

Summary of 2018-2019 Graduating Senior Survey Results

Five hundred forty-seven graduating seniors responded to the Graduating Senior Survey in 2018-2019. Of the respondents, 60% were female, and 40% were male. Ninety-five percent were enrolled full-time. Eighty-six percent were single. Over one-half (61%) borrowed through the Federal Student Loan Programs to help finance their education. Nearly all (95%) reported no disability. Most respondents lived either in off-campus rooms/apartments (39%), in their own homes (30%), or with their parents/relatives (22%), and 9% lived in dormitories. Majors in the School of Business and Industry made up one-third of the respondents (33%), 32% had majors in the School of Human Services & Social Sciences, 15% in the School of Education, 12% in the School of Arts and Humanities, 4% each had majors in the School of Health Professions & Wellness and School of Science.

When compared with the average person their age, a majority considered themselves above average or in the highest 10% in the following characteristics:

- Drive to achieve (79%)
- Understanding of others (69%)
- Leadership ability (66%)
- Academic ability (59%)
- Competitiveness (58%)
- Collaboration (58%)
- Self-confidence (intellectual) (57%)

Perceptions of their Major

- Nearly all indicated the overall quality of their major was good or excellent (98%) and over three-quarters were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall education at JSU (79%);
- Computer labs (97%) facilities, Library books and materials (97%), and laboratory (94%) facilities for majors were adequate or more than adequate;
- More than one-half frequently applied concepts learned in their major to solve actual problems (57%), expressed ideas orally (55%), and expressed ideas in writing (52%);
- A majority agreed or strongly agreed that:
 - fundamental theories were taught (93%)
 - program faculty were professionally competent (92%) and effective teachers (89%)
 - faculty were approachable (91%) and accessible outside of class (91%)
 - courses were intellectually stimulating (89%)
 - grading procedures were fair (88%)
 - my advisor was willing to help (87%)
 - current research methods were taught (85%)
 - requirements were explained clearly (85%)
 - at least one professor worked closely with me (84%)
 - sufficient practical training was provided (78%)

Educational Outcomes

Respondents thought the following educational outcomes were important and that their JSU experiences prepared them well to perform them:

- Listening effectively (99%)
- Conducting work activities in an ethical manner (98%)
- Defining and solving problems (98%)
- Working cooperatively and as a team member (98%)
- Speaking effectively (97%)
- Recognizing and acting upon ethical principles (97%)
- Reading comprehension (96%)
- Understanding the interaction of people and their environment (96%)
- Working with people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds (96%)
- Specialized occupational skills and knowledge (96%)
- Understanding and exercising one's rights, responsibilities, and privileges as a citizen (96%)
- Knowing how to access the information needed in one's professional position (96%)
- Writing effectively (95%)
- Thinking objectively about beliefs, attitudes, and values (95%)

- Having tolerance for different points of view (95%)
- Making and exercising a lifelong commitment to learning (95%)
- Using computers to search for and retrieve information (94%)
- Analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information (94%)
- Using and applying basic computer skills (94%)
- Resolving interpersonal conflict (92%)
- Making formal presentations (90%)
- Knowledge of the principles of good mental and physical health (89%)
- Understanding the present as it relates to historical events and processes (87%)
- Understanding another culture and language (84%)
- Understanding international issues (83%)

Satisfaction with University facilities, services, and climate

- The majority (92%) of respondents were satisfied with class size, the course content in their major (87%), out-of-class availability of instructors (85%), the testing/grading system (84%), and the availability of computers (84%).
- Most were satisfied with attitude of non-teaching staff toward students (79%), and general registration procedures (79%).
- Respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the services and facilities they used the most, including:
 - Houston Cole Library (75%)
 - Internet registration (75%)
 - Fitness & Wellness Center (73%)
 - Hybrid/Blended Courses (72%)
 - Academic Advisement Office (70%)
 - Classroom facilities (70%)
 - Computer labs (69%)
 - University bookstore (69%)
 - Transcript Services (69%)
 - Testing services (68%)
 - Online courses through Distance Education (68%)
 - Laboratory facilities (67%)
 - Student Accounts Office (payments window) (67%)
 - Food Court and Cafeteria (67%)
 - Supplemental learning/tutoring (66%)

Student Self-efficacy and Self-efficacy with Technology

Respondents had access to a PC (45%), a laptop or notebook computer (93%), and other portable devices such as iPad or smart phone (87%). The majority had Internet connectivity 24 hours/7 days a week (85%).

Respondents agreed that ... (On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1=strongly disagree and 5=strongly agree)

| | In general | With technology |
|--|---------------|--------------------|
| • They can always manage to solve difficult problems if they try hard enough. | (M=4.39) | (M=3.96) |
| • It is easy for them to stick to their aims and accomplish their goals. | (M=4.17) | (M=3.97) |
| • They are confident that they could deal efficiently with unexpected events. | (M=4.23) | (M=3.83) |
| • Thanks to their resourcefulness, they know how to handle unforeseen situations. | (M=4.17) | (M=3.83) |
| • They can solve most problems if they invest the necessary effort. | (M=4.41) | (M=4.01) |
| • They can remain calm when facing difficulties because they can rely on their coping abilities. | (M=4.11) | (M=3.86) |
| • When they are confronted with a problem, they can usually find several solutions. | (M=4.13) | (M=3.81) |
| • No matter what comes their way, they are usually able to handle it. | (M=4.26) | (M=3.91) |
| • If they are in trouble, they can usually think of something to do. | (M=4.15) | - |
| • If someone opposes them, they can find means and ways to get what they want. | (M=3.53) | - |
| | M=Mean | |

Department Heads and Directors and other administrators can find additional assessment data and filter data by school, department or major on Tableau Server, JSU's Assessment System, by going to <http://oira.jsu.edu:8000/>. User IDs and passwords are available by calling Institutional Research & Effectiveness at 256 782-5109.