

Graduate Student Survey Resources and Questions

Resources

- MIT and UCSC have both recently performed graduate student surveys and have a lot of data to draw help from.
- MIT Data & Questions: <https://ir.mit.edu/2019-grad-ess>
- UCSC Data & Questions:
<https://iraps.ucsc.edu/surveys/survey-files/graduate-studies-planning-form-2021-instrument.pdf>
- Arizona State: <https://gpsa.asu.edu/needs-assessment-reports/>
- (2017) Colorado State University:
<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/graduate-school-student-satisfaction-survey/>
- FSU CoL Survey:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtI9DfDiW-oUgxCokisH8iiSSMAkEeL0i_clx350saGPZ3yw/viewform

Example Sections and Questions

General Questions

- Department/program
- Are you currently pursuing a Master's or Doctoral, or professional (JD or MD) degree?
- Expected graduation term and year?
- How will you be enrolling in upcoming semesters?
 - Part time, full time, etc.
- What is your current plan or preference for attending courses in Fall and Spring 2021
- What type of funding will you receive for Fall and Spring 2021
- If you are a TA or RA or GA, what is your preferred method for working?
- Where do you plan to live starting this summer?
- What kind of research/creative work do you plan in the 2021-22 academic year?
- How many semesters has COVID delayed your enrollment or application?

Satisfaction

- How satisfied are you being a graduate student at FSU?

Program Quality

- How would you rate the quality of your academic experience?
- How would you rate the quality of your professional development opportunities?
- How would you rate the quality of your student life experience?
- Helpfulness of staff
- Overall program quality
- Amount of financial support
- Quality of academic advising and guidance

Orientation

- Did your program offer an orientation and did it effectively integrate into your program
- How would you rate your academic and research workload?

Workload

- How would you rate your academic and research workload

FSU Contribution

- Becoming an expert in my field
- Keeping up with current advancements in my field
- Knowing the latest research techniques
- Self reflection and self improvement
- Working in a team
- Collaborating in my discipline

Obstacles

- Time management
- Cost of living
- Self isolation
- Housing
- Health issues

Stress Sources

- Indicate the extent to which aspects of life outside FSU is a stress source
- confusion/uncertainty about life after FSU
- Time management
- Lack of time to reflect and think
- Cost of living
- Inability to pursue outside interests and avocations
- Situation of my spouse/partner
- Immigration matters
- Your health
- Managing household responsibilities
- Issues related to childcare or caring for family

Professional Development

- Have you discussed issues related to professional development with your advisor?
- Are there opportunities within your program for professional development

Career

- I feel comfortable seeking advice from my advisor on career options within academia
- My advisor would support me in any career path
- I am confident in my prospects for employment or further study after completing my program
- My program is preparing me adequately for my current career goals
- I feel comfortable seeking advice from my advisor on career options outside academia

Climate

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with each statement
- I feel safe on campus
- I have peers in my program who are personal friends
- The intellectual climate of my program is positive
- Students in my program are collegial
- Students in my program are treated with respect by faculty
- My peers value my research/scholarship
- FSU would take any reports of sexual assault seriously

- My program is a supportive and collegial environment
- I am satisfied with opportunities for individual scholarly achievement
- My program helps me obtain the resources i need
- The social climate of my program is positive
- I feel part of the community at FSU
- I am satisfied with opportunities to collaborate
- Administrators at FSU are genuinely concerned about my welfare
- I have peers at FSU outside my program who are my personal friends
- My program's procedures are fair and equitable to all
- My program is responsive to student concerns
- FSU senior leadership is responsive to student concerns
- I have a voice in decision making that affects the direction of my program
- I have to work harder than some of my peers to be perceived as a legitimate scholar
- I feel excluded from informal networks in my program
- I have been subjected to inappropriate or disrespectful language while being a grad student at FSU
- I feel welcomed by other graduate students in my department during social activities
- I feel like i belong in the graduate student community of my department
- My department needs to do more to create a diverse and inclusive environment
- The faculty in my department should be more engaged with diversity and inclusion issues
- I feel that the academic environment of my department negatively impacts my mental and emotional health
- It is difficult to find a supportive advisor in my department

Insulted

- In the previous year, how often have you felt insulted or threatened based on your social identity
- In the previous year, how often have you witnessed someone else being insulted or threatened based on some aspect that individual's social identity

Treated Fairly

- Staff in my department treats me fairly
- Faculty in my department treats me fairly
- My advisor treats me fairly

Support

- I know where to go for personal support for issues related to harassment or discrimination
- I know where to go to formally report an incident of harassment or discrimination
- My department supports graduate students who are harassed or discriminated against

Resources

- I would feel comfortable discussing discrimination or harassment with:
 - The title IX office
 - My departmental graduate administrator
 - My faculty advisor
 - The FSU police

- My department head

Outside FSU

- Overall, how satisfied are you with your life outside FSU?

Balance

- Please indicate your satisfaction with your ability to integrate the needs of your work with those of your personal/family life

Health

- How would you describe your overall physical health
- How would you describe your overall mental and emotional health

Sleep

- In the past week, how many of the days did you get enough sleep so you felt rested when you woke up

How often

- During the current academic year, how often, have you:
 - Felt overwhelmed by all you had to do
 - Felt isolated
 - Felt out of place or that you just didn't fit in on campus
 - Felt affected by the sadness or depression of someone you know
 - Stayed up all night to finish an academic assignment or prepare for an exam
 - Felt so depressed it was difficult to function
 - Intervened when a friend's behavior concerned you?

Friends

- How many close friends do you have (people that you feel at ease with, can talk to about private matters, and can call on for help)

Spouse

- Do you have a spouse
- Is your spouse or partner employed
- Does your spouse or partner live in the same household as you at this time
- Is your spouse or partner enrolled in school, but not at FSU
- Is your spouse or partner enrolled in school at FSU

Children

- How many children do you have living with you at FSU
- What age ranges do your children fall
- What is your primary form of childcare for your children
 - spouse/partner or relative
 - Off-campus day care
 - FSU child care center
 - Self
 - Paid
 - Other
- How satisfied are you with your current child care situation
- How difficult was it for you to locate appropriate child care

Go to bed hungry

- On how many of the past 7 days did you go to bed hungry at night because of lack of money to buy food

Eating habits

- Please indicate how frequently you do not have enough to eat
 - Daily or almost daily
 - A few times a week
 - A few times a month
 - Less than once a month

Dining

- How satisfied are you with each of the following:
 - Cleanliness of facilities
 - Speed of service
 - Quantity of food/portion size
 - convenience/hours of operation
 - Quality of food
 - Variety of menu selections

Research unit

- Are you associated with a research unit

Years at FSU

- How many years have you spent at FSU as a grad student

Research

- Do you conduct research as part of your academic program

Residence

- Which of the following best describes where you are living now
 - Off campus residence more than a 15 minute walk from FSU
 - FSU residence hall
 - Off campus residence within a 15 minute walk from campus
 - Other

Covid (maybe free response)

- Did you begin your graduate student experience during COVID
- Did you finish your graduate student experience during covid
- Did COVID delay your admission by any amount of time
- Did you feel supported by FSU throughout the virtual only time period