

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

SURVEY OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Your answers to the following questions will help us evaluate our programs. This survey should take you 15-20 minutes to complete. Results will be reported only in summary fashion. *Your responses are treated as confidential and are available only to university advising and research personnel fulfilling assigned roles and responsibilities.* We ask for your Social Security number in order to compile statistics on retention and to obtain necessary background information about your major. Mark your answers by completely filling the appropriate circle.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

(0)	(0)	(0)	-	(0)	(0)	-	(0)	(0)	(0)
(1)	(1)	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
(2)	(2)	(2)	-	(2)	(2)	-	(2)	(2)	(2)
(3)	(3)	(3)	-	(3)	(3)	-	(3)	(3)	(3)
(4)	(4)	(4)	-	(4)	(4)	-	(4)	(4)	(4)
(5)	(5)	(5)	-	(5)	(5)	-	(5)	(5)	(5)
(6)	(6)	(6)	-	(6)	(6)	-	(6)	(6)	(6)
(7)	(7)	(7)	-	(7)	(7)	-	(7)	(7)	(7)
(8)	(8)	(8)	-	(8)	(8)	-	(8)	(8)	(8)
(9)	(9)	(9)	-	(9)	(9)	-	(9)	(9)	(9)

High School Experiences

1. How academically challenging was your senior year in high school?

- (1) Not at all challenging
- (2) Somewhat challenging
- (3) Challenging
- (4) Very challenging

2. How many years of high school coursework have you taken in the following subject areas?

(Mark one in each row)

	0	1	2	3	4	5+
a. Natural Sciences	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
b. Math	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
c. Foreign Language	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
d. Social Studies	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

3. How many Advanced Placement courses and exams did you take in high school?

(Mark one in each row)

	0	1	2	3	4	5+
a. AP Courses	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
b. AP Exams	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

4. What was the size of your senior class?

- (1) 1-99
- (4) 300-399
- (2) 100-199
- (5) 400-499
- (3) 200-299
- (6) 500 or more

5. How effective was your high school preparation for college-level work?

- (1) Very ineffective
- (2) Ineffective
- (3) Effective
- (4) Very effective

6. Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age. We want the most accurate estimate of how you see yourself.

(Mark one in each row)

	Lowest 10%	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Highest 10%
a. Academic ability	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
b. Drive to achieve	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
c. Self-confidence (intellectual)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
d. Self-confidence (social)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

7. During your senior year of high school, how much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities? (Mark one in each row)

	None	Less than 1 hour	1-2 hours	3-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	Over 20 hours
a. Studying/home-work	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
b. Socializing/partying	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
c. Exercising/sports	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
d. Participating in student clubs/groups	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
e. Watching TV	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
f. Reading for pleasure	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
g. Playing video/computer games	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
h. 'Surfing the web'	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
i. Working for pay	(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)

8. During your senior year in high school, about how often have you done each of the following? (Mark one in each row)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Very often</i>
a. Asked questions in class	①	②	③	④
b. Referred to knowledge acquired in your readings or classes	①	②	③	④
c. Came to class without completing readings or assignments	①	②	③	④
d. Read recommended texts/readings in addition to required readings	①	②	③	④
e. Applied the material you were studying to a practical problem	①	②	③	④
f. Contributed to class discussions	①	②	③	④
g. Had serious talks with students whose race is different than yours ..	①	②	③	④
h. Turned in course assignments late ..	①	②	③	④
i. Took detailed notes in class	①	②	③	④
j. Felt bored in class	①	②	③	④
k. Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	①	②	③	④
l. Discussed ideas from readings or classes with others outside of class	①	②	③	④
m. Did all assigned homework before coming to class	①	②	③	④
n. Expressed views/opinions in class ..	①	②	③	④
o. Turned in course assignments that did not reflect your best work	①	②	③	④
p. Skipped/missed class	①	②	③	④
q. Had serious talks with students whose religious or political beliefs were very different from yours	①	②	③	④

