

Graduate Student Exit Survey: Academic Year 2003-04 to 2005-06 Results

(n=2,703 98% return rate)

Please evaluate your graduate education by taking a few minutes to complete this questionnaire. Be assured that the information you provide will remain confidential and your answers to the questions will in no way affect your relations with the faculty, staff, or the Graduate School of Wichita State University. The feedback you provide is important and will provide information that will enable WSU to improve the quality of its graduate education. Thank you for your cooperation. (v6.4)

SECTION I: DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM (Questions about your program of study)

A. PROGRAM LEVEL

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Agree (1)	Disagree (2)
1. My program provided a graduate student handbook.....	O 75%	O
2. Information on degree requirements were made clearly understandable to me.....	O 92%	O
3. Faculty/staff were well-informed about program degree requirements.....	O 93%	O
4. Faculty/staff were accessible.....	O 95%	O
5. On a scale of one (very dissatisfied) to five (very satisfied), rate your overall satisfaction with your program of graduate studies at WSU.		Mean / median
Very <u>D</u> issatisfied O (1) O (2) O (3) O (4) O (5) Very Satisfied		4.08 / 4.00
	1.3% 4.1% 14.8% 45.1% 34.79%	(79.8% satisfied or higher)

B. COURSE/INSTRUCTION

Please answer the following questions below about the courses you took during your graduate studies.

6. Do you believe that your program offered the **CORE** courses that were required for degree completion at least once a year? O Yes (1) **89.8%** O No (2) **5.1%** O Not sure (3) **5.1%**
7. What **TIME** of day do you **most PREFER** to attend courses (**check only one**)?
 O Morning (1) **20.9%** O Afternoon (2) **12.1%** O Evening (3) **56.0%** O No preference (4) **11.0%**
8. What **DAY(S)** do you **most PREFER** to attend courses (**check only one**)?
 O Monday (1) **11.7%** O Monday – Wednesday – Friday (6) **7.0%**
 O Tuesday (2) **6.1%** O Monday – Wednesday (7) **16.3%**
 O Wednesday (3) **4.0%** O Tuesday – Thursday (8) **20.4%**
 O Thursday (4) **2.3%** O Other (9) **1.3%**
 O Weekend (5) **2.2%** O No preference (0) **28.8%**

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Agree (1)	Disagree (2)
9. My classes were offered at times convenient to my schedule.....	O 89%	O
10. Course offerings enabled me to complete my degree in a timely manner.....	O 91%	O
11. I received prompt feedback from faculty about my course work.....	O 89%	O

Please rate the following aspects of your overall graduate education at WSU.

12. Your satisfaction with the feedback provided by faculty about your course work?		Mean / median
Not Satisfied O (1) O (2) O (3) O (4) O (5) Satisfied		4.23 / 4.00
	1.4% 3.0% 13.3% 35.4% 46.9%	(82.0% satisfied or higher)
13. Your satisfaction with the quality of instruction in courses <i>required</i> by your program?		Mean / median
Not Satisfied O (1) O (2) O (3) O (4) O (5) Satisfied		4.15 / 4.00
	1.2% 4.7% 13.9% 38.6% 41.6%	(80.2% satisfied or higher)
14. Your satisfaction with the overall course instruction you received in your graduate studies at WSU.		Mean / median
Not Satisfied O (1) O (2) O (3) O (4) O (5) Satisfied		4.19 / 4.00
	0.7% 3.4% 14.2% 39.8% 41.9%	(81.7% satisfied or higher)

C. ADVISING

C.1. **ACADEMIC ADVISING (for enrollment and degree requirement related activities)**
(if you did not receive academic advising, skip to Question 27).

15. Did you generally receive academic advising **BEFORE** registering for classes?..... O Yes (1) **62%** O No (2)
16. Approximately how many times per semester did you meet with an advisor for academic advising?
 O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 or more **mean / median**
21.0% 37.2% 16.3% 25.4% 1.85 / 2.00

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17. Who usually initiated your academic advising meetings? You (1) **83%** Advisor (2)

18. How did you **usually** communicate with your academic advisor (**check only one**)?

In person (1) Phone (2) Email (3) Other (4) / please specify _____
62.0% **7.7%** **27.7%** **2.6%**

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Agree (1) Disagree (2)

- 19. My academic advisor was usually accessible for advising..... **91%**
- 20. My academic advisor was knowledgeable about requirements in my major..... **95%**
- 21. My academic advisor was knowledgeable about graduate school requirements..... **93%**
- 22. My academic advisor made clear the requirements I needed to complete my degree..... **91%**
- 23. My academic advisor provided information to help me select courses..... **85%**
- 24. My academic advisor notified me of graduate school deadlines..... **68%**
- 25. My academic advisor assisted me in preparing graduate school and department forms..... **71%**

26. On a scale of one (very dissatisfied) to five (very satisfied), rate your overall level of satisfaction with the academic advising you have received.

