DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE PREPARATION AND EARLY JOB OUTCOMES

OF ARTS AND SCIENCES GRADUATES OF DE LA SALLE

UNIVERSITY SY 1981-1982

A Thesis

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Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

by

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the job outcomes among De La Salle University students from the College of Arts and Sciences (n=100) who graduated during the schoolyear 1981-1982, one, three and five years after graduation. Early job outcome was defined as what had actually happened to the students after graduation within a 5-year span as reflected in the following variables: employment status, income. job stability, and job fit. A working definition of underemployment (educationally inappropriate employment) through the concept of job fit was developed based on indicators of underemployment that have emerged from the researchers' review of literature. These are: adequacy of course material, specific degree qualification and over-all suitability to the job. By taking the means, percentages and frequency distributions of the graduates' responses with regards to these variables, a description of the early job outcomes of these graduates accross the different undergraduate majors was made. The relationship between grade point average and participation in extra-curricular activities as independent variables and employment status, income, job stability and job fit as dependent variables was also determined through the use of the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient. Analysis of the results have led to the formation of the following conclusions: From years 1, 3 and 5, the employment rate was high for the graduates included in the sample . Income received was equivalent to the range of standard income based on position levels. Job stability improved from year 1 to year 5 as the graduates were able to adapt to the work setting or have established a more definite path. In general, De La Salle University had adequately prepared its graduates with the basic tools and skills to meet their job requirements. Variables reflecting early job outcome were each differently related to the independent variables, and many relationships changed over time. Grade point average was directly related to job stability in the first and third year after graduation. Participation in extra-curricular activities was directly related to income in the third year after graduation , job fit indicator I: adequacy of course material in the third and fifth year after graduation and to job fit indicator II: specific college degree qualification in the third year after graduation.