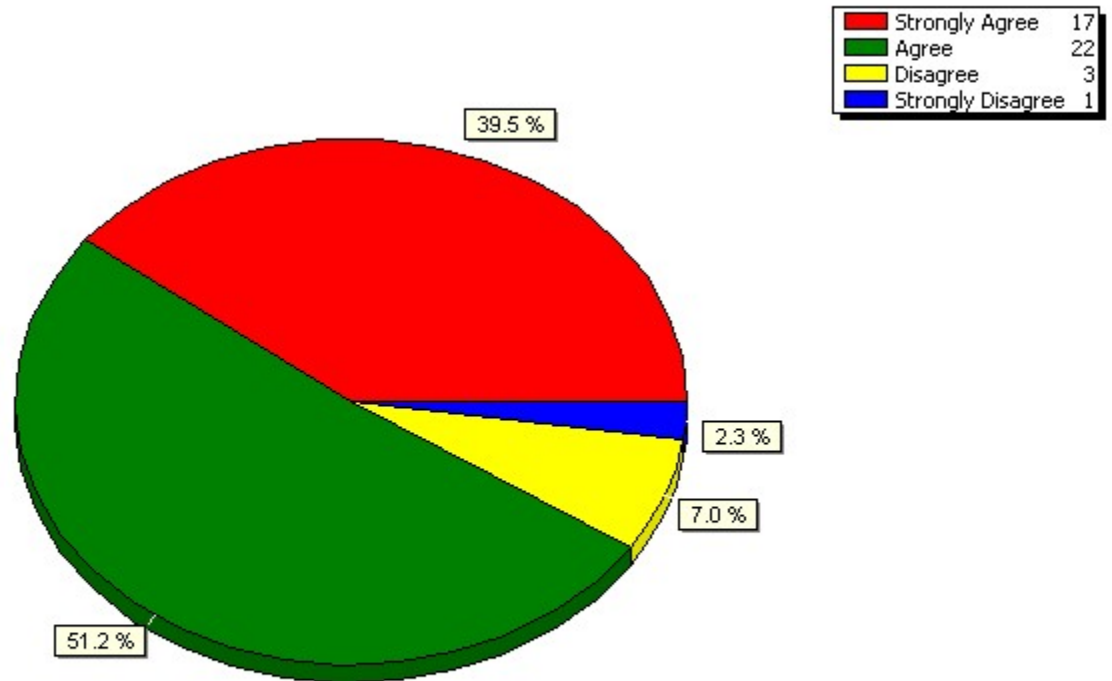
4.2) The Graduate Office assisted me when I had a need or request.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

2) The Graduate Office assisted me when I had a need or request.(Please indicate one of the following for ...



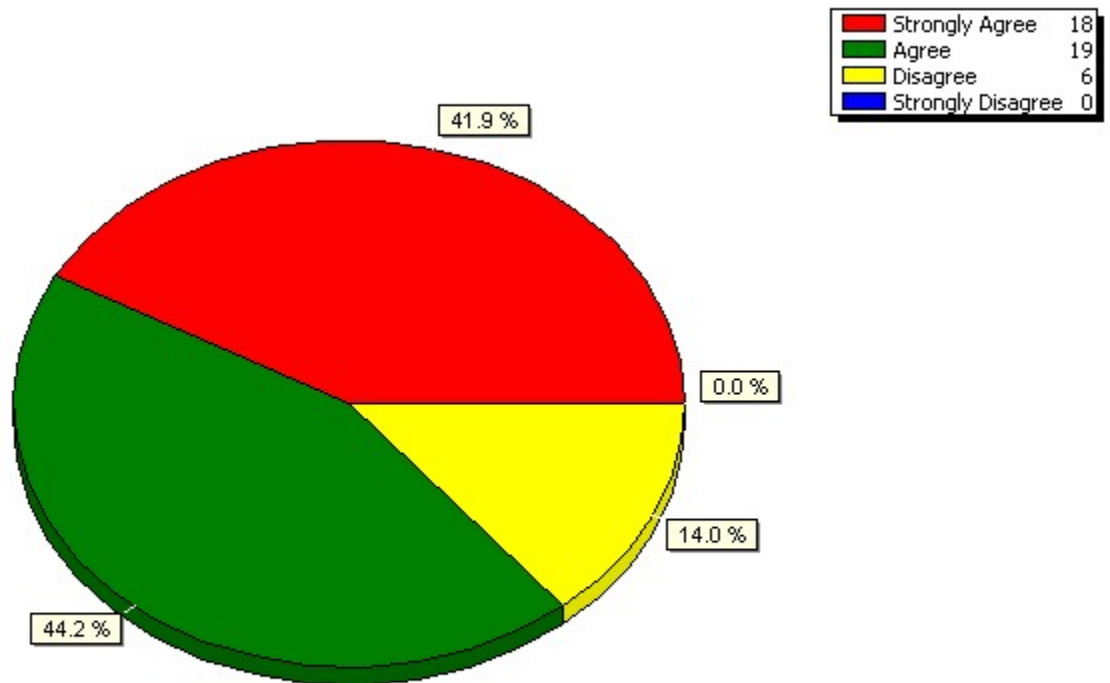
4.3) Information provided by the Graduate Office was helpful and clear.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