Very Dissatisfied (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) Very Satisfied **mean /median**
3.0% **6.3%** **14.4%** **31.2%** **45.1%** **(76.3% satisfied or higher)** **4.09 / 4.00**

C.2. RESEARCH ADVISING (Dissertation, Thesis, or Master’s Project advising)

(if your program only involves course work with no final project, skip to Question 37).

27. During a typical semester, about how often did you meet or communicate with an advisor about your dissertation, thesis or master’s project? 0 1 2 3 or more **mean/ median**

6.3% **10.6%** **16.3%** **66.8%** **2.60 / 3.00**

28. Who generally initiated the meetings between you and your dissertation, thesis, or master’s project advisor?

You (1) **73%** Your advisor (2)

29. How did you **usually** communicate with your dissertation, thesis, or master’s project advisor (**check only one**)?

In-person (1) Phone (2) Email (3) Other/please specify (4) _____
71.3% **3.0%** **23.0%** **2.7%**

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Agree (1) Disagree (2)

- 30. I was required to meet with an advisor about my research..... **83%**
- 31. My advisor was accessible when I wanted to talk about my research..... **93%**
- 32. I received useful feedback about my research from my advisor..... **92%**
- 33. I received useful advice from my advisor on the standards for writing my research..... **90%**
- 34. My advisor provided feedback about rough drafts of my research..... **89%**
- 35. My advisor provided useful advice about preparing for my research defense..... **88%**

36. On a scale of one (very dissatisfied) to five (very satisfied), rate your overall level of satisfaction with the advising you received about your dissertation, thesis, or masters project.

Very Dissatisfied (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) Very Satisfied **mean /median**
2.4% **3.1%** **11.4%** **29.6%** **53.5%** **(83.1% satisfied or higher)** **4.29 / 5.00**

D. TECHNOLOGY

37. Were you required to have technology access in order to complete your graduate course work?

Yes (1) **88%** No (2)

On a scale of one (not at all accessible) to five (very accessible), rate the level of accessibility to each of the following:

	Not at all Accessible					Very Accessible	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	mean/	median
38. Computers (wordprocessing, spreadsheets, etc.).....	<input type="radio"/> 1.3%	<input type="radio"/> 2.5%	<input type="radio"/> 7.3%	<input type="radio"/> 17.8%	<input type="radio"/> 71.1%	4.6 / 5	
39. Internet access.....	<input type="radio"/> 1.4%	<input type="radio"/> 2.0%	<input type="radio"/> 5.9%	<input type="radio"/> 15.8%	<input type="radio"/> 75.0%	4.6 / 5	
40. Laboratory or field equipment.....	<input type="radio"/> 3.3%	<input type="radio"/> 5.3%	<input type="radio"/> 12.8%	<input type="radio"/> 21.7%	<input type="radio"/> 57.0%	4.2 / 5	
41. Specialized software (statistical, programming, CAD, etc.).....	<input type="radio"/> 3.3%	<input type="radio"/> 6.8%	<input type="radio"/> 13.9%	<input type="radio"/> 22.6%	<input type="radio"/> 53.3%	4.2 / 5	

42. On a scale of one (very dissatisfied) to five (very satisfied), rate your overall satisfaction with the WSU technology?

Very Dissatisfied (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) Very Satisfied **mean /median**
1.6% **2.9%** **14.5%** **40.8%** **40.2%** **(81.0% satisfied or higher)** **4.15 / 4.00**

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SECTION II. GRADUATE SCHOOL (Questions about your contact with the Graduate School)

Approximately how many times have you made contact w/ the Grad Sch since being a graduate std: (% who had

	Mean /median	1 or more times)
43. In-person (Graduate School office in Jardine).....	O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 O 4 O 5 or more	2.7 / 3 87%
44. Mail (campus mail, U.S. mail, or commercial).....	O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 O 4 O 5 or more	1.5 / 1 57%
45. Phone.....	O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 O 4 O 5 or more	1.9 / 2 68%
46. Email.....	O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 O 4 O 5 or more	1.0 / 1 36%
47. Graduate School Webpage.....	O 0 O 1 O 2 O 3 O 4 O 5 or more	2.2 / 2 67%

48. Which of the following did you use **most frequently** to contact the Graduate School Office (**check only one**)?

<input type="radio"/> In-person (1)	<input type="radio"/> Mail (2)	<input type="radio"/> Phone (3)	<input type="radio"/> Email (4)	<input type="radio"/> Webpage (5)	<input type="radio"/> n/a (6)
54.7%	4.6%	20.0%	5.3%	15.4%	0.1%

49. For what reasons did you contact the Graduate School office in person, mail, phone or email (**check all that apply**)?

