

Graduate Student Exit Survey (GRES)

AYs 2022-23 through 2025-26

Dear Patriot:

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation!

We would like to learn more about your experience as a Mason graduate student. This survey asks you to provide feedback about Mason services, your graduate program, and how well Mason prepared you for life post-graduation. Your responses will help administrators to make improvements for future Mason students.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Your responses are confidential, and data will be reported only in aggregate form.

We thank you for taking the time to share your feedback.

Best wishes for future success!

Among the graduate schools that you considered, was Mason your:

- First choice
- Second choice
- Third choice or lower

Thinking about your entire time at Mason, please rate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of your experience and education.

| | Very satisfied | Satisfied | Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied | N/A |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Academic advising (e.g., assistance with course planning or degree requirements) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Faculty mentoring (e.g., support of professional growth, conducting research) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Professional development offerings and programs (e.g., Graduate Student Life Write-In Day, workshops, career counseling, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Academic support services (e.g., Writing Center, Library, Learning Services etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Student support services (e.g., Student Support and Advocacy Center, Student Health Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Sense of belonging and inclusion at Mason | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Diversity of faculty and staff | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Diversity of students | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Thinking about your graduate program overall, please rate your level of agreement with the following statements:

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | N/A |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| My program has high academic standards | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program is innovative and integrates current developments in the field | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program provided me with the knowledge and skills to seek employment in my field | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program provided me with the knowledge and skills to conduct original research in my field | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The courses in my program were taught well | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program offered courses at times that fit my schedule | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

The next question asks about your participation in global experiences while at Mason. For this question, think about the formal activities you participated in that Mason offered or sponsored.

Which of the following global experiences have you participated in while at Mason?
(Select all that apply)

- Study abroad
- Short-term immersion or cultural exchange program
- Internship with an international organization
- Internship with a national or local organization that deals with international issues
- A field experience project in another country
- A service-learning project in another country
- A research or creative project in another country
- Other (please specify) _____
- None of the above

Community engagement refers to our commitment to public service. The following question asks about community engagement opportunities you participated in while at Mason. These experiences may have been part of a course for which you received credit or activities you participated in outside of the classroom.

Which of the following community engagement activities have you participated in while at Mason? (*Select all that apply*)

- Service-learning academic course
- Community-engaged practicum, internship, or field experience
- Community-engaged research or creative project
- Community engagement learning community
- Community activism for an issue and/or group
- Community service or volunteer work
- Other (please specify) _____
- None of the above

Which of the following additional academic experiences have you completed or participated in while at Mason? (Select all that apply)

- Completed an internship for credit (paid or unpaid)
- Completed a non-credit internship (paid or unpaid)
- Authored or co-authored an academic paper for publication
- Participated as a research assistant on a faculty research or creative project
- Conducted my own research or creative project under the supervision of faculty
- Presented or co-presented at a conference or professional meeting
- Showcased my work at an event other than a conference or professional meeting
- Completed an entrepreneurship project in a club, competition, or in the MIX makerspace
- Other (please specify) _____
- None of the above

Which of the following did you use to finance your education? (Select all that apply)

- Academic scholarship or fellowship
- Non-academic scholarship
- Teaching assistantship
- Research assistantship
- Graduate professional assistantship
- Mason employee tuition waiver benefit
- Federal loan
- Private loan
- Grants
- Money from parent and/or relatives that I am expected to repay
- Money from parent and/or relatives that I am not expected to repay
- Military tuition benefits
- Self-financed (from own salary or other means)
- Other (please specify) _____

Other than graduate assistantships, how often did you work in a paid position while enrolled at Mason?

| | Every semester | Most semesters | Some semesters | No semesters |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| On campus part-time (other than an assistantship) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| On campus full-time (other than an assistantship) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Off campus part-time | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Off campus full-time | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

What is your approximate level of indebtedness related to your education at Mason?

