

Law Student Exit Survey
Fall 2009, Spring and Summer 2010
George Mason University

Congratulations on your impending graduation from George Mason University! Your satisfaction and evaluation of your educational and student life experiences at Mason are important to us and will be used in educational planning. This survey will allow you to provide important feedback to Mason faculty and administrators. While the survey is not anonymous, be assured that your responses are confidential. Data will be analyzed and reported by groups only and at no time will individual responses be linked with your name.

Directions: Circle, mark, or write in the most appropriate response and return this survey to the Office of Institutional Assessment, George Mason University - MS 3D2, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. If you prefer to complete the survey online go directly to: <https://assessment.gmu.edu/surveys/2009-2010/letter-law.cfm> or access the survey through our website at: <https://assessment.gmu.edu>. Once there click on "Student Exit Surveys."

Part I. Background Information

1. When did you first start your law study at George Mason University?
 - a. ____ 2003 or earlier
 - b. ____ 2004
 - c. ____ 2005
 - d. ____ 2006
 - e. ____ 2007
 - f. ____ 2008
 - g. ____ 2009
2. Did you begin law school at Mason or elsewhere?
 - a. ____ Started here
 - b. ____ Started elsewhere and transferred here
3. Among the law schools that you considered, was Mason your:
 - a. ____ First choice
 - b. ____ Second choice
 - c. ____ Third choice or lower
4. How many years elapsed between earning your undergraduate degree and enrolling in the Mason Law School?
 - a. ____ Less than 2 years
 - b. ____ 2-3 years
 - c. ____ 4-5 years
 - d. ____ 6 years or more
5. Did you pursue your law degree primarily:
 - a. ____ Full-time
 - b. ____ Part-time
6. What was your employment status for most of your law education? (Do NOT include unpaid internships.)
 - a. ____ Full-time job
 - b. ____ Part-time legal job
 - c. ____ Part-time non-legal job
 - d. ____ Worked occasionally
 - e. ____ Did not work
7. Did you receive financial support that does not have to be repaid from any of the following sources? (Select ALL that apply.)
 - a. ____ Teaching assistantship (e.g. legal writing fellow)
 - b. ____ Research assistantship or equivalent
 - c. ____ University scholarship
 - d. ____ Non-University scholarship
 - e. ____ Employment benefit (e.g. tuition assistance)
 - f. ____ Other, please specify: _____
8. How much educational debt from attending law school do you expect to have upon your graduation?
 - a. ____ None
 - b. ____ \$1 - \$20,000
 - c. ____ \$20,001 - \$40,000
 - d. ____ \$40,001 - \$60,000
 - e. ____ \$60,001 - \$80,000
 - f. ____ \$80,001 - \$100,000
 - g. ____ More than \$100,000

Part II. Law Program

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

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	NA*/Don't know
Faculty					
The courses I took were well taught.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
Faculty were willing to meet with me to discuss my academic performance.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
Faculty in the Law School were interested in the professional development of students.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
There is good communication between faculty and students regarding student needs, concerns and suggestions.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
There are many opportunities outside the classroom for interaction between students and faculty.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK

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

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	NA*/Don't know
Students					
There are students from different social, cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds at the Mason Law School.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
The intellectual caliber of students in the program is high.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK

9.c. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about **academics** in your law program:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	NA*/Don't know
Academic Experiences					
My program was intellectually challenging and stimulating.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
My program prepared me well for my profession.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
Courses listed in the catalog are offered frequently enough for timely completion of the degree requirements.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
There are a wide range of courses to choose from.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
The writing program has helped me to improve my legal writing skills.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
The Law School encourages the ethical practice of the law.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
The Law School has given me sufficient support to succeed academically.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
Overall, I have a strong sense of belonging to the Mason Law School.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
I would recommend the Mason Law School to prospective students.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK
If I were starting over, I would enroll at the Mason Law School again.	4	3	2	1	NA/DK

10. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate:

	Have done	Currently doing	Plan to do	Do not plan to do	NA*
Complete a clinical internship or externship	4	3	2	1	NA
Volunteer or do pro bono work	4	3	2	1	NA
Serve on a student-faculty committee	4	3	2	1	NA
Work on a legal research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	4	3	2	1	NA
Serve on the George Mason Law Review/other law journal	4	3	2	1	NA
Serve on a moot court team	4	3	2	1	NA
Be a legal writing fellow	4	3	2	1	NA
Participate in other law student organizations	4	3	2	1	NA

*not applicable

Part III. Satisfaction

11. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of your experience at the Mason Law School:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	NA*/Didn't use
Academic advising	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Career counseling	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Mentoring (e.g. supporting professional development)	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Level of financial support	4	3	2	1	NA/DU

11.1. Comments on the above experiences:

12. How satisfied are you with the following services/facilities on the <u>Arlington</u> campus:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	NA*/Didn't use
Law school library	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Law school computing resources	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Campus lounge facilities	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Campus parking	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Campus bookstore	4	3	2	1	NA/DU
Campus food services	4	3	2	1	NA/DU

*not applicable

Part IV. Future Plans

13. What is your employment plan after graduating?

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> I expect to continue with my current employer in my <u>current</u> position. | e. <input type="checkbox"/> I will be self-employed. |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> I expect to continue with my current employer in a <u>new</u> position. | f. <input type="checkbox"/> I will look for employment. |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> I expect to return to a previous employer in a new or previous position. | g. <input type="checkbox"/> I will not be employed. |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> I will begin a <u>new</u> position with a <u>new</u> employer. | |

14. Which setting BEST describes your EXPECTED employer once you graduate? (**Mark ONLY one**)

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Law firm | f. <input type="checkbox"/> Trade association or lobbying firm |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> Academic institution | g. <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Business/industry | h. <input type="checkbox"/> Other non-profit organizations |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial clerkship | i. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |
| e. <input type="checkbox"/> Government (federal, state or local) | |

Part V. Final Questions

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with the Mason Law School?

- a. _____ Very satisfied b. _____ Satisfied c. _____ Dissatisfied d. _____ Very dissatisfied

16. Please select one or more of the following categories and comment regarding your experiences at the Mason Law School. We would particularly like to hear your suggestions for improvements that would enhance the experience for future students.

- a. _____ Academic environment
- b. _____ Campus environment
- c. _____ Curriculum
- d. _____ Faculty, general
- e. _____ Faculty–student communication
- f. _____ General comments
- g. _____ Quality of advising
- h. _____ Quality of instruction
- i. _____ Research experiences
- j. _____ Resources (lab, Internet, library, bookstore, etc.)
- k. _____ Staff
- l. _____ Students
- m. _____ University management (food, gym, parking, etc.)
- n. _____ Other: _____

Please enter your GMU student identification number which begins with the letter “G.”

G _____

GMU email address: _____@gmu.edu

Preferred email address after graduation: _____

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

This survey was prepared and distributed by the Office of Institutional Assessment
Mason Hall, Room D111 • Phone: 703-993-8834 • E-mail: assessment@gmu.edu • <https://assessment.gmu.edu>