<input type="radio"/> Did not contact Grad Sch (491)	7%	<input type="radio"/> Enrollment (496)	35%
<input type="radio"/> Admission (492)	44%	<input type="radio"/> Obtain/submit forms (497)	45%
<input type="radio"/> Exceptions (493)	30%	<input type="radio"/> Assistanships, awards, grants (498)	31%
<input type="radio"/> Plan of Study (494)	55%	<input type="radio"/> Financial aid eligibility (499)	12%
<input type="radio"/> Degree completion (495)	61%	<input type="radio"/> Other/please specify (490)	5%

50. **If** you accessed the Graduate School webpage, for what reasons did you access the webpage (**check all that apply**)?

<input type="radio"/> On-line application (501)	28%	<input type="radio"/> Program information (506)	31%
<input type="radio"/> Downloadable forms (502)	46%	<input type="radio"/> Health insurance links (507)	6%
<input type="radio"/> Who to contact (503)	21%	<input type="radio"/> Financial aid opportunities (508)	11%
<input type="radio"/> Regulations (504)	17%	<input type="radio"/> Graduate School Bulletin (509)	15%
<input type="radio"/> Deadlines (505)	43%	<input type="radio"/> Other/please specify (500)	3%

51. For what purpose did you consult the Graduate School Bulletin (hardcopy) (**check all that apply**):

<input type="radio"/> Did not consult the bulletin (hardcopy)(511)	46%	<input type="radio"/> Enrollment requirements (516)	16%
<input type="radio"/> Admission requirements (512)	16%	<input type="radio"/> Regulations on grades/incompletes (517)	9%
<input type="radio"/> Entrance exam requirements (513)	5%	<input type="radio"/> Graduate Faculty Status (518)	5%
<input type="radio"/> Program information (514)	23%	<input type="radio"/> Degree completion (519)	22%
<input type="radio"/> Course descriptions (515)	23%	<input type="radio"/> Other/please specify (510)	1%

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. Agree (1) Disagree (2) N/A(3)

52. The staff in the Graduate School were professional.....	<input type="radio"/> 95%	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. The staff in the Graduate School were courteous.....	<input type="radio"/> 92%	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. The staff in the Graduate School appeared knowledgeable.....	<input type="radio"/> 93%	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. The staff in the Graduate School processed my request in a timely manner.....	<input type="radio"/> 92%	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

56. On a scale of one (least amount of expertise) to five (most amount of expertise), rate the level of expertise, at which you found the Graduate school staff to possess, when helping you through your graduate school career.

Least Expertise	O 1	O 2	O 3	O 4	O 5	Most Expertise	mean / median
	2.1%	3.7%	16.0%	43.2%	35.1%	(78.3% satisfied or higher)	4.05 / 4.00

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Agree(1)	Disagree (2)
57. I knew the purpose of my plan of study.....	<input type="radio"/> 91%	<input type="radio"/>
58. I knew the purpose of the application for degree card.....	<input type="radio"/> 82%	<input type="radio"/>
59. Graduate School forms for my degree completion were easily accessible.....	<input type="radio"/> 94%	<input type="radio"/>
60. The graduation requirements were easily accessible from the Graduate School or on-line.....	<input type="radio"/> 92%	<input type="radio"/>
61. I knew the deadlines for degree completion requirements.....	<input type="radio"/> 78%	<input type="radio"/>
62. The graduation requirements, laid out by the Graduate School, were clearly communicated.....	<input type="radio"/> 81%	<input type="radio"/>

Recall when you first made the decision to pursue graduate studies. How important was each of the following reasons in making this decision?