- None
- \$10,000 or less
- \$10,001 to \$20,000
- \$20,001 to \$30,000
- \$30,001 to \$40,000
- \$40,001 to \$50,000
- \$50,001 to \$60,000
- \$60,001 to \$70,000
- \$70,001 to \$80,000
- \$80,001 to \$90,000
- \$90,001 or more

Was the amount of time needed for you to graduate:

- Less than originally expected
- About the same as originally expected
- More than originally expected

Display this question:

If Was the amount of time needed for you to graduate: = More than originally expected

Which of the following factors impacted your ability to progress in your graduate program as expected? (Select all that apply)

- Availability of courses that fit my schedule
- Inadequate advising or faculty mentoring
- Difficulty completing comprehensive/qualifying exams
- Difficulty completing a project, thesis, or dissertation research
- Difficulty completing coursework
- Difficulty obtaining financial aid or assistance
- Personal or family responsibilities (e.g., childcare)
- Lack of interest or motivation
- Other (please specify) _____

Which of the following best describes your primary post-graduation plans?

- Employment full-time (30+ hours per week)
- Employment part-time (less than 30 hours per week)
- Continuing education (graduate, professional, or certification program)
- Participating in a volunteer or service program (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps)
- Serving in the U.S. military
- Seeking employment or internship
- Not seeking employment or further education at this time
- Other (please specify) _____

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statement: *Overall, I am satisfied with my George Mason University education.*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please use the box below to share any additional feedback you have about your time at Mason.

Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.

The following form will allow you to update your post-graduation contact information. Your updated contact information may be shared with the Office of Alumni Relations or administrators of your degree program. **The information you provide below will not be associated with your responses to the survey.**

Please enter your preferred email after graduation. This should be an email different from your GMU email address. _____

From which college or school at Mason are you graduating?

If you are graduating with a dual degree from more than one college, please select the college you consider to be your primary college.

- Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
- College of Education and Human Development
- College of Engineering and Computing
- College of Public Health
- College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- College of Science
- College of Visual and Performing Arts
- Schar School of Policy and Government
- School of Business

Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution ONLY

Which of the following field experiences did you participate in as part of your graduate program in the Carter School? (Select all that apply)

- Independent study
- Service-learning
- Travel courses
- None of the above

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statement. *Compared to when I started my program, I feel more confident in the following:*

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Facilitation skills | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Academic writing skills | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Research and critical analysis skills | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

College of Education and Human Development ONLY

For courses you have taken as part of your program in the College of Education and Human Development, please rate your level of satisfaction with the following course delivery modes.

| | Very satisfied | Satisfied | Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied | N/A |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Fully online synchronous courses (set meeting times) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Fully online asynchronous courses (no set meeting times) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Hybrid courses (some online components) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Fully in-person courses | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statement: *Faculty mentoring made a positive difference in my learning and growth.*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not applicable

College of Public Health ONLY

Please rate how well your graduate program prepared you to do the following:

| | Poor | Fair | Good | Very Good | Excellent |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Develop a command of the core content in your discipline | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Identify root causes of problems | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Evaluate research findings published in scientific literature | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Apply public health principles in research and practice | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds on inter-professional teams | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

College of Humanities and Social Sciences ONLY

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements about your program in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| The courses in my program were academically challenging | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For most courses, I was able to enroll in my preferred modality (e.g., face-to-face, online, or hybrid) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The faculty in my program cared about my success | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My faculty mentor provided valuable guidance for my thesis/dissertation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

College of Science ONLY

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements about your program in the College of Science.

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| The courses in my program were interesting and intellectually stimulating | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program provided opportunities to learn how to use discipline-specific software and equipment that will help me in my career | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My program helped me gain valuable experience related to my career or profession | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

College of Visual and Performing Arts ONLY

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements about your program in the College of Visual and Performing Arts:

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I was given opportunities to collaborate on a research or creative project with <u>faculty</u> from disciplines other than my own | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I was given opportunities to collaborate on a research or creative project with <u>students</u> from disciplines other than my own | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Schar School of Policy and Government ONLY

Have you had the opportunity to deliver presentations in your coursework?

Yes

No

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Schar values diversity. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Schar leadership, faculty, and staff understand that diversity and inclusion is critical to our school's success. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Costello College of Business ONLY

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements about your program in the College of Business:

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I felt a strong sense of belonging in the College of Business | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel my business courses prepared me to take on my next endeavor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel satisfied with the services the College of Business provided to students (e.g., career services, advising, engagement, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I prefer taking classes in a hybrid format with both online and in-person options rather than just taking in-person classes. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| It is important to me to finish the degree as soon as possible rather than taking extra time to complete the program. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |