

First Year Graduate Student Survey 02.22.2012

Q1 This is an anonymous survey for first year graduate students. Completion of the survey is voluntary. The purpose of the survey is as follows: to improve the graduate experience for current and future students; to enable faculty and administrators to better understand the factors that contribute to student satisfaction with ECU graduate programs and services; and to identify areas where improvements may be needed. Your answers to all questions are very important and will be summarized in a report shared with graduate faculty and administrators. Individuals will not be identifiable in the aggregate analysis. Please be assured that your individual responses will be kept confidential and your anonymity protected. By participating in this survey, you may gain knowledge of valuable resources to improve your graduate school experience at East Carolina University.

Q2 General Questions

Q3 Degree Program: Please note that all doctoral programs are listed first, in alphabetical order, followed by master's programs, also in alphabetical order.

- Anatomy and Cell Biology (PhD)
- Audiology (AuD)
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (PhD)
- Bioenergetics and Exercise Science (PhD)
- Biomedical Physics (PhD)
- Coastal Resources Management (PhD)
- Communication Sciences and Disorders (PhD)
- Educational Leadership (EdD)
- Health Psychology (PhD)
- Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences (PhD)
- Medical Family Therapy (PhD)
- Microbiology and Immunology (PhD)
- Nursing (PhD)
- Pharmacology and Toxicology (PhD)
- Physical Therapy (DPT)
- Physiology (PhD)
- Rehabilitation Counseling and Administration (PhD)
- Technical and Professional Discourse (PhD)
- Technology Management (PhD - Consortium Program)
- Accounting (MSA)
- Adult Education (MAEd)
- Anthropology (MA)
- Art (MFA)
- Art Education
- Athletic Training (MS)
- Biology (MS)
- Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (MS)
- Biomedical Sciences (MS)
- Birth-Kindergarten Education (MAEd)
- Business Administration (MBA)
- Chemistry (MS)
- Child Development and Family Relations (MS)
- Communication (MA)
- Communication Science and Disorders (MS)
- Computer Science (MS)
- Construction Management (MCM)
- Counselor Education (MS)
- Criminal Justice (MS)
- Economics, Applied and Resource (MS)

- Educational Administration and Supervision (EdS)
- Elementary Education (MAEd)
- English (MA)
- English Education (MAEd)
- Environmental Health (MSEH)
- Exercise and Sport Science (MS)
- Geography (MA)
- Geology (MS)
- Health Education (MA, MAEd)
- History (MA)
- History Education (MAEd)
- Instructional Technology (MS)
- Instructional Technology Education (MAEd)
- International Studies
- Library Science (MLS, CAS)
- Maritime Studies (MA)
- Marriage and Family Therapy (MS)
- Mathematics (MA)
- Mathematics, Secondary Education (MAEd)
- Middle Grades Education (MAEd)
- Music Education (MM)
- (Music) Performance (MM)
- (Music) Theory-Composition (MM)
- Nursing (MSN)
- Nutrition (MS)
- Occupational Safety (MS)
- Occupational Therapy (MS)
- Physical Education (MAEd)
- Physician Assistant (MS)
- Physics (MS)
- Psychology: Clinical (MA)
- Psychology: General and Theoretic (MA)
- Psychology: School (MA/CAS)
- Public Administration (MPA)
- Public Health (MPH)
- Reading Education (MAEd)
- Recreation and Park Administration (MS)
- Recreational Therapy Administration (MS)
- Rehabilitation Counseling (MS)
- School Administration (MSA)
- Science Education (MA, MAEd)
- Security Studies (MS)

- Social Work (MSW)
- Sociology (MA)
- Software Engineering (MS)
- Special Education (MAEd)
- Special Education, Mental Retardation (MAEd)
- Substance Abuse and Clinical Counseling (MS)
- Sustainable Tourism (MS)
- Teacher Education (MAEd)
- Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
- Technology Systems (MS)
- Vocational Education (MS)
- Vocational Evaluation (MS)

Q4 College:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Fine Arts and Communication
- College of Allied Health
- College of Business
- College of Education
- College of Health and Human Performance
- College of Human Ecology
- College of Nursing
- College of Technology and Computer Science
- Brody School of Medicine

Q5 Type of Degree:

- Master's (thesis)
- Master's (non-thesis)
- Doctoral

Q6 Citizenship:

- US or Permanent Resident
- Non-US Citizen

Q7 Gender:

- Male
- Female

Q8 Race/Ethnicity: (Check all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- African American/Black
- Asian
- Caucasian/White
- Hispanic
- Other, please specify: _____
- Prefer not to answer

Q9 Do you have a spouse or significant other living with you?