	Important (1)	Not Important (2)
63. A higher degree will open up job opportunities.....	<input type="radio"/> 94%	<input type="radio"/>
64. I wanted to pursue a position in my current job that requires a higher degree.....	<input type="radio"/> 53%	<input type="radio"/>
65. My employer provided a tuition waiver.....	<input type="radio"/> 28%	<input type="radio"/>
66. Scholarships/fellowships/assistanships.....	<input type="radio"/> 42%	<input type="radio"/>
67. Location of WSU.....	<input type="radio"/> 65%	<input type="radio"/>
68. Reputation of WSU or your department and/or faculty.....	<input type="radio"/> 59%	<input type="radio"/>
69. An undergraduate advisor.....	<input type="radio"/> 22%	<input type="radio"/>
70. Recommendations from family or friends.....	<input type="radio"/> 43%	<input type="radio"/>
71. Advertisements from WSU.....	<input type="radio"/> 19%	<input type="radio"/>

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SECTION III. WSU LIBRARIES

On a scale of one (very dissatisfied) to five (very satisfied), rate your overall satisfaction with the main WSU library on the following:

	Very Dissatisfied	Very Satisfied	Sat. or Higher	mean/median			
72. Convenient times for access.....	O(1) 3.1%	O(2) 4.1%	O(3) 15.7%	O(4) 32.4%	O(5) 44.6%	77.0%	4.11/4.00
73. Access to the library via the internet.	O(1) 1.2%	O(2) 3.0%	O(3) 13.5%	O(4) 27.4%	O(5) 54.8%	82.2%	4.32/5.00
74. Resources for research.....	O(1) 2.2%	O(2) 3.6%	O(3) 17.8%	O(4) 31.0%	O(5) 45.4%	76.4%	4.14/4.00
75. Helpfulness of Library faculty/staff..	O(1) 1.2%	O(2) 3.3%	O(3) 14.6%	O(4) 27.7%	O(5) 53.2%	80.9%	4.28/5.00
76. Overall satisfactions.....	O(1) 1.2%	O(2) 2.8%	O(3) 14.4%	O(4) 35.6%	O(5) 46.0%	81.6%	4.23/4.00

77. Approximately how many times per semester did you physically visit the library?

O 0	O 1	O 2	O 3 or more times	mean/median
4.8%	8.8%	13.5%	72.8%	2.67 / 3.00

78. Approximately how many times per semester did you visit the library via the internet?

O 0	O 1	O 2	O 3 or more times	mean/median
7.7%	6.9%	9.6%	75.7%	2.75 / 3.00

SECTION IV. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please indicate the approximate number of **SEMESTERS** you have received each type of financial support.

	None (0)	1-2 (1)	3-4 (3)	5-6 (5)	7 or more (7)	mean/median	(% who had (1 or more sem.)
79. Teaching assistantship.....	O	O	O	O	O	3.3 / 3.5	21%
80. Research assistantship.....	O	O	O	O	O	3.1 / 3.5	27%
81. Staff office assistanship.....	O	O	O	O	O	2.6 / 1.5	12%
82. Fellowship/Scholarship.....	O	O	O	O	O	2.6 / 1.5	15%
83. Research Grant.....	O	O	O	O	O	2.7 / 1.5	6%
84. Financial aid (need-based).....	O	O	O	O	O	4.1 / 3.5	30%
85. Personal/family funding.....	O	O	O	O	O	4.6 / 5.5	52%
86. Work study.....	O	O	O	O	O	3.6 / 1.5	5%
87. Off campus employment.....	O	O	O	O	O	4.9 / 5.5	38%
88. Bank Loans.....	O	O	O	O	O	3.6 / 1.5	19%
89. Employer tuition waiver.....	O	O	O	O	O	4.7 / 5.5	19%
90. Other funding.....	O	O	O	O	O	3.8 / 3.5	11%

91. Of the funding sources listed in questions 72-83 above, which were your primary sources of support during your graduate studies? (list the funding sources next to your preference)

Most important **Personal/family funding**

Second most important **Off campus employment**

Third most important **Assistanships** (teaching, research, staff)

92. Throughout your graduate education, about how much money did you borrow for education purposes?

O(0) Did not obtain loans	O(5) \$15,000 - \$19,999	16.3%	O(10) \$40,000 - \$44,999	3.7%	
O(1) below \$1,000	1.9%	O(6) \$20,000 - \$24,999	8.2%	O(11) \$45,000 - \$49,999	1.5%
O(2) \$1,000 - \$4,999	12.3%	O(7) \$25,000 - \$29,999	5.5%	O(12) \$50,000 or more	6.1%
O(3) \$5,000 - \$9,999	20.0%	O(8) \$30,000 - \$34,999	5.1%		
O(4) \$10,000 - \$14,999	14.8%	O(9) \$35,000 - \$39,999	4.8%		

mean/median

\$18,658 / \$17,500 60% with borrowed funds, 40% without borrowed funds

93. During your graduate education at WSU, did you work for an employer off-campus?..... O Yes (1) **60%** O No (2)

94. If you worked for an employer off-campus, did you usually work part-time or full-time?

O part-time (34 hours or less per week) (1) **68%**

O full-time (35 hours or more per week) (2)

If you would like to make additional comments please place them below.