

Summer and Fall 2000, Spring 2001 Graduating Senior Survey

Office of Institutional Assessment, MS 3D2, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 22030-4444

Congratulations on your impending graduation from George Mason University. Your satisfaction with, and reactions to, your educational and student life experiences at Mason are important to us, and will be used in educational planning. Please complete and return this survey in the enclosed business reply envelope. No postage is necessary.

Survey Directions: Circle, mark, or write in the most appropriate response.

If you prefer, complete this survey on-line at: <http://assessment.gmu.edu>.

Click on "Survey Forms," then "On-line Graduation Survey."

I. Educational Experience

1. Indicate the extent to which George Mason University contributed to your growth in each of the following:

Very Much	Some-what	A Little	Not At All	
4	3	2	1	Written Communication (use writing to discover and express ideas)
4	3	2	1	Oral Communication (use speaking to think, learn, and share ideas)
4	3	2	1	Information Technology (IT) (use IT to communicate and to conduct research)
4	3	2	1	IT (understand ethical uses of computers and IT)
4	3	2	1	Quantitative Reasoning (use and evaluate numerical information)
4	3	2	1	Literature (use critical analysis to understand the aesthetic and intellectual components of literature)
4	3	2	1	Arts (use critical analysis to understand the aesthetic and intellectual components of the arts)
4	3	2	1	US History (understand US institutions, philosophies, values, and history)
4	3	2	1	Western Civilization (understand Western institutions, traditions, and values)
4	3	2	1	Global Understanding (understand non-US institutions, traditions, and values)
4	3	2	1	Social and Behavioral Sciences (understand the social science approach to the study of human behavior)
4	3	2	1	Synthesis (understand the connections among different disciplines)
4	3	2	1	Natural Sciences (use the natural sciences to understand the scientific process and to evaluate scientific information)
4	3	2	1	Citizenship (involved and responsible in community)
4	3	2	1	Scientific Process (ability to use and understand the scientific process)
4	3	2	1	Critical Thinking and Analysis (judge the consistency, adequacy, and relevance of data, points of view, or arguments)
4	3	2	1	Problem Solving (identify problems and solve them)

II. Thinking about Mason Courses and Faculty

2. Revision or rewriting is often a common part of the writing process. When undertaking a written assignment at Mason, how often did you revise written work before completing it or handing it in to be graded?

___ Frequently ___ Sometimes ___ A Little ___ Never

3. How many courses in your major required you to revise a written paper, project, or assignment?

___ Five or more ___ Four ___ Three ___ Two ___ One ___ None

4. How would you rate the quality of the faculty members **in your major field**?

___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

5. How would you rate the quality of the Mason faculty members **not in your major field**?

___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor ___ Don't know

6. How often did Mason faculty:

Always Usually Seldom Never

4	3	2	1	set high expectations for your learning
4	3	2	1	encourage you to be actively involved in learning
4	3	2	1	encourage student-faculty interaction in class
4	3	2	1	encourage student-faculty interaction out of class
4	3	2	1	give frequent and prompt feedback
4	3	2	1	encourage learning through cooperative activities among students
4	3	2	1	incorporate diverse views and learning styles into learning experiences

7. Indicate how frequently your Mason classes required you to:

Very Frequently Frequently Infrequently Never

4	3	2	1	remember an extensive number of facts and concepts
4	3	2	1	understand the meaning of concepts
4	3	2	1	apply the concepts learned in class to new situations
4	3	2	1	break information down in order to identify assumptions and relationships
4	3	2	1	synthesize information from different sources
4	3	2	1	use criteria to judge the value and quality of ideas

8. How often were your Mason courses intellectually challenging?

___ Always ___ Usually ___ Seldom ___ Never

III. Computer Technology

9. How many classes at Mason incorporated each of the following computer applications?

10+	6-9	1-5	0	word processing
10+	6-9	1-5	0	e-mail
10+	6-9	1-5	0	internet/WWW
10+	6-9	1-5	0	electronic meeting rooms (e.g., town hall)

10. Overall to what extent did the use of technology at Mason enhance **your computer skills**?

___ Very Much ___ Somewhat ___ A Little ___ Not At All

11. Overall, to what extent did the use of technology at Mason enhance **your learning**?

___ Very Much ___ Somewhat ___ A Little ___ Not At All

IV. Schedule, Employment, and Future Plans

12. At graduation, how much money will you owe for tuition, books, and other educational expenses?

___ None ___ \$5,000 or less ___ \$5,001-10,000 ___ \$10,001-15,000
 ___ \$15,001-20,000 ___ \$20,001 or more

13. Do you plan to pursue additional education within the next year?

___ Yes, I will enroll full-time in graduate/professional school.
 ___ Yes, I will enroll part-time in graduate/professional school.
 ___ Yes, I will enroll in courses leading to certificate/professional license.
 ___ No, I do not plan to be enrolled in course work.