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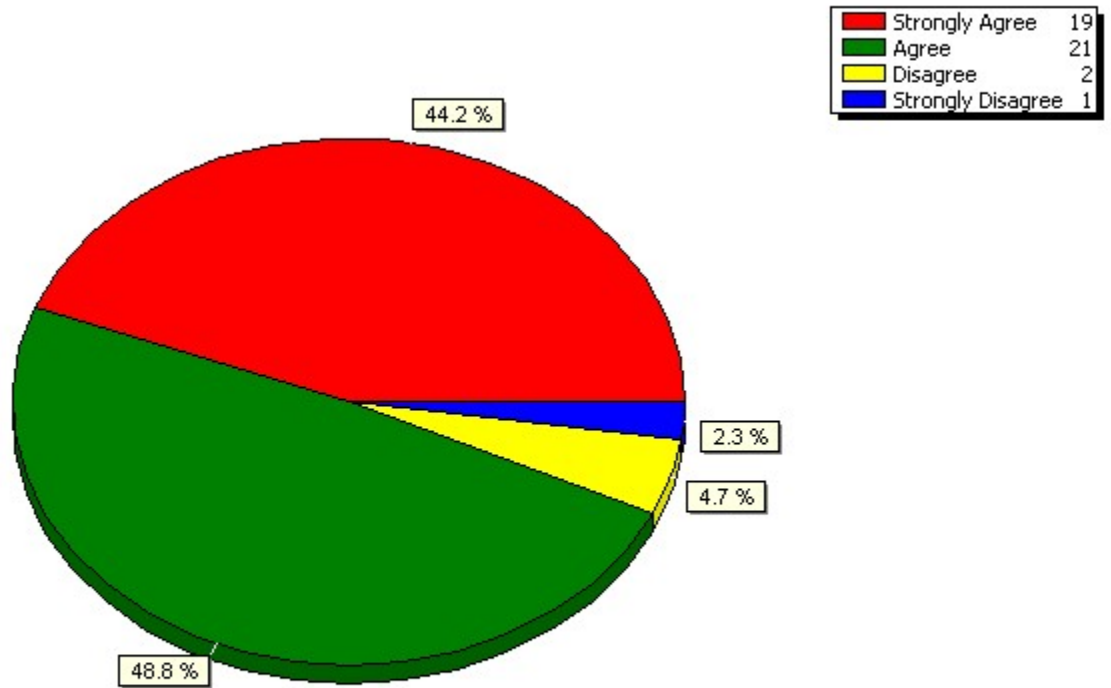
4.4) Degree requirements were clear to me when I began my program.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

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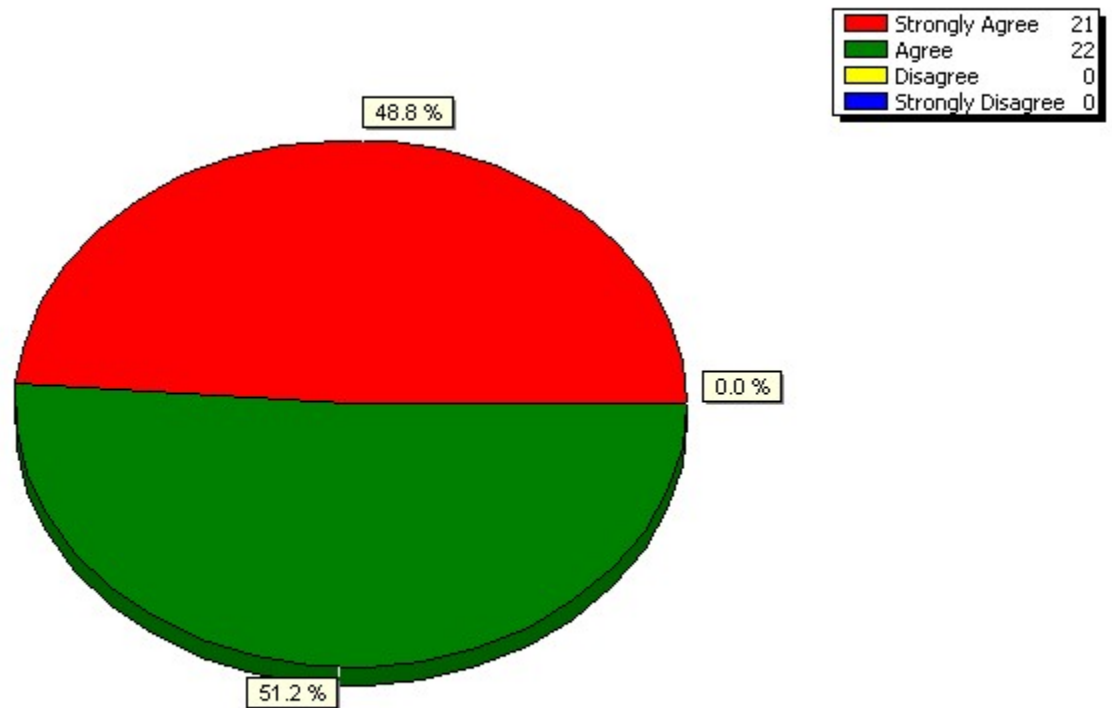
4.5) The Graduate Faculty at Tarleton is well qualified to teach their courses.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