Information about You

9. Have you experienced any of the following during the last year? (Mark all that apply)

a. Serious romantic relationship	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Long-distance romantic relationship	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Serious financial difficulties	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Serious illness or injury	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. "Break up" with romantic partner	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Serious problem or crisis involving close friend or family member	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Compared with when you started your senior year in high school, how would you describe your following skills and knowledge? (Mark one in each row)

	<i>Much weaker</i>	<i>Weaker</i>	<i>No change</i>	<i>Stronger</i>	<i>Much stronger</i>
a. Making effective oral presentations	①	②	③	④	⑤
b. Writing effectively	①	②	③	④	⑤
c. Understanding the world from a variety of viewpoints	①	②	③	④	⑤
d. Using statistical or mathematical reasoning to solve problems	①	②	③	④	⑤
e. Appreciating the arts	①	②	③	④	⑤
f. Valuing cultural diversity in our society	①	②	③	④	⑤
g. Understanding methods and applying principles of reasoning in the natural sciences	①	②	③	④	⑤
h. Understanding yourself	①	②	③	④	⑤
i. Using computers and information technology	①	②	③	④	⑤
j. Developing a meaningful philosophy of life	①	②	③	④	⑤
k. Thinking critically and analytically	①	②	③	④	⑤
l. Working cooperatively in a group	①	②	③	④	⑤
m. Developing insight into why you behave the way you do	①	②	③	④	⑤

11. During the past year, how often have you felt: (Mark one in each row)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Always</i>
a. Sad or depressed	①	②	③	④	⑤
b. Lonely	①	②	③	④	⑤
c. Anxious or nervous	①	②	③	④	⑤
d. Intimidated by your teachers/professors	①	②	③	④	⑤
e. Concerned about meeting new people	①	②	③	④	⑤
f. Unmotivated	①	②	③	④	⑤
g. Isolated from others	①	②	③	④	⑤
h. Tired and lacking in energy ...	①	②	③	④	⑤
i. Out of control	①	②	③	④	⑤
j. Worried about your health	①	②	③	④	⑤
k. A lot of stress in your life	①	②	③	④	⑤

Opinions, Beliefs, and Values

12. Indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. Fill in the answer that best reflects your opinions, beliefs, and values.

- | | | <i>Strongly Disagree</i> | <i>Disagree</i> | <i>Not Sure</i> | <i>Agree</i> | <i>Strongly Agree</i> |
|--|-----|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| a. I feel that my grades are an accurate reflection of my abilities. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| b. I needlessly delay finishing jobs, even when they're important. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| c. I enjoy discussions with people whose ideas and values differ from my own. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| d. In uncertain times, I usually expect the best. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| e. I often do my best work in school. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| f. When I have a deadline, I wait until the last minute. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| g. Talking with people who have different values from mine helps me understand myself better. ... | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| h. If something can go wrong for me, it will. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| i. Being a good student is an important part of who I am. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| j. I keep putting off improving my work habits. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| k. I enjoy taking courses that challenge my beliefs and values. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| l. I'm always optimistic about my future. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| m. My grades do not tell me anything about my academic potential. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| n. I'm a time waster now but I can't seem to do anything about it. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| o. Learning about people from different cultures is a very important part of my college education. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| p. I rarely count on good things happening to me. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| q. School is satisfying to me because it gives me a sense of accomplishment. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| r. I promise myself I'll do something and then I drag my feet. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| s. Contact with individuals whose background (e.g., race, religion, national origin) is different from my own is an essential part of my college education. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| t. Overall, I expect more good things to happen to me than bad. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |

Expectations about College

13. How nervous (anxious) are you about leaving home to attend college?

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| (1) not at all nervous | (3) nervous |
| (2) somewhat nervous | (4) very nervous |

14. How often do you plan to go home on the weekends when you're in college?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) never | (4) every other weekend |
| (2) very infrequently | (5) every weekend |
| (3) once a month | (6) I live at home |

15. About how many hours per week will you be employed during your first term at UK?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| (1) Undecided | (4) 6 to 10 |
| (2) 0 or only occasional jobs | (5) 11 to 15 |
| (3) 1 to 5 | (6) 16 to 20 |
| | (7) Over 20 |

16. On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 1 being impossible and 10 being absolutely certain), what do you think your chances are of earning a 3.0 GPA or better during your first year at UK?

