Graduating Senior Survey

Summer and Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Office of Institutional Research and Assessment – George Mason University

The survey is administered online through Qualtrics. This instrument is not to be filled out.

I. Enrollment and Employment History

Did you begin college at Mason or elsewhere? 1.

Started elsewhere and then transferred to Mason Started here

2. While you were a student at Mason, did you WORK FOR PAY? Yes

No)
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2.1 If yes, how often did you WORK FOR PAY ? (Mark all that apply)		Most semesters	A few semesters	Not at all
On-campus:	Part-time			
	Full-time			
Off-campus:	Part-time			
	Full-time			

II. Education in Your Major and Competence

	o what extent did courses in your major contribute our competence in the following areas:	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
a.	Critical thinking and analysis				
b.	Connecting concepts across disciplines				
с.	Conducting research within your field/major				
d.	Writing within your field/major				
e.	Identifying, locating, evaluating and managing information resources within your field/major				
f.	Applying the ideas of your field/major outside of the classroom				
g.	Applying ethics within your field/major				
h.	Identifying and assessing the validity of assumptions within your field/major				

III. Students as Scholars

4. How familiar are you with the Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research (OSCAR) and/or the Students as Scholars initiative?

🗌 Very	famil	iar
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Somewhat familiar

Not too familiar

Not at all familiar

5. To what extent do you think that there are opportunities for undergraduate students to participate in research or creative activities/projects (outside of regular course assignments) at Mason?

There are many

There are some

There are few

There are none

6. Have any of your Mason professors shared information about their own research or creative activities?

Yes

🗌 No

Not sure

7. Outside of regular course assignments, have you **done** or do you **plan to do** a research or creative activity/project with a Mason faculty member before graduation?

Ye	es
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🗌 No

If "Yes":

7.1a. Students participate in undergraduate research and creative activities/projects for a variety of reasons. What motivated you to do your own project? Check all that apply.

- Working with a specific faculty mentor
- Working on a specific project of interest
- Gaining experience for career or graduate school
- Receiving compensation or pay
- Being excited by or loving the work
- Being required by my major or degree
- Meeting peers who have similar interests or goals
- Working on a project that might contribute to individual or community well-being
- Earning the RS designation on my Mason transcript
- Other:____

7.1b. Please list the name(s) of your project supervisor(s): _____

If "No":

- 7.2. Which of the following reasons describe why you did not do or do not plan to do research or a creative project with a professor? Mark all that apply.
 - I didn't have time in my schedule
 - I didn't know how to find a project
 - I needed to work for pay and could not find a paid research opportunity
 - I looked but could not find an opportunity that interested me

I was not interested in participating

- I did not know it was available/I never heard about it
- Other:____

8. While you were a student at Mason, did you share your research or creative project <u>outside of class</u> in any of the following ways? Check all that apply.

I presented a paper or poster at a Mason event

I presented a paper or poster at an off-campus conference

I participated in a recital or performance

I participated in an event that showcased my artwork or design project

I participated in an event that exhibited or demonstrated my invention or engineering project

Other:___

I did not present anything outside of class

IV. Global Experience

9. Which of the following have you done at Mason?	Done	Have NOT done
a. Studied abroad		
b. Participated in short-term immersion/cultural exchange program		
c. Completed an internship with an international organization		
d. Completed an internship with a national or local organization that deals with international issues		
e. Participated in service-learning abroad (e.g., Alternative spring break) organized by Mason		
f. Interacted with international students at Mason		
g. Discussed global issues with people from another country		
h. Learned (practiced) a foreign language from (with) a native speaker		

V. Community-Engaged Learning

Community-engaged learning is defined as students engaging in structured service or action that allows them to apply what they are learning at Mason to community-based issues and problems. Communities can be local, regional/state, national, or global.

10. While you were a student at Mason, were you involved in any of the following kinds of community-engaged learning?	Involved	NOT Involved
a. Service-learning academic course		
b. Community-engaged practicum, internship, or field experience		
c. Community-engaged research or creative project		
d. Community service or volunteer work		
e. Community activism for an issue or group		
f. Community-engaged living-learning community		
g. Community service club or organization at Mason		
h. Service club or organization in the community		
I. Day of service event		
J. Alternative Spring Break		
K. Other, specify:		

VI. Academic Advising

	None	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9 or more
11. How many times have you met in person with an academic advisor during your time at Mason?						
12. How many times have you consulted with an academic advisor by phone, email, or Skype?						

13. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about academic advising?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
My academic advisor helped me understand degree requirements.					
My academic advisor helped me understand how activities outside the classroom (i.e., internships, research, study abroad, clubs, etc.) contribute to my long term academic and career goals.					
When I met with an academic advisor in person, I felt like he/she listened to my concerns and created an open, respectful, and inclusive atmosphere.					
Academic advisors who work with undeclared students helped me explore my academic interests					

VII. Library Services

14. Which ONE of the following library locations do you consider to be your "home" library? (Select ONE)

Fenwick Library
 Gateway Library (inside JC)
 Mercer Library (SciTech campus)
 Arlington Campus Library
 Law Library
 I use Mason library services/resources online only

15. What activities do you engage in **most frequently** when visiting a Mason Library? (OR In the most recent year, what was your MOST Frequent reason for using a Mason library?) (Select **UP TO THREE**)

Individual study

Group activity (e.g., projects, discussion, preparation for exams)

Using electronic resources

Consulting or using print collections

Seeking help from a librarian

Checking out or returning materials

Using computers, printers, or scanners

Consulting with Data Services staff on software, tools, or research methods

Recreation or other nonacademic purposes (leisure reading, checking out music or videos, etc.)

Other, please specify _____

	To what extent did the following library services and resources nance your learning at Mason?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all	NA/Never used
a.	Print collections (e.g., collections in my field of study, Special Collections)					
b.	Online digital resources					
c.	Library services (e.g., Interlibrary loan, Data & GIS Services, library publication/archiving assistance for academic research)					
d.	Technology/tools in support of research (e.g., InfoGuides)					
e.	Library staff assistance (e.g., instruction from or consultation with the library's Data Services staff)					
f.	Space to study (e.g., Group Study Rooms, Mediascape, open area, quiet environment)					

VIII. School or College

17. Which of the following best describes your college:

College of Education & Human Development (go to CEHD section)

College of Humanities & Social Sciences (go to CHSS section)

School of Integrative Studies (formerly New Century College, go to SIS section)

School of Business (go to BUSINES section)

School for Conflict Analysis & Resolution (go to S-CAR section)

College of Science (go to COS section)

Volgenau School of Engineering (go to Volgenau section)

Schar School of Policy and Government (go to SSPG section)

College of Health and Human Services (go to IX section)

College of Visual and Performing Arts (go to IX section)

College of Education and Human Development ONLY

18. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your preparation for your profession?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
My program prepared me well for my profession.					
My program offered opportunities for me to apply learning outside of class.					
The internship/practicum I had in my program helped me gain valuable experiences relevant to my career/ profession.					
The educational experiences I had in my program were closely connected to the realities in my field/major.					
The knowledge and skills I acquired from my program enable me to take on responsibilities in my profession upon graduation.					

19. How satisfied are you with the following:	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A or Don't Know
Practicum/internship or other experience-based learning in your program					
The supervision in that practicum/internship/experience-based learning					
The relevance of your program for your intended field					

College of Humanities and Social Sciences ONLY

20. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision in choosing a major while at Mason?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
Interest in the subject				
Family tradition				
Employment prospect				
Graduate school/further education				
Advising				
Faculty				

21. Did you switch your major while at Mason?

Yes

21.1. (If Yes) I switched my major from ______ to ______ to ______

No

22. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision to register for courses while at Mason?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
Content of course				
Preferred time course was scheduled				
Preferred mode in which course was offered (face to face, hybrid or online)				
Preferred faculty assigned to teach the course				

23. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your experience at George Mason University?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I had determined my course of study before I arrived at Mason.				
My major provided good preparation for the career I want to pursue.				
My major provided good preparation for the further education I want to pursue.				
My choice of major will give me the background I need for many opportunities.				
The faculty in my department cared about my success.				
At least one faculty member took a special interest in me.				

24. Is your major in the School of Integrative Studies?

Yes (proceed to next question)

No (go to section IX)

School of Integrative Studies ONLY

25. Which of the following resources did you use to get information about your **major**? Select all that apply.

- Mason website
- College website
- Advising

University catalog

Faculty members/staff

Other students

College listserv

Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)

26. Which of the following influenced your decision to choose your **major** in the School of Integrative Studies? Select the top three.