5) The Graduate Faculty at Tarleton is well qualified to teach their courses.(Please indicate one of the f...



4.6) Facilities and equipment (including computer technology) are adequate at TSU.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

6) Facilities and equipment (including computer technology) are adequate at TSU.(Please indicate one of th...

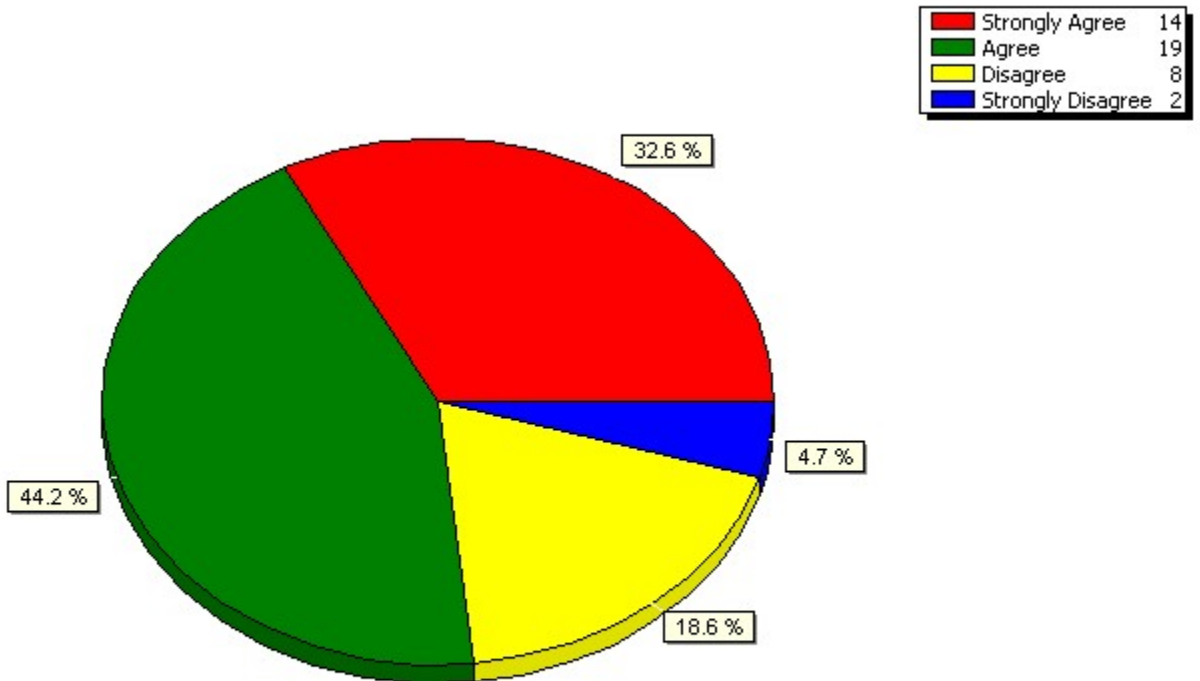


4.7) My program provided me with satisfactory preparation for my future career.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

<b>Response</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Strongly Agree	18	41.9%
Agree	22	51.2%
Disagree	2	4.7%
Strongly Disagree	1	2.3%

