# **Graduating Senior Survey**

# Summer and Fall 2020, Spring 2021 (FINAL)

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness – George Mason University

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

## I. Enrollment and Employment History

**Yes** 

1. Did you begin college at Mason or elsewhere?

Started here Started elsewhere and then transferred to Mason

- 2. While you were a student at Mason, did you WORK FOR PAY either on or off campus?
  - No

2.1 If yes, how often did you <b>WORK FOR PAY</b> that apply)	? (Mark all	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

My program prepared me well to pursue my chosen

profession.

	o what extent did courses in your major contribute our competence in the following areas:	Not at all	A little	A fair	amount	A great deal
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 or university			[		
g.	Applying ethics within your field/major			[		
h.	Identifying and assessing the validity of assumptions within your field/major			[		
i.	Ability to engage in civic activities (e.g., be involved in political systems or process, identify and address issues of public/community concerns)			[		
j.	Communicating with others in personal and professional contexts (oral communication only)			[		
			T		1	
	what extent do you agree/disagree with the ving statement?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongl Agree	-

## **III. Global Experience**

5. 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		
i. Completed a research or creative project in another country		
j. Travelled abroad in conjunction with a Mason course		

## **IV. 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.

6. 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:		

## V. Experiential Learning

7. While you were a student at Mason, did you do or participate in any of the following? Check all that apply.

- a. Completed non-credit internship(s) (paid)
- b. Completed non-credit internship(s) (unpaid)
- c. Authored or co-authored a published academic paper
- ] d. Presented or co-presented at a conference or professional meeting
- ] e. Had practicum, clinical experience, or student teaching as part of a course requirement
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. Worked on **own** research project(s) under the supervision of faculty
- g. Participated as a research assistant (paid, for credit or as a volunteer) on a faculty research or creative project
- h. Produced creative projects that were nationally presented/exhibited/juried/evaluated.
- i. Completed capstone course(s) and/or culminating design course(s)

j.	Participated in	a recital	or performance

k. 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

m. Participated in cooperative education

- n. Took a student leadership role on campus
- o. Completed an entrepreneurship project in a club, competition, or in the MIX makerspaces.
- \_\_\_\_ p. Other:\_\_\_\_\_

7.1. (If c is selected for Q7), please indicate where the academic paper was published. Check all that apply.

Peer-reviewed journal

Professional conference proceedings

e-Book or e-journal via online publishing services (e.g., Glasstree)

Websites (e.g., personal or organizational) including Blogs

Monographs/series/reports/conference proceedings published at Mason

Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

### VI. Academic Advising

	None	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9 or more
8. How many times have you met in person with an academic advisor during your time at Mason?						
9. How many times have you consulted with an academic advisor by phone, email, or Skype?						
10. How many times have you used Degree Works (Mason's online degree audit system) <b>during your</b> last year at Mason?						

11. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A or Don't Know
My academic advisor helped me understand degree requirements.					
My academic advisor helped me understand how engagement outside the classroom (i.e., work, internships, study abroad, clubs, etc.) contribute to my long-term 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.					
When I used Degree Works (Mason's online degree audit system), I was confident in its accuracy.					

12. Which scenario best describes how you chose the major in which you are graduating?

a. I came to Mason **Undeclared** or **Undecided** about a major, and chose my major once I got here. (Go to 12.1.1)

b. I came to Mason having already declared in the major in which I am graduating (Go to 12.2)

c. I changed my declared major at least once after coming to Mason. (Go to 12.3.1)

12.1.1. (Show this if a is selected for Q12) To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statement?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A or Don't Know
Academic advisors who work with undeclared students helped me explore my academic interests.					

12.1.2. After you declared your major, did you switch to another major at least once while at Mason? Yes (go to 12.3.1) No (Go to 12.1.3)

12.1.3. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision in choosing your major while at Mason?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal
Interest in the subject				
Family tradition				
Friends				
Employment prospect				
Graduate school/further education				
Academic Advising at Mason				
Exposure to new subject through a course, faculty member, or out of classroom experience				
Cost (time, money)				

12.2. (Show this if b is selected for Q12) To what extent did the following factors affect your decision in choosing a major before you came to Mason?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal
Interest in the subject				
Family tradition				
Employment prospect				
Graduate school/further education				
High school counselor				
Pre-enrollment advising from Mason				
Pre-enrollment advising at another school (if transferred)				

12.3.1. (Show this if c is selected for Q12 or Yes is selected for 12.1.2) I switched from (my original major)\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_ (my current major).

12.3.2. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision to change your major while at Mason?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal
Interest in the subject				
Family tradition				
Friends				
Employment prospect				
Graduate school/further education				
Academic Advising at Mason				
Exposure to new subject through a course, faculty member, or out of classroom experience				
Cost (time, money)				
Academic issues				

# VII. School or College

13. 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 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 SCHAR section)
- College of Health and Human Services (go to CHHS section)
- College of Visual and Performing Arts (go to CVPA section)

#### **College of Education and Human Development ONLY**

14.	What did you like best about	our academic experience?	•

- 15. What did you like least about your academic experience?\_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Are you continuing your education? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **College of Humanities and Social Sciences ONLY**

17. To what extent did the following factors affect your decision to register for courses while at Mason?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal
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				

18. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your experience at George Mason University?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
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.				

