

Graduate Student Exit Survey

Summer and Fall 2015, Spring 2016

Office of Institutional Assessment – George Mason University

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

I. Background Information

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

II. Financial Support and Employment

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

4.1 If yes, how often did you **WORK FOR PAY**? (Mark all that apply)

		Most semesters	A few semesters	Not at all
On-campus (other than an assistantship):	Part-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Full-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-campus:	Part-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Full-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001-60,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 or less | <input type="checkbox"/> \$60,001-70,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001-20,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$70,001-80,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,001-30,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$80,001-90,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,001-40,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$90,001 or more |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40,001-50,000 | |

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 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"/>
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"/>
I developed knowledge and skills to conduct research in my field as a result of the program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. Thesis/Project/Dissertation Experiences

8. Using the list below, please tell us:

*Which of the following is the final culminating requirement for graduation?
(Select one)*

Thesis/Dissertation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Culminating research paper (not part of a thesis/dissertation)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Culminating research project (not part of a thesis/dissertation)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Culminating/capstone project	<input type="checkbox"/>
Portfolio	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comprehensive/proficiency exam	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internship/practicum, or field experiences	<input type="checkbox"/>
International experiences	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about your principal advisor for your final culminating requirement?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A or Don't Know
Spent the time necessary to advise me on academic matters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Was interested in my research/project goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discussed my research/project with me on a regular basis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critiqued my work in ways that helped my work progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Returned my work in a timely manner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

V. 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?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
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?	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all
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. Other reasons , 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: _____

VI. 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. Ease in finding information related to my study/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VII. School or College

12. Select your college: (If you received degrees from multiple colleges, select your primary college)

- College of Education & Human Development (go to CEHD section)
- College of Health and Human Services (go to section VII)
- School of Business (go to section VII)
- School for Conflict Analysis & Resolution (go to S-CAR section)
- College of Science (go to COS section)
- New Century College (go to section VII)
- College of Humanities & Social Sciences (go to section VII)
- Volgenau School of Engineering (go to section VII)
- School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs (go to section VII)

College of Education and Human Development ONLY

13 How satisfied are you with the following:	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A or Don't Know
a. Practicum/internship or other experience-based learning in your program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The supervision in that practicum/internship/experience-based learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The relevance of your program for your intended field	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution ONLY

14. Have you been enrolled in a dual or joint degree program in the School for Conflict and Analysis Resolution?

- Yes, Dual Master's degrees in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security
- Yes, Dual degree in Social Work and Conflict Analysis and Resolution
- Yes, Master's International, a joint program with the Peace Corps and George Mason University
- Yes, Accelerated BA or BS/MS
- Yes, other, please specify _____
- No

15. Which of the following field experiences have you had in the School for Conflict and Analysis Resolution? Check all that apply.

- Internship
- Independent study or research
- Study abroad
- Service-learning
- Travel courses
- Other, specify: _____

16. Which of the following best describes the delivery mode for most of the courses you have had in your program at Mason?

- Face-to-face only
- Mostly face-to-face
- About half face-to-face and half online
- Mostly online
- Online only

College of Science ONLY

17. Did your current employer (other than Mason) provide financial assistance for obtaining your degree?

- Yes (go to 18)
- No (go to 19)
- Not applicable – I was not working while at Mason (skip to end of COS section)
- Not applicable – I was working at Mason (skip to end of COS section)

18. In what form did your current employer provide financial assistance for obtaining your degree? Check all that apply.

- Tuition reimbursement
- Book purchases
- Other, please specify _____

19. Is your current employer in need of additional graduates with qualifications that can be provided by Mason?

- Yes (go to 20)
- No (skip to end of College of Science section)

20. Please specify the employer name and the qualifications the employer is looking for. _____

VIII. Institutional Support

<i>21. To what extent did the following services contribute to your success at Mason?</i>	A great deal	A fair amount	A little	Not at all	NA/Did not use the service
a. Library services (e.g., data lab, specialized librarian, research consultation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. University Libraries Dissertation & Thesis Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. University career services (e.g., job search resources, interview practice, application for graduate school)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Graduate student life seminars and workshops (e.g., Thriving in Graduate School, Preparing for Careers in the Academy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Graduate Student Write-Ins or Writing Center Grad Write-Ins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Support for graduate student teaching and research from the Center for Teaching and Faculty Excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IX. Final Comments

22. What were your career goals when you first arrived at Mason? _____

23. To what extent did you feel supported to pursue your career goals while you were at Mason?

- A great deal
- A fair amount
- A little
- Not at all

24. Upon graduation, 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
- Not interested

25. Are you willing to let us share your responses to Q24 with the Office of Alumni Relations for future contact?

- Yes No

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

- Very satisfied Satisfied Dissatisfied Very dissatisfied

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

Comments: _____

Preferred email address after graduation: _____

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

