



## Graduate Student Exit Survey

### Summer and Fall 2014, Spring 2015

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation from George Mason University! Your feedback is important to us and will be used in educational planning. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Institutional Assessment at 703-993-8834 or [assessment@gmu.edu](mailto:assessment@gmu.edu). Thank you for your participation.

**Directions:** For each question, select or mark the most appropriate response. Return the completed survey to the Office of Institutional Assessment, George Mason University – MS 3D2, University Hall 3600, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.

### I. Background Information

1. Among the graduate schools that you considered, was Mason your:
  - First choice
  - Second choice
  - Third choice or lower
  
2. Did you pursue your graduate degree at Mason primarily part-time or full-time?
  - Part-time
  - Full-time

### II. Financial Support and Employment

3. While enrolled in your graduate studies, did you receive financial support from Mason?
  - Yes (check all that apply)
    - Teaching assistantship
    - Research assistantship
    - Professional graduate assistantship
    - Fellowship/scholarship
  - No, I did NOT apply
  - No, I applied but did NOT obtain
  
4. While enrolled in graduate studies at Mason, did you **WORK FOR PAY**?
  - Yes
  - No

4.1 If yes, how often did you <b>WORK FOR PAY</b> ? (Mark all that apply)		Most semesters	A few semesters	Not at all
<b>On-campus (other than an assistantship):</b>	<b>Part-time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Full-time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Off-campus:</b>	<b>Part-time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Full-time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. What is your approximate level of indebtedness related to your graduate studies at Mason?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,001-20,000    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 or less | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,001-25,000    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,001-10,000  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,001-30,000    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001-15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$30,000 |

**III. Academic Program**

6. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about **faculty** in your graduate program:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
The courses I have taken were taught well.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is good communication between faculty and students regarding student needs, concerns, and suggestions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There have been many opportunities outside the classroom for interaction between students and faculty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faculty in my program are interested in the professional development of graduate students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faculty in my program are helpful and supportive in my search for professional employment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faculty in my program are well qualified to teach their courses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faculty in my program have been willing to meet with me to discuss my academic performance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about **students** in your graduate program:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
The intellectual caliber of students in my program is high.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your graduate **program**:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
My program has high academic standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My program integrates current developments in my field.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My program prepared me well for my profession.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My program was intellectually challenging and stimulating.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My program encourages student collaboration and teamwork.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would recommend my graduate program to prospective students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If I were starting over, I would enroll in this program again.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There were enough online courses to meet my needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. How <b>competent</b> do you feel about your knowledge/abilities in each of the following:	<b>Very competent</b>	<b>Competent</b>	<b>Not very competent</b>	<b>Not at all competent</b>
Ability to work in groups	4	3	2	1
Ability to work independently	4	3	2	1
Problem-solving skills	4	3	2	1
Creativity	4	3	2	1
Global perspective	4	3	2	1
Writing	4	3	2	1
Oral communication	4	3	2	1
Information technology	4	3	2	1
Quantitative reasoning	4	3	2	1
Scientific reasoning	4	3	2	1

#### IV. Time to Degree

10. Was the amount of time needed for you to graduate:

**Less** than originally expected

**More** than originally expected (answer questions 10.1- 10.3)

**About the same** as originally expected

Unsure

If you answered "**More** than originally expected" in question 10, answer questions 10.1 - 10.3. Otherwise, proceed to question 11.

10.1 To what extent did the following **academic reasons** prevent you from progressing in your degree program as expected?

	<b>A great deal</b>	<b>A fair amount</b>	<b>A little</b>	<b>Not at all</b>
a. Lack of course availability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Inadequate advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Difficulty in completing comprehensive/qualifying exams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Difficulty in my project, thesis, or dissertation research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Difficulty in completing coursework	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Difficulty in fulfilling other degree requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10.2 To what extent did the following **personal/family reasons** prevent you from progressing in your degree program as expected?

	<b>A great deal</b>	<b>A fair amount</b>	<b>A little</b>	<b>Not at all</b>
g. Finances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Demands of my employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Military deployment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Self/family responsibilities (health, birth, child or elderly care, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Lack of motivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. <b>Other reasons</b> , please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10.3 Of the reasons (a-l) selected in question 10.1 and/or question 10.2, what was the **most important reason** that prevented you from progressing in your degree program as expected: \_\_\_\_\_

## V. Satisfaction

11. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of your graduate program:	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A or Don't Know
a. Academic advising (e.g., assistance with course planning and meeting degree requirements)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Career counseling (e.g., assistance with career planning, job search, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Mentoring (e.g., support of professional growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Financial support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Work/lab space on campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Social space on campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Discipline specific software and equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Diversity of student population	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Ease in finding information related to my study/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## VI. Final Comments

12. Overall, how satisfied are you with your Mason experience? Please elaborate in the comments section below.

Very satisfied

Satisfied

Dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

13. What is the best thing about Mason?

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14. Is there a faculty or staff member who has made a difference in your life?

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15. As an alumnus, how do you expect to stay connected with Mason? Mark all that apply.

- Return to Mason for University Alumni events
- 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

16. Are you willing to let us share your responses to Q15 with the Office of Alumni Relations for future contact?

Yes

No

17. Please comment regarding your Mason experiences in the space provided.

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*Your G-number and Mason email address are necessary for us to verify that only graduating students have completed the survey.  
All individual responses are confidential and no report will identify you as an individual.*

**Please enter your G-Number: G \_\_\_\_\_**

**GMU email address: \_\_\_\_\_@gmu.edu**

**Preferred email address after graduation: \_\_\_\_\_**

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

**Thank you for your participation!**