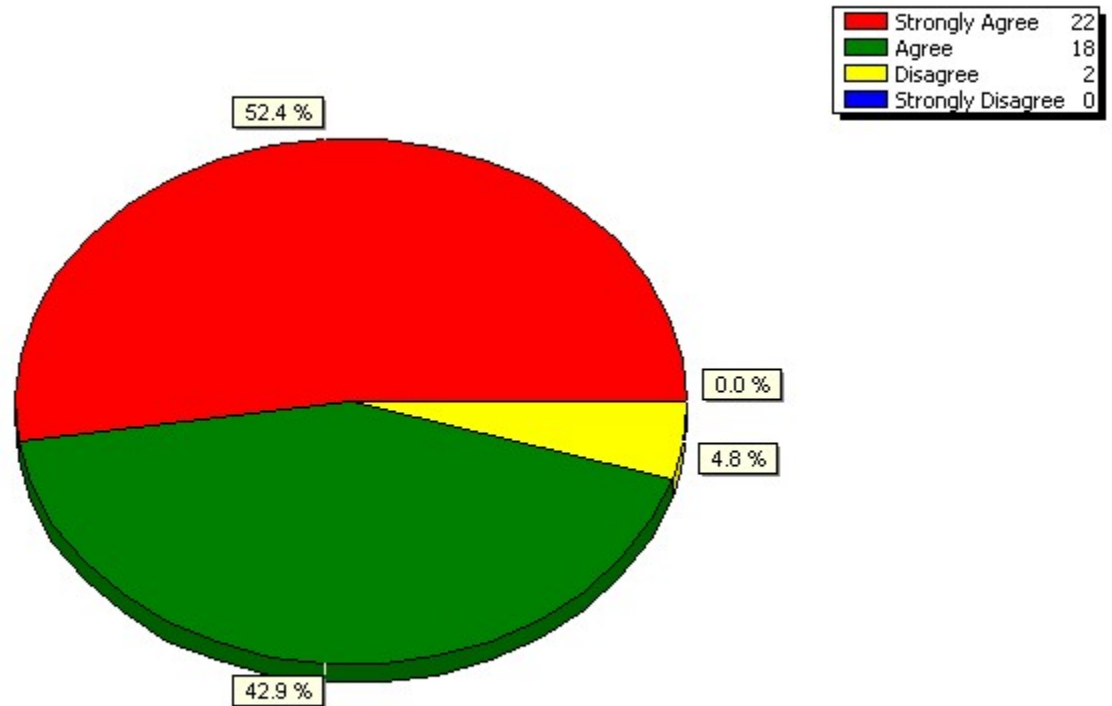
4.8) There has been good course availability at Tarleton.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

8) There has been good course availability at Tarleton.(Please indicate one of the following for each ques...



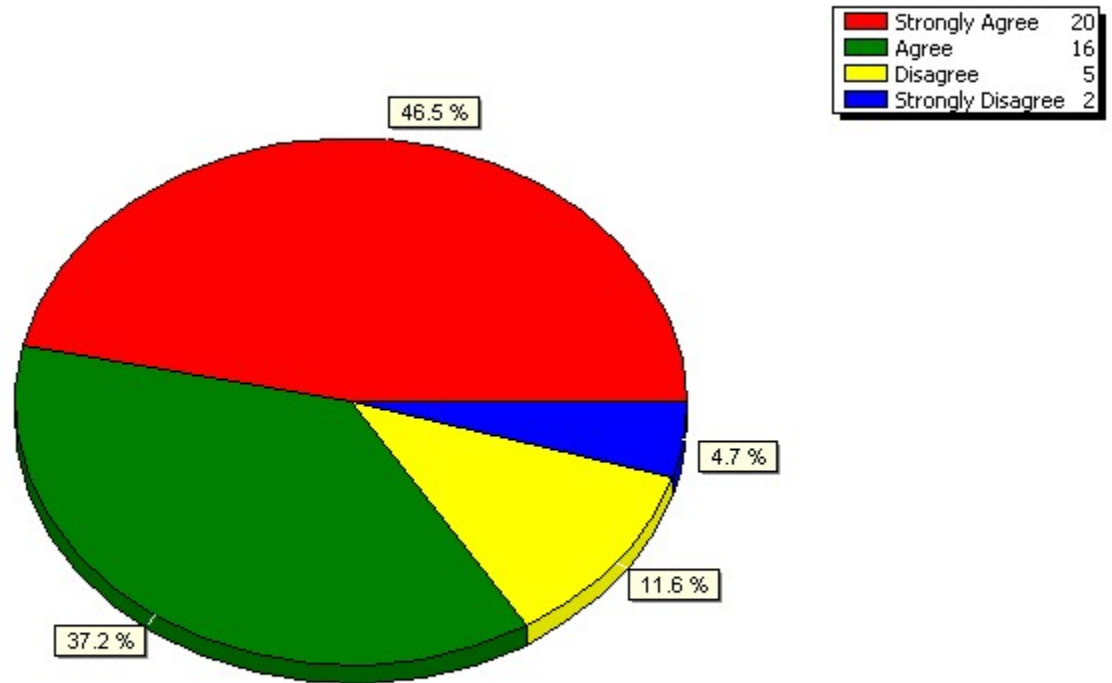
4.9) I would recommend Tarleton to others contemplating graduate study.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