- (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)

17. On a scale of 1 to 10, what do you think your chances are of graduating from UK within 4 years?

- (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)

18. How concerned are you about your ability to pay for your remaining college education?

- (1) Not concerned, I'm confident I will have enough funds.
- (2) Somewhat concerned, I'll probably have enough funds.
- (3) Very concerned, not sure I'll have enough funds.

19. Indicate whether each of the following will be a major source, a minor source, or not a source of funding for your college education.
(Mark one in each row)

Not a source *Minor source* *Major source*

- a. Parents/Relatives (1) (2) (3)
- b. Veteran's benefits (1) (2) (3)
- c. Educational grants (Pell Grants, FSEOG, Private Grants, etc.) (1) (2) (3)
- d. KEES Scholarship (1) (2) (3)
- e. Other scholarships (Private, Federal, College, etc.) (1) (2) (3)
- f. Student loans (Perkins Loan, Federal Direct Loan, etc.) (1) (2) (3)
- g. Employment while attending college (including Work-Study) (1) (2) (3)
- h. Personal savings (1) (2) (3)

20. Do you plan to join a fraternity/sorority?
(1) no (2) not sure (3) yes

21. Please indicate how important each of the following goals or expectations are for you in your college career: (Mark one in each row)

Not important *Somewhat important* *Very important*

- a. To develop my intellectual capabilities... (1) (2) (3)
- b. To become a cultured person (1) (2) (3)
- c. To qualify for a job (1) (2) (3)
- d. To study new subjects and ideas (1) (2) (3)
- e. To make new friends (1) (2) (3)
- f. To join a student organization (1) (2) (3)
- g. To acquire a broad general education .. (1) (2) (3)
- h. To attend athletic events (1) (2) (3)
- i. To increase my earning power in the job market (1) (2) (3)
- j. To please my parents (1) (2) (3)
- k. To train for a specific career (1) (2) (3)

22. What is the highest degree you ultimately plan to earn?
 (1) I do not plan to complete a degree
 (2) Bachelor's degree
 (3) Master's degree
 (4) Professional degree (e.g., law, dentistry, medicine)
 (5) Doctoral degree (e.g., Ph.D., Ed.D.)

Demographic Information

23. Your sex:
 (1) male (2) female

24. What group do you belong to?
 (1) White (not Hispanic)
 (2) Black/African American (not Hispanic)
 (3) Hispanic/Latino(a)
 (4) Asian/Pacific Islander
 (5) American Indian/Alaskan Native
 (6) Other (specify _____)

25. About how many people live in your hometown?
 (0) 1,000 or less (5) 20,001 to 50,000
 (1) 1,001 to 3,000 (6) 50,001 to 100,000
 (2) 3,001 to 7,000 (7) 100,001 to 250,000
 (3) 7,001 to 10,000 (8) 250,001 to 500,000
 (4) 10,001 to 20,000 (9) more than 500,000

26. About how far is your family home from UK?
 (1) less than 10 miles (4) 101 to 300 miles
 (2) 11 to 50 miles (5) 301 to 600 miles
 (3) 51 to 100 miles (6) more than 600 miles

27. What is the highest level of education achieved by your parents? (Mark one per column)

	<i>Mother</i>	<i>Father</i>
Less than high school graduate	(1)	(1)
High school graduate or GED	(2)	(2)
1 to 3 years of college or technical training	(3)	(3)
4-year college degree (BA, BS)	(4)	(4)
Master's degree	(5)	(5)
Ph.D., Ed.D., M.D., or J.D.	(6)	(6)

28. What is your estimated family income?
 (0) \$30,000 or less (5) \$70,001-\$80,000
 (1) \$30,001-\$40,000 (6) \$80,001-\$90,000
 (2) \$40,001-\$50,000 (7) \$90,001-\$100,000
 (3) \$50,001-\$60,000 (8) \$100,001-\$120,000
 (4) \$60,001-\$70,000 (9) more than \$120,000

Thank you for completing the survey.

*Office of Institutional Research
University of Kentucky*