

# University of Kentucky

## SURVEY of FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES

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 for your class 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) |

### Collegiate Activities and Experiences

1. How academically challenging is your first year in college?

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

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

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

3. During your first year at UK, have you (Mark all that apply)

- a. declared your major .....  (1)
- b. changed your major .....  (1)
- c. received tutoring in a course .....  (1)
- d. enrolled in a remedial course .....  (1)
- e. enrolled in UK 101 .....  (1)
- f. enrolled in an Honors course .....  (1)
- g. enrolled in a Freshman Discovery Seminar .....  (1)
- h. used the Writing Center in Young Library .....  (1)
- i. sought personal counseling .....  (1)
- i. joined a fraternity/sorority .....  (1)

4. During your first year of college, about how often have you done each of the following? (Mark one in each row)

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

5. How many school-sponsored extra-curricular activities have you attended?

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> (0) None  | <input type="radio"/> (4) Four           |
| <input type="radio"/> (1) One   | <input type="radio"/> (5) Five           |
| <input type="radio"/> (2) Two   | <input type="radio"/> (6) More than five |
| <input type="radio"/> (3) Three |  |

6. During your first year of college, 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. Exercise/sports .....                       | 0    | 1                | 2         | 3         | 4          | 5           | 6           | 7             |
| d. Participating in student clubs/groups ..... | 0    | 1                | 2         | 3         | 4          | 5           | 6           | 7             |

|  | None | Less Than 1 Hour | 1-2 Hours | 3-5 Hours | 6-10 Hours | 11-15 Hours | 16-20 Hours | Over 20 Hours |
|--|------|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 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 <i>on campus</i> .....  | 0    | 1                | 2         | 3         | 4          | 5           | 6           | 7             |
| j. Working for pay <i>off campus</i> ..... | 0    | 1                | 2         | 3         | 4          | 5           | 6           | 7             |

### Opinions, Beliefs, and Values

7. 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.

|  | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Not Sure | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------|-------|----------------|
| 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. UK provides the support students need to do well academically. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| f. I often do my best work in school. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| g. When I have a deadline, I wait until the last minute. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| h. Talking with people who have different values from mine helps me understand myself better. ...  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| i. If something can go wrong for me, it will. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| j. UK provides the support students need to thrive socially. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| k. Being a good student is an important part of who I am. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| l. I keep putting off improving my work habits. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| m. I enjoy taking courses that challenge my beliefs and values. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| n. I'm always optimistic about my future. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| o. UK stresses the importance of studying and academic work outside of class. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| p. My grades do not tell me anything about my academic potential. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| q. I'm a time waster now but I can't seem to do anything about it. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| r. Learning about people from different cultures is a very important part of my college education. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| s. I rarely count on good things happening to me. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| t. UK encourages students to develop artistic and creative qualities. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| u. School is satisfying to me because it gives me a sense of accomplishment. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| v. I promise myself I'll do something and then I drag my feet. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| w. 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              |
| x. Overall, I expect more good things to happen to me than bad. ....   | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |
| y. UK encourages students to develop scholarly and intellectual qualities. ....  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5              |

## Self-Evaluation of Skills and Knowledge

8. Compared with when you started your first year, 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                    |

9. Since entering UK, how successful have you been in: (Mark one in each row)

|  | <i>Very Unsuccessful</i> | <i>Unsuccessful</i> | <i>Not Sure</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>Very Successful</i> |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| a. Developing close friendships with students .....              | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| b. Establishing meaningful connections with faculty .....        | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| c. Utilizing campus services available to students .....         | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| d. Managing your time effectively .....                          | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| e. Understanding what is expected academically .....             | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| f. Discussing course content with faculty outside of class ..... | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| g. Establishing a network of friends on campus .....             | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| h. Developing effective study skills .....                       | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |
| i. Adjusting to the academic demands of college .....            | ①                        | ②                   | ③               | ④                 | ⑤                      |

10. 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)

|                                      | <i>Lowest 10%</i> | <i>Below Average</i> | <i>Average</i> | <i>Above Average</i> | <i>Highest 10%</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 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                  |

## Personal Feelings and Experiences

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             |

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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Serious romantic relationship .....                                     | ① |
| b. Long-distance romantic relationship .....                               | ① |
| c. Serious financial difficulties .....                                    | ① |
| d. Serious illness or injury .....   | ① |
| e. "Break up" with romantic partner .....                                  | ① |
| f. Serious problem or crisis involving close friend or family member ..... | ① |

13. How apprehensive (nervous) are you about being away from home to attend college?

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| ① Not at all nervous | ② Nervous      |
| ③ Somewhat nervous   | ④ Very nervous |

## Living Arrangements and Financial Need

14. Where do you live?

- 1 UK residence hall     4 Private apartment  
 2 UK apartment     5 Greek housing  
 3 Private house/condo

15. If you commute, how many hours out of class per week do you spend on campus?

- 0 I do not commute     4 11 to 15  
 1 None     5 16 to 20  
 2 1 to 5     6 More than 20  
 3 6 to 10

16. If you live on campus, how often did you go home in addition to regularly scheduled breaks (Thanksgiving, Spring Break, etc.) during each semester? (Mark one per column.)

|                               | Fall                    | Spring                  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| I do not live on campus ..... | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 0 |
| Never .....                   | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 1 |
| Once or twice .....           | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 2 |
| 3 to 5 times .....            | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 3 |
| 6 or more times .....         | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |

17. 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.

## Quality of First-Year Experiences

18. How would you rate the quality of each of the following aspects at UK? (Mark one in each row)

|  | Poor                    | Fair                    | Good                    | Excellent               |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. Overall quality of instruction by faculty .....             | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| b. Quality of instruction by TAs .....                         | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| c. Individual attention from instructors .....                 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| d. Willingness of faculty to meet with students .....          | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| e. Quality of UK's library collection .                        | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| f. Quality of service provided by the library staff .....      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| g. Availability of computing resources .....                   | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| h. Quality of service provided by the computer lab staff ..... | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |

19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your academic advisor? (Mark one in each row)

|   | Strongly Disagree       | Disagree                | Don't Know              | Agree                   | Strongly Agree          |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. Spent sufficient time with me .                      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 |
| b. Was accessible when I needed help .....              | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 |
| c. Is someone I would recommend to other students ..... | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 |

20. To what extent has your first year in college fulfilled your expectations?

- 1 Far below  
 2 Moderately below  
 3 Met expectations  
 4 Moderately above  
 5 Far above

21. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with your first year of college?

- 1 Very dissatisfied  
 2 Dissatisfied  
 3 Neutral  
 4 Satisfied  
 5 Very satisfied

22. 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

23. 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

24. What are your plans for Fall 2003?

- 1 Not enroll in college  
 2 Take an official leave of absence  
 3 Attend another institution  
 4 Return to UK

25. If you could start college again, would you enroll at UK?

- 1 Definitely not     3 Probably yes  
 2 Probably not     4 Definitely yes