9) I would recommend Tarleton to others contemplating graduate study.(Please indicate one of the following.



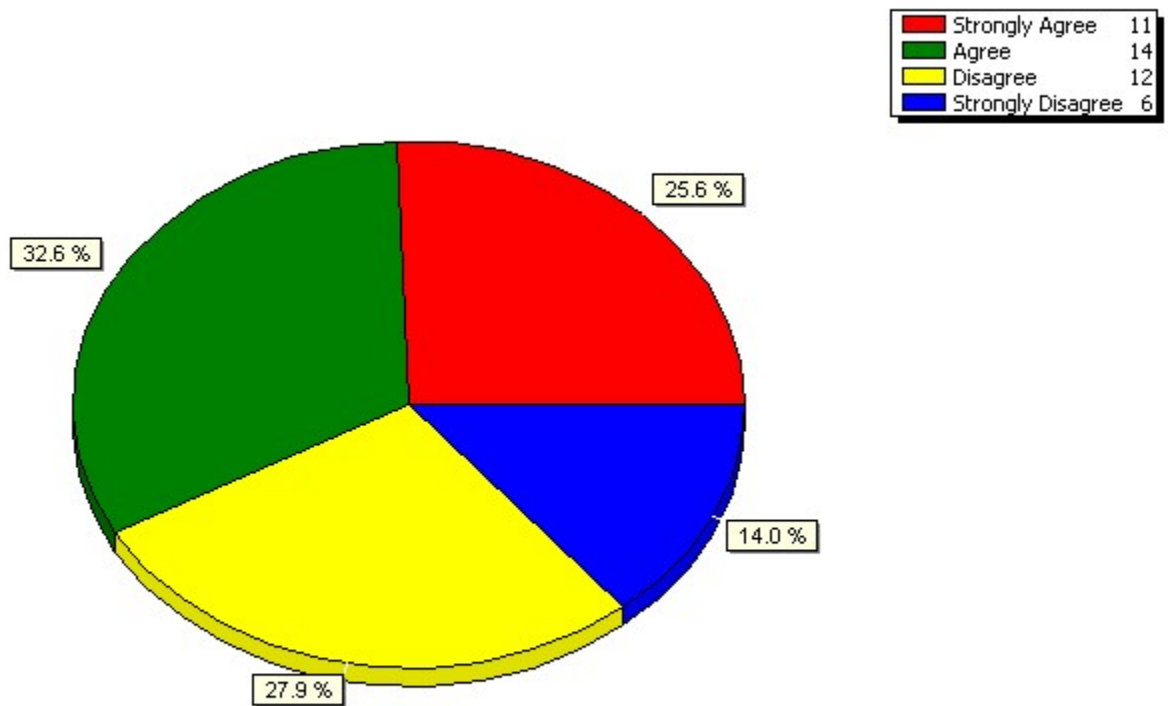
4.10) My department provided clear assistance with my academic advising.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

**10) My department provided clear assistance with my academic advising.(Please indicate one of the followin..**



4.11) My department provided a graduate student orientation with was informative and helpful.(Please indicate one of the following for each question:)