College 101 at Orientation
Admission counselor
College fair
Admission open house
Accelerated M.A. program
] Mason website
College website
Advising
University catalog
Faculty members/staff
Other students
College listserv
Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)

27. How satisfied are you with the following experiences in the School of Integrative Studies?	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	NA/I have not had it
Collaborative projects					
Emphasis on writing					
Emphasis on critical thinking					
Team teaching by faculty					
Independent study or research					
Internships					
Study abroad					
Community service-learning					
Course field trips					
Integrative learning across disciplines					
Connecting college to career activities					
Global perspective					

28. Describe your most rewarding experience in the School of Integrative Studies.

29. Is there something you wish you had known during your years at Mason? If so, what do you wish you had known and why? ______

School of Business ONLY

30. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision to register for courses while at Mason?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
Content of course				
Ability to take course in evening				
Ability to take course online				
Faculty assigned to teach course				

31. Have you had an internship(s) while at Mason?

Yes (go to

No	(go	to	27)
	No	No (go	No (go to

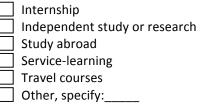
32. Did the internship(s) count toward credit hours for your major?

33.	How	satisfied	are vou	with t	the caree	r support	within t	he School	of Busines	s?
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Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
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School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution ONLY

34. Which of the following **field experiences** have you had in the School for Conflict and Analysis Resolution? Check all that apply.



35. To what extent did your field experience contribute to your competence in the following?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
Global perspective				
Ability to reflect and grow				
Ability to apply theories in practice				
Oral communication				
Ability to work in groups				
Problem-solving skills				

College of Science ONLY

36. What was your primary reason for choosing Mason for your degree? Select one.

Location
 Cost/Affordability
 Employment prospect
 Family tradition
 Personal interest
 Couse flexibility
 Campus environment
 Student activities

Athletic activities

Degree programs

Other, please specify: _____

37. Rate the quality of the following based on your experiences at Mason.	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Discipline specific software & equipment					
Work/lab space on campus					
Other, please specify:					

Volgenau School of Engineering ONLY

38. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your preparation for your profession?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
I believe my program prepared me well for my profession.					
My program offered opportunities for me to apply learning outside of class.					
The internship/practicum I had in my program helped me gain valuable experience relevant to my career/profession.					
The knowledge and skills I acquired from my program will enable me to take on responsibilities in my profession upon graduation.					

Schar School of Policy and Government ONLY

39. To what extent did your GOVT coursework contribute to your competence in the following?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all	NA
Ability to apply concepts relating to political theories and institutions					
Ability to interpret patterns of American political behavior					
Ability to compare international political systems					
Ability to apply analytical reasoning using research methods within the field					
Preparation for my career (e.g., public service)					

40. In which of the following applied learning experiences did you participate as an SSPG? Check all that apply.

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Internship

□ Independent study

Study abroad

□ URAP – SSPG undergraduate research assistant program

- Other research work
- □ Related student organization, interest group, or service group
- 🛛 None

41. To what extent did your applied learning experience contribute to your competence in the following?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all	NA
Oral communication					
Written communication					
Problem solving skills					
Ability to work in groups					
Preparation for my career (e.g., public service)					

IX. Satisfaction

42. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of your education at Mason?	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
a. Sense of belonging at Mason				
b. Overall Mason experience				
c. Education you received in your major				
d. Academic advising				
e. Your level of involvement in campus activities				
 f. Career support from faculty and staff (e.g., assistance with career planning, job search, etc.) 				
g. Preparation for work				
h. Preparation for post-baccalaureate study				
i. Mentoring (e.g., support of professional growth)				
j. Overall quality of course instruction				

43. What is the best thing about Mason?

44.	If you were to do it	all over again, would you	attend George Mason	University? (Select one)
	Definitely Yes	Probably Yes	Probably Not	Definitely Not

X. Alumni Involvement

45. Upon graduation, how do you expect to stay connected with Mason? Mark all that apply.

Return to Mason for Universit	y Alumni events
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- Participate in events sponsored by your department or school/college
- Read the Mason Spirit (magazine)
- Read the Mason Scroll (monthly e-newsletter)
- Contribute financially to the University
- Connect through Social Media
- Attend sporting events
- Talk with current students
- Talk with prospective students
- I do not intend to stay connected with Mason/NA
- 46. Are you willing to let us share your responses to Q45 with the Office of Alumni Relations for future contact?

🗌 Yes	
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XI. Overall Comments/Recommendations/Observations

No No

47. Please use the space below to make comments/recommendation	ations/ observations about your experience at Mason:
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Preferred email address after graduation: _____

Your preferred email address will be shared with the Office of Alumni Relations

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