14. During your last year at Mason, how many hours did you spend during a typical week doing each of the following activities? (Consider a typical week to be Sunday-Saturday in which a maximum of 168 hours is available for all activities, including sleep.)

_____ classes/labs _____ study/homework _____ working for pay _____ care for or interaction with family
(hours per week) (hours per week) (hours per week) (hours per week)

15. While at Mason, I was employed for pay:

- During each semester
 During most semesters
 Only for a few semesters
 Not at all (*If Not at all, go to question 18*)

16. During your employment while at Mason, how important were each of the following reasons for working?

Very important	Somewhat important	Somewhat unimportant	Very unimportant	
4	3	2	1	to pay college expenses (tuition, fees, books)
4	3	2	1	to pay living expenses (rent/dorm fees, food, utilities, childcare, family expenses)
4	3	2	1	to pay personal expenses (car, travel, clothes)
4	3	2	1	to reduce post-graduation debt
4	3	2	1	to enhance learning
4	3	2	1	Other: Specify _____

17. If you are currently employed, how would you describe your employment?

- I am in a position related to my major or career.
 I am in a position that is unrelated to my major or career.
 I am not currently employed.

V. Campus Experience

18. To what extent does George Mason University emphasize the following:

Very Strongly	Somewhat Strongly	Somewhat weakly	Very weakly	
4	3	2	1	academic, scholarly, and intellectual activities
4	3	2	1	aesthetic, expressive, and creative activities
4	3	2	1	critical, evaluative, and analytical activities
4	3	2	1	understanding and appreciation of human diversity
4	3	2	1	vocational and occupational competence
4	3	2	1	technology and information literacy skills

19. Did you participate in a study abroad program while at Mason? Yes No

VI. Satisfaction

20. How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of your education at Mason?

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	
4	3	2	1	the education you received in general
4	3	2	1	the education you received in your major field
4	3	2	1	advising you received in your major field
4	3	2	1	your overall Mason experience
4	3	2	1	your out-of-class access to Mason faculty
4	3	2	1	opportunities to interact with students from diverse backgrounds
4	3	2	1	academic courses
4	3	2	1	campus intellectual life
4	3	2	1	your sense of belonging at Mason
4	3	2	1	preparation for a technological world

Please continue to page 4. *Thank you.*



How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of your education at Mason?(continued)

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Applicable/ Don't Know	
4	3	2	1	NA	preparation for work
4	3	2	1	NA	preparation for post-Baccalaureate study
4	3	2	1	NA	campus climate for the broad diversity of students at Mason
4	3	2	1	NA	life in the Mason residence halls
4	3	2	1	NA	career counseling
4	3	2	1	NA	counseling for personal concerns

21. If you were to do it all over again, would you attend George Mason?

Definitely yes Probably yes Probably No Definitely No

Why/why not? _____

VII. Demographics and Comments

22. What is the highest educational level completed by either your father **or** your mother?

High school diploma or less Some college Bachelors or graduate degree

23. Where did you live during most of your time at Mason?

On campus, how many semesters? 1-2 3-4 5 or more

Off campus with roommates including Mason students or graduates

Off campus with roommates not including Mason students or graduates

Off campus by myself

With my parents, siblings, or relatives

With a spouse/children

24. Did you transfer to Mason from another university/college?

No (If No, go to Question 26.) Yes

25. If yes, how many hours did you transfer?

30 or less 31-59 60-89 90 or more

26. What was the best thing about George Mason University?

27. What one thing would you change about George Mason University?

28. Your student i.d.# _____ - _____ - _____

(Your student identification number is requested to assist with the analysis of this survey and in order to release your Mason diploma upon graduation. Your responses are confidential. No report will identify you.) Thank you.

Office of Institutional Assessment

Phone: 703-993-8834

Homepage: <http://assessment.gmu.edu>

E-mail: assessmt@gmu.edu

Location: Mason Hall, Room D111

Mailing Address: Office of Institutional Assessment, George Mason University, MS 3D2, Fairfax, VA 22030-4444