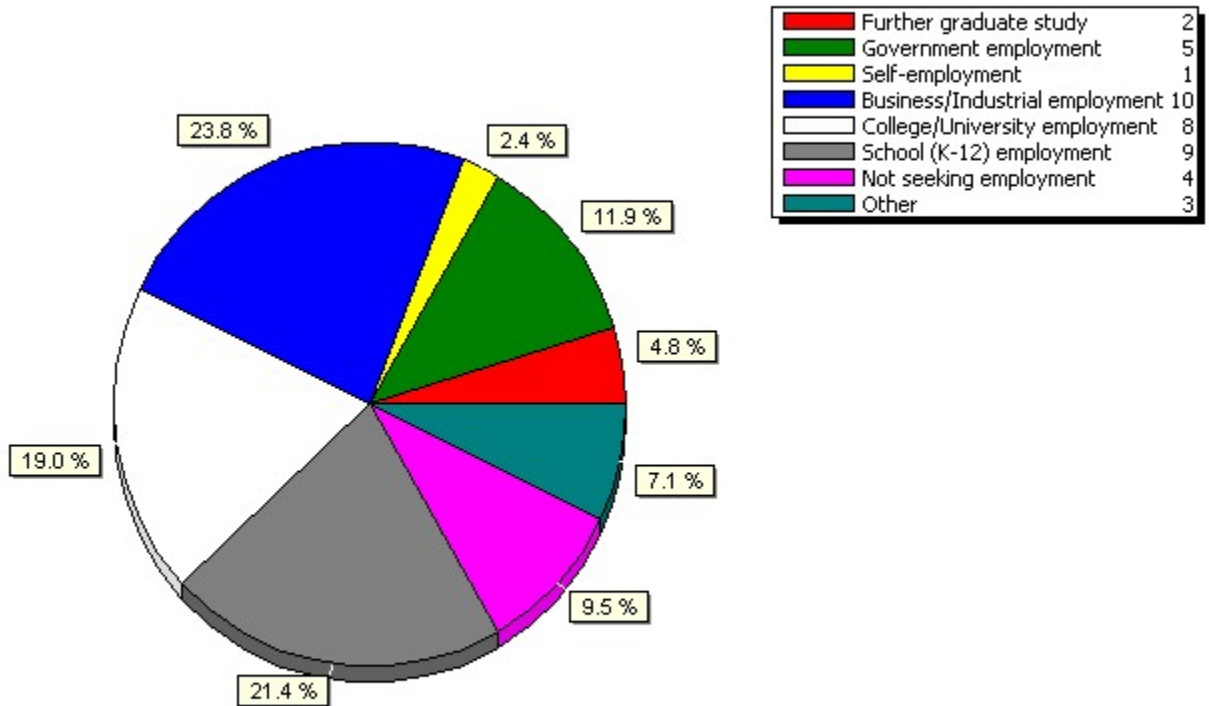
**11) My department provided a graduate student orientation with was informative and helpful.(Please indicat..**





5) My plans immediately following graduation include:

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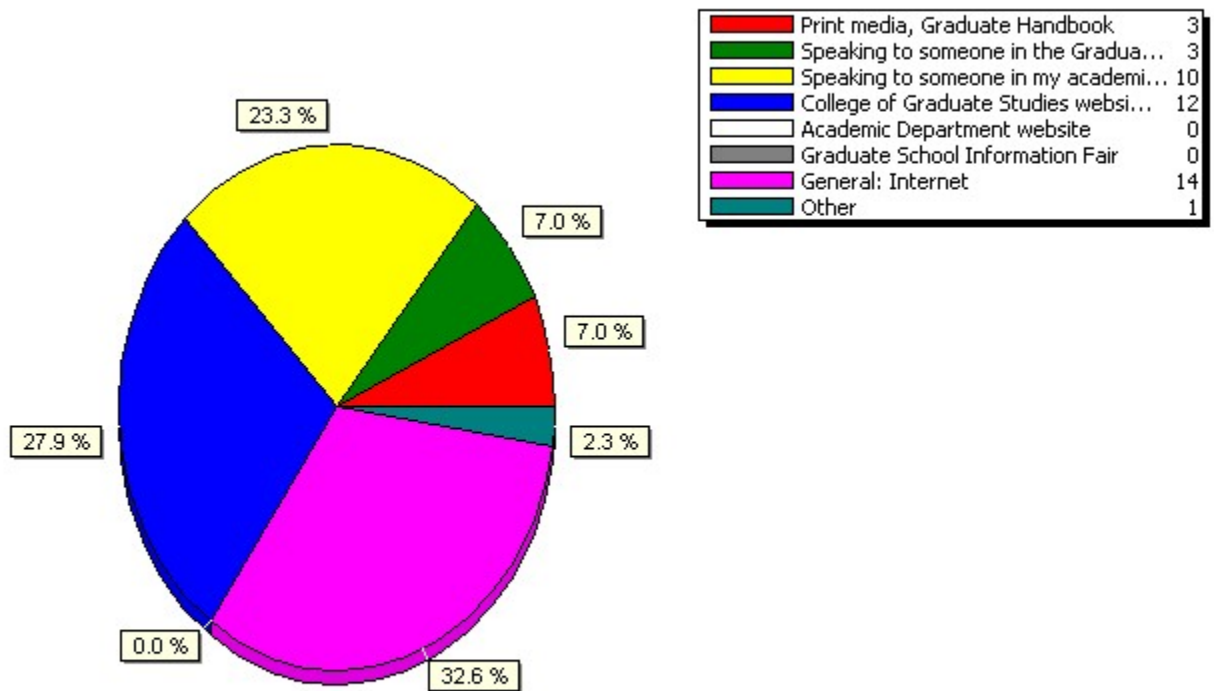
Other Responses:

Professional School - Dental
Already Employed
Remain in current job
Considering Government Employment



6) Please select the primary method of accessing information about graduate school:

6) Please select the primary method of accessing information about graduate school:



Other Responses:

Advisor



7) Please briefly explain the highlights of your graduate study at Tarleton State University.