#### **School of Integrative Studies ONLY**

The following concentrations/degrees are part of the School of Integrative Studies:

- Applied Global Conservation
- Childhood Studies
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Environmental & Sustainability Studies
- Individualized
- Legal Studies
- Life Sciences

- Language Arts for Education
- Natural Science for Education
- Organizational Administration/Leadership & Organizational Development
- Social Justice & Human Rights
- Social Innovation
- Social Science for Education

## 19. Is your major in the School of Integrative Studies?

Yes (proceed to next question)

No (go to section VIII)

20. How satisfied are you with the following experiences in the School of Integrative Studies?	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	NA/I have not had it
Integrative learning across disciplines					
Collaborative projects					
Emphasis on writing					
Emphasis on critical thinking					
Research (e.g., conducting an independent, scholarly project)					
Internships					
Study abroad					
Community service-learning					
Field Studies (e.g., credit-earning courses with field experience)					
Living Learning Community					
Involvement in Student Organizations					
Employment while in college					
Other: please specify:					

#### **School of Business ONLY**

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

22.	Have you	had an	internship(s)	while	at Mason?
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Yes (go to 23) No (go to 24)

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

	No
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24. How satisfied are you with the career support within the School of Business?

Very Dissatisfied

Yes

Dissatisfied

Satisfied

Very Satisfied

#### School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution ONLY

The next two items are related to field experiences you have had at Mason. Examples of field experiences include internship, independent study or research, study abroad, service-learning, and travel courses.

25. How many field experiences have you had while at Mason?

🗌 Two

Three or more

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

#### **College of Science ONLY**

One One

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

Location
Cost/Affordability
Employment prospect
Family tradition
Course flexibility
Research focus
Faculty expertise
Campus environment
Student activities
Athletic activities
Degree programs
Other, please specify:

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

29. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statement <del>s</del> about your preparation for your profession?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A or Don't Know
The lab practicum and/or research project(s) I had in my program helped me gain valuable experience relevant to my career/profession.					

#### Volgenau School of Engineering ONLY

30. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your preparation for your profession?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A or Don't Know
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

31. To what extent did your GOVT coursework contribute to your competence in the following?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal	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)					

32. In which of the following applied learning experiences did you participate as a SCHAR major? Check all that apply.

- Internship
- Independent study
- Study abroad

URAP – SCHAR undergraduate research assistant program

Other research work

- Related student organization, interest group, or service group
- None

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

# College of Health and Human Services ONLY

34.The items below address workplace readiness skills. Please indicate how satisfied you are with the preparation you received at Mason (e.g., via classes, practicum/internships/filed experience or placements) for each of the following:	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither Dissatisfied nor Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	NA
Writing clearly and professionally						
Applying problem-solving skills						
Reasoning and critical thinking skills						
Working well in a group						
Strong oral communication skills						
Research skills (e.g., conducting an independent, scholarly project)						

35. Considering the teaching and related learning methods involved, please indicate your overall level of satisfaction with each of the following:	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither Dissatisfied nor Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	NA
On-line courses						
Hybrid (partly on-line) courses						
Service learning						
Volunteer work						

36. When did you declare your current major at Mason?

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior

### **College of Visual and Performing Arts ONLY**

37. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A or Don't Know
The educational experiences I had in my program were closely connected to the demands of my					
discipline.					

38. Which of the following contributed the most to your experience as a student in the College of Visual and Performing Arts? Select your top three.

Faculty
Coursework
Facilities
Internships
Performance/Exhibit opportunities
Technology
Other, please specify:

39. To what extent did your arts education at Mason help you develop the following skills and attributes?	Not at all	A little	A fair amount	A great deal
Independent/creative thinking and problem solving				
Motivation and commitment				
Collaboration and teamwork				
Adaptability and flexibility				
Time-management and respect for deadlines				
Ability to learn quickly and work well under pressure				
Ability to apply skills learned				
Goal-oriented approach to work				
Personal discipline and work ethics (e.g., responsibility, dedication, respect, taking initiatives and follow-through)				
Leadership and self-confidence				
Enjoyment and passion for your work				

40. Did you pursue a second academic interest (major or minor) beyond the scope of your major during your time at Mason?

40.1. (If Yes to Q40) Please state your additional major and/or minor \_\_\_\_\_\_.

## **VIII. Satisfaction**

41. How <b>satisfied</b> are you with the following aspects of your education at Mason?	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
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				
<ul> <li>f. Career support from faculty and staff (e.g., assistance with career planning, job search, etc.)</li> </ul>				
g. Preparation for work				
h. Preparation for post-baccalaureate study				
i. Mentoring (e.g., support of professional growth)				
j. Overall quality of course instruction				

42. What is the best thing about Mason?

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

## IX. Alumni Involvement

Mason's Alumni Association uses your contact information to help keep you informed about Mason news and events and to offer discounts and benefits to members of the Alumni Community.

44. Have you joined the Online Alumni Community?

🗌 Yes

🗌 No

45. Please enter your preferred email address after graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

(Your responses to Q44 and Q45 will be shared with the Office of Alumni Relations)

# X. Overall Comments/Recommendations/Observations

46. Please use the space below to make comments/recommendations/ observations about your experience at Mason:

Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning George Mason University 3100 Alan and Sally Merten Hall 703.993.8834 oiep@gmu.edu https://ira.gmu.edu