- Yes
- No

Q10 Do you have dependents who live with you?

- Yes
- No

Answer If Do you have dependents who live with you? Yes Is Selected

Q11 How many dependents live with you, not including yourself?

- One
- Two
- Three
- Four or more

Q12 What was your average course load each semester during the past academic year?

- 1 - 3 credit hours/semester
- 4 - 6 credit hours/semester
- 7 - 8 credit hours/semester
- 9 - 12 credit hours/semester
- 13 or more credit hours/semester

Q13 What has been the delivery method of the courses you have taken at ECU since enrolling?

- All of my courses have been delivered face-to-face in a classroom setting.
- Some of my courses have been delivered face-to-face and some have been delivered online.
- All of my courses have been delivered online via the Internet.

Q14 Where did you live during the fall semester of this academic year?

- On campus
- Off campus but within 25 miles of campus
- Off campus and more than 25 miles from campus

Q15 What is your current age?

- Under 25
- 25 - 30
- 31 - 40
- 41 - 55
- Over 55

Q16 Application/Admissions Process

Q17 Did you visit the campus before enrolling at ECU?

- Yes
- No

Q18 Please indicate how important the following reasons were for choosing to attend ECU.

	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Not at all Important
Faculty/Program reputation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
University reputation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job placement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Location/region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Course offerings/curricula	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of online degree programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q19 Were you aware of any formal orientation workshops or sessions that were devoted to graduate students? (Check all that apply)

- Yes, Graduate School orientation
- Yes, department or program orientation
- No

Answer If Were you aware of any formal orientation workshops or ses... Yes, Graduate School orientation Is Selected

Q20 Did you attend the Graduate School orientation?

- Yes
- No

Answer If Were you aware of any formal orientation workshops or ses... Yes, department or program orientation Is Selected

Q21 Did you attend the department or program orientation?

- Yes
- No

Q22 Overall, how satisfied are you with the application/admissions process that you have experienced from your program?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q23 Mentoring and Advising Please use the following definition for this section. A "mentor" is someone who goes beyond advising in academic matters by also providing guidance and advice on matters within your program, directing/supervising your research and preparing you for your future career. Please note that while your major advisor may also be your "mentor", you may actually consider some other faculty member(s) as more of a "mentor."

mentor(s)						
-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer If Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Availability of an advisor to meet and converse with you about academics - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Availability of an advisor to meet and converse with you about academics - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Availability of an advisor to meet and converse with you about academics - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Receipt of regular feedback from an advisor and/or the program about your academic progress - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Receipt of regular feedback from an advisor and/or the program about your academic progress - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Receipt of regular feedback from an advisor and/or the program about your academic progress - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about university policies and procedures - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about university policies and procedures - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about university policies and procedures - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about degree requirements and course sequencing - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about degree requirements and course sequencing - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Delivery of accurate information about degree requirements and course sequencing - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected

Q25 What is the main cause of your dissatisfaction with your advising experience?

Answer If Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Access to someone in your program that you consider a mentor - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Access to someone in your program that you consider a mentor - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Access to someone in your program that you consider a mentor - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Quality of the relationship between you and your mentor(s) - Somewhat Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Quality of the relationship between you and your mentor(s) - Dissatisfied Is Selected Or Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following... Quality of the relationship between you and your mentor(s) - Very Dissatisfied Is Selected

Q26 What is the main cause of your dissatisfaction with your mentoring experience?

Q27 Overall, how satisfied are you with the advising that you have received from your program?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q28 Overall, how satisfied are you with the mentoring that you have received from your program?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q29 Financial Support

Q30 Did you borrow money to finance your graduate education?