The academic advising and the teachers that were willing to help outside of classroom hours.
Meeting the wonderful faculty in the Animal Sciences department Research opportunities, travel
I learned more about research than I have ever done in the past. Information and techniques for research are more easily accessible now that I have been through grad school.
Great education and great times!
Performing research, getting to know new people
The best part of my graduate studies was being able to take classes online. Had this not been an option I would have had to take my classes elsewhere.
I took the courses on line. I don't feel any real connection to Tarleton. I don't have any highlights.
It had been a pleasing experience while attending the graduate school at TSU. It has shaped me as a professional as well as an intellect for the future.
I selected Tarleton because I could attend all of my classes on-line, it was cost effective and was affiliated with the Texas A&M system. The flexibility of on-line classes has been wonderful. I would not have been able to balance my work requirements without the flexibility of on-line courses. I would encourage you to embrace and expand your on-line program. I will continue to recommend the program to friends and coworkers, however, I hope that you make improvements to embrace and accomodate truly on-line students.
The highlights of my study were the teaching assistant position.
Earning a 4.0 GPA.
I have nothing but compliments about my graduate experience at TSU. The staff was always helpful and supportive in my future goals. The technology office was always at my disposal when I had questions. The graduate studies office was always quick to respond to anything I needed. More than anything, my professors have given me the tools I need to succeed in my future career and a confidence that I can achieve anything.
The highlights of the graduate study was the flexibility of the classes offered whether it be online, or night classes. I never had an issue with the classes conflicted. The highlight was the ease of classes offered.
Completing my internship at the Brown County Extension Office and meeting a

lot of new people during my time there, being known as the girl on the radio.
The accommodations that were made for me to complete my studies in one year were very impressive. The fact that Tarleton was able to work with me and adapt the program to my needs was invaluable. Also the Graduate Assistantship that I was awarded provided invaluable experience in the real world application of my learning. (I know that this was not true of my peers experiences but I was fortunate enough to get a truly good assistantship)
I started my graduate career in the fall of 2005. I am an online only student. I work full time and took 1 class a semester. It took 4 and a half years to complete my MBA.
The camaraderie in the program is amazing. The students pull for one another and help one another. This is the reason why most of us have stayed in the program.
Being able to help the women's basketball team
Some of the highlights of my graduate study were the class course topics--very interesting, I learned a great deal. Also, working at the library as a graduate assistant allowed me to finance my education.
I have had two years of experience teaching in the math department, and have enjoyed every minute. Some of the classes were fun and helpful.
The cohort aspect of the educational leadership doctoral program was beneficial. It was helpful to build a close relationship with the colleagues of the cohort group.
Dr. Deviney was great. Dr. Iyer was great. And I also enjoyed Dr. Brocato even the the course was hard.
Interaction with faculty; Opportunities to attend conferences, etc
I really enjoyed being able to choose between taking classing at Waco campus or online. It offered flexibility, so that I could attend school and still work full time and spend time with family.
The faculty in the Psychology/Counseling department are amazing people and have truly impacted my life in a positive way! Thank you to all my amazing professors and for the oppurtunity to expand my mind and grow as a individual.
I have attended 6 colleges. This is the first college that treated students as adults, something very important to someone my age. In addition, Dr. Susan Erwin has been a wonderful mentor throughout the process.
Practicum experience
Most of my graduate course experiences have been excellent! The professors' willingness to make sure that we had a full understanding of what quality research consisted of was most beneficial. Hearing personal stories of my professors and the encouragement I received were highlights. The biggest highlight was producing a grant that will be implemented to help students in my school district.

8) Please briefly explain what improvements could be made to Tarleton State University's Graduate School.

Either get rid of prerequisites or make classes more available EACH semester at the different campuses. Also, allow those who are not on the main Stephenville campus take the comprehensive exam at their local campus.

Thesis manual should be made clearer, providing a time line as to when thesis proposal is due, defense date, and thesis completion provide editing service other than dean to edit thesis

There was no orientation when I started, and I have been a little lost on what to do and when at the end of the last semester. In fact, I almost missed the deadline for taking the Comprehensive Exam from lack of information. The last two semesters have been online, so I have not been in close contact with anyone to find out what I was lacking.

Better course selection

Provide more courses, better outline for requirements and when they should be taken, graduate degree timeline for programs

I believe a few of the classes are too repetitive. Writing journal reviews can only help you so much and there needs to be more application to life/ future careers. While writing papers is understandable, it should not be the only method of teaching involved.

Tarleton is not geared towards distance learning students. Change processes to include them. Also, faculty in the MSHRM program were far more interested in APA style than content. Often, when I asked questions, I was told "I'm not sure." The majority of the time, I felt the faculty had no direct knowledge of the course. Worse, after 15 years of industry experience, I often knew more. At times, the tests and material was not updated to reflect changes in the books used. Professors consistently failed to include current events or law changes. Also, a thorough review of the WEBCT courses generally told one that the course was designed by a previous professor and the current professor really had no idea what was occurring.

Adding more subjects so that students have choices and expanding the study to the next degree level so the students like us can have further higher degree without leaving the graduate school.

Your professors do not seem to be supportive of an on-line learning environment. Many did not take advantage of on-line technology such as chats, discussions, etc. instead allowing courses to be independent study. Many times I was told classes were "not conducive to an on-line learning environment." It

was suggested that I come to campus to view tests or attend classes - which was not a viable option as I live several hours from a Tarleton Campus. Only one professor made an effort to have a one-on-one discussion and used wave files to deliver lectures. Many professors seems more interested in whether I used APA style than the content of my paper. I would strongly suggest that professors embrace on-line learning. TSU has a wonderful opportunity to increase enrollment and statewide exposure through its on-line campus; however, your professors have to embrace and support it. Very little information was passed on to me regarding how to long on to Blackboard, graduation dates, etc. I would suggest rethinking how you orient and communicate with on-line students as the program grows. I often felt that I was on an island by myself.

Larger selection of classes every semester.

Graduate office employees not acting like I am a bother to them; secretaries should not take forms out of students hands and throw them in the trash without the students permission to do so. Trained student workers who know what they are doing; this includes not handing people the wrong forms. Sorry, but I just had a really bad experience trying to enter the Tarleton masters program. Hopefully this information will make things better for future graduate students.

I can not think of anything. Everything was wonderful!

Some improvements would be to offer more classes - a wider range of classes so that someone can specialize/concentrate in one area i.e. accounting. Another improvement could be to include offering more classes online. I enjoyed the program and am able to graduate in 5 semesters.

Streamline the graduate comp exam for all departments or at least make a guideline, I am still trying to figure out when mine is.

All of the problems or issues that I encountered during my stay at Tarleton were difficult and trying. However, I do not think that the Graduate School should attempt to make any changes to accommodate them. I feel this because those challenges made me a stronger student and now a stronger graduate.

The main thing that I see that needs improvement is the communication with online students. When I started information was hard to come by and it was very hard to know who to talk to about problems, especially being purely online. I had to work hard to find information, and even now, changes to the MBA program are not communicated to students. For example, the way the MBA capstone test is delivered and what the test is over was changed, but not communicated to the MBA students.

There are many mixed messages. The faculty tell the doctoral students that they want them to do a residency and give the criteria for the residency, but then complain about what the doctoral students choose as their parts of their residency. There is a lot of in-fighting amongst the members of the Educational Leadership faculty and the students often find themselves the pawns in the middle. Even the dean seems powerless to fix this, but someone has to because this will definitely impact future enrollment.

There needs to be more courses available and more career specific degrees

offered.
No improvements at this time.
Deadlines for paper work for the graduate office should be posted or emailed quicker than the week before, like at the beginning of each semester.
Can't think of anything.
Not sure, everuthing went smoothly.
More funding for research equipment and facilities
The only suggestion I have is for course rotations at Waco Campus. There were times when I was unable to take a core class because the only classes offered were ones I had previously taken.
NA
Communication between Tarleton and the Fort Worth students who are not on campus on a regular basis needs to be improved. It is very hard to remember to check the college email when you have so many others of which you have to keep track. It would be nice to make it easier to have email forwarded to the students' personal accounts.
I really wanted to do a concentration in finance however the University doesnt offer enough classes at the Fort Worth campus to do so. Im a single parent and cannot drive to Stephenville or Killeen.
Consistent staff members; more interaction with the Waco campus; better orientaton/advisement for beginning grad students in the program; more adjunct faculty approved to serve on comps committee (since most of us didn't know the people serving on our committees nor ever had them for class instruction

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