- Yes
- No

Answer If Did you borrow money to finance your graduate education? Yes Is Selected

Q31 How much did you borrow by the end of the first year?

- \$5,000 or less
- \$5,001 - \$15,000
- \$15,001 - \$25,000
- \$25,001 - \$35,000
- \$35,001 or more

Q32 What forms of financial support or funding, if any, did you receive from ECU in the past year?
(Check all that apply)

- Department or Graduate School fellowship or scholarship
- Teaching Assistantship
- Research Assistantship
- Graduate Assistantship
- Tuition remission to cover all or part of in-state and/or out of state tuition
- Federal work-study
- None received

Answer If What forms of financial support or funding, if any, ... None received Is Not Selected

Q33 Was the level of support you received from ECU adequate to cover basic living expenses?

- Yes
- No

Q34 Overall, how satisfied are you with the amount of financial support that you have received from your program in the form of tuition remission, an assistantship and/or another scholarship?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q35 During your first year of graduate school, did you come to campus to attend at least one of your courses?

- Yes
- No

If No Is Selected, Then Skip To End of Block

Q36 Program Environment

Q37 Does your graduate program sponsor events that:

	Yes	No
Allow for informal conversations and interaction between faculty and students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow for informal conversations and interactions among students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Include guest speakers from outside the program or university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow for informal conversation and interaction between guest speakers and graduate students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q38 Is there space in your department for:

	Yes	No
Postings of upcoming conferences, calls for papers, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Postings of job openings/announcements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information about recent publications or talks by either faculty or students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coffee, refreshments, occasional food, snacks, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Studying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A student lounge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q39 Overall, how satisfied are you with the program environment during your first year?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q40 Quality of Classroom/Web-based Instruction

Q41 Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of your graduate program.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
The quality of the course instruction you have received in your program.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The opportunities to provide feedback to your graduate program or participate in evaluations or decision-making about the program.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q42 Please rate the overall difficulty of your program coursework. (1 = too easy; 6 = too difficult)

- 1 = too easy
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 = too difficult

Q43 Overall, how satisfied are you with the course instruction in your program of study?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q44 Research Experience

Q45 Were there research opportunities during your first year to prepare you for your thesis or dissertation?

- Yes
- No

Q46 Have you had the opportunity to work in interdisciplinary teams or participate in interdepartmental reading groups?

- Yes
- No

Q47 Have you worked on research for publication or assisted a faculty member with their research program?

- Yes
- No

Q48 Does your program offer travel grants for presenting work at conferences?

- Yes
- No

Q49 Overall, how satisfied are you with your research experiences in your program during the first year?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Q50 Final Questions

Q51 Of the following, which was the most positive aspect of your first year graduate experience at ECU?

- Application/Admissions Process
- Mentoring and Advising
- Financial Support
- Program Environment (does not apply for online only students)
- Quality of Classroom/Web-based Instruction
- Research Experience

Q52 Please provide any additional comments about your most positive experiences during your first year of graduate school at ECU.

Q53 Of the following, which was the least positive aspect of your first year graduate experience at ECU?

- Application/Admissions Process
- Mentoring and Advising
- Financial Support
- Program Environment (does not apply for online only students)
- Quality of Classroom/Web-based Instruction
- Research Experience

Q54 Please provide any additional comments about your less positive experiences during your first year of graduate school at ECU.

Q55 Are you aware of the following special programs and support services at ECU?

	Yes	No
Research and Creative Achievement Week	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Center for Counseling and Student Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability Support Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student Employment Office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student Organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Honor Societies/Fraternities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs, sessions, or workshops on conflict resolution at ECU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Writing Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office of Faculty Excellence Workshops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q56 If offered, which of the following professional development workshops would benefit you the most? (Check all that apply)

- Managing my finances
- Managing my time
- Learning strategies for managing stress
- Improving my interviewing skills
- Improving my writing skills
- Improving my public speaking skills
- Writing effective curriculum vitae (CVs) or resumes
- Improving my teaching skills
- Improving my leadership skills
- Writing effective grants
- Careers in my discipline (outside of the university)
- Professional ethics in my discipline

Q57 Do you have any ideas, suggestions or comments about additional resources or initiatives that could be developed to make graduate student life better?