General Student Survey: Fall 2014

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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Overview:

The General Student Survey (GSS) was designed to gather student perceptions regarding various facets of the educational experience at the University of South Alabama. The GSS was conducted electronically via the Class Climate survey system. The GSS included Likert type scales and multiple-choice questions. The survey collection was left open from 2014, October 20 to 2014, November 14. Reminder e-mails were sent to participants every three days until the close of the survey. Participation was voluntary, and participants were entered into a raffle for completing the survey.

Sampling Method:

Stratified random sampling was used to select the sample from a population of students listed in the Fall 2014 census database. Stratification was based on (1) year classification (e.g., freshmen), (2) gender, and (3) race. Race was coded as either white or non-white in the sampling process. Each strata was sampled based on the percentage that it represented within the census population. Under-represented strata were oversampled. Non-white students and male students were oversampled for each of the year classifications.

Sample:

The final sample consisted of 3,636 students. 827 participants responded to the survey for a response rate of 23%. The respondent demographics are displayed in the following tables (n = number of respondents). Two respondents were missing demographic data for Tables 1.1,1.2, and 1.3.

1). Demographics

Table 1.1: Sex

Sex	n	Percent
Female	491	59.5
Male	334	40.5
Total	825	100.0

Table 1.2: Classification

Classification	n	Percent
Freshmen	213	25.8
Sophomore	104	12.6
Junior	108	13.0
Senior	195	23.6
Graduate	205	24.8
Total	825	100.0

Table 1.3: Race

Race	n	Percent
American Indian/Alaska Native	6	.7
Asian	33	4.0
Black, Non-Hispanic	134	16.2
Hispanic	26	3.2
Multiracial	14	1.7
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	.2
Non-Resident Alien	48	5.8
Unknown	11	1.3
White, Non-Hispanic	551	66.8
Total	825	100.0

Table 1.4: Housing

Question	n	On Campus (%)	Off Campus (%)
Do you live on campus or off campus?	815	21.6	78.4

Table 1.5: Housing complex

Question	n	The Edge (%)	The Grove (%)	Campus Quarters (%)	Other (%)
If you live off campus please select your housing location from this list.	635	3.5	4.1	4.6	87.9

Table 1.6: Education

Question	n	< Bachelor's (%)	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Doctoral (%)
What is the highest level of education that you wish to acquire?	805	1.6	26.8	39.1	32.4
What is the highest level of education completed by either of your parents or guardian?	797	40.7	25.5	16.3	6

Analysis and Charts:

The six facets of student educational experience assessed by the General Student Survey will be presented in the tables to follow. Depending on the type of question and specific answer choices, the tables provide response percentages or the most frequently selected answer choices. The tables also provide the written question and number of respondents for each specific question (represented by *n*).

2). Academic Facilities & Technology

Table 2.1: Facilities & technology

Question	n	N/A (n)	Very Dissatisfied (%)	Dissatisfied (%)	Satisfied (%)	Very Satisfied (%)
Facilities for Classrooms.	684	140	1.6	6.6	64.5	27.3
Facilities for labs (STEM).	562	262	2.3	8.7	60.9	28.1
Facilities for computer labs.	576	249	2.4	9.5	59.0	29.0
Quality of technology in classrooms.	662	160	1.8	10.4	60.7	27.0
Quality of technology in labs.	501	316	2.0	11.2	58.3	28.5
Quality of technology in computer labs.	548	272	2.2	10.4	58.0	29.4
Availability of computers or other technology in classrooms.	600	219	3.8	16.7	53.7	25.8
Availability of computers or other technology in labs (STEM).	485	337	4.1	10.9	57.3	27.6
Availability of computers or other technology in computer labs.	542	279	2.4	7.9	58.3	31.4
Hours of Operation of computer labs.	550	273	2.9	13.6	54.2	29.3
The use of technology by your professor.	694	126	3.2	7.5	60.2	29.1
Availability of printing capabilities within individual departments.	591	226	7.1	22.5	46.9	23.5

Table 2.2 Types of technology

Question	n	Most Used	2nd	3rd	4th
What types of technology do you use in your classes?	827	Computers	MS Office	None	Technical Software
What types of technology do you use to complete course assignments?	827	Computers	MS Office	Scanners	Technical Software

Table 2.3: JagTran

Question	n	N/A (n)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)
The JagTran hours of operation are adequate.	417	408	7.9	12.2	57.6	22.3
The Jagtran arrives to stops on its designated route at the correct time.	392	431	14.3	29.8	43.6	12.2
The JagTran helps you arrive to class on time.	383	441	21.9	31.3	35.8	11

3). Learning Engagement

Table 3.1: Activity hours/ week

Question	n	None (n)	1 to 10 Hours (%)	11 to 20 Hours (%)	21 to 30 Hours (%)	More than 30 (%)
Working on campus (for pay).	123	701	29.3	56.9	8.1	5.7
Working off campus (for pay).	420	399	11.7	22.1	22.6	43.6
Preparing for class.	797	18	31.4	37.8	18.7	12.2
Volunteering or participating in community service that is not required for a class.	379	441	80.7	13.7	3.4	2.1
Working in a lab or participating in research that is not required for a class.	197	622	68	22.8	6.1	3
Reading assigned sections of text.	781	42	66.1	22.9	5.9	5.1
Writing assigned papers or reports.	757	64	59.6	28.1	8.3	4
Participating in co-curricular activities.	330	485	64.5	23.3	7.6	4.2
Attending campus events.	415	406	83.1	10.6	4.1	2.2

Table 3.2: Learning engagement activities

Question	*n*	N/A (*n*)	Very Dissatisfied (%)	Dissatisfied (%)	Satisfied (%)	Very Satisfied (%)
Quality Enhancement Plan/ Team Based Learning.	326	495	14.4	17.5	51.2	16.9
Learning communities.	281	540	5.3	15.3	56.9	22.4
Reading Listening Is an Act of Love as part of a class.	90	725	13.3	11.1	60	15.6
Service learning (volunteering as a part of class).	152	669	3.9	6.6	63.8	25.7
Faculty led research.	110	709	6.4	6.4	59.1	28.2
Study abroad.	98	716	2	8.2	59.2	30.6
First Year experience.	383	431	7.6	13.8	56.9	21.7

4). Learning Options

Table 4.1: Online course options

Question	*n*	Very Dissatisfied (%)	Dissatisfied (%)	Satisfied (%)	Very Satisfied (%)
How satisfied are you with available options to take courses online?	809	7.5	16.1	56.7	19.7

Table 4.2: Online courses & materials online

Question	*n*	Yes (%)	No (%)
Would you take more courses that were offered completely online if they were available?	812	37.7	62.3
Regardless of course format, do you prefer to have access to course materials online?	798	93.6	6.4

Table 4.3: Semester preference

Question	*n*	Fall (%)	Spring (%)	Summer (%)
What semester(s) would you prefer to take online courses in?	827	52.1	56.6	72.3

Table 4.4: Course format preference

Question	n	All on campus (%)	All online (%)	Blended (%)
When taking a course what is your preferred format?	817	36.7	20.9	42.4

Table 4.5: Quality of instruction

Question	n	N/A (n)	Poor (%)	Only Fair (%)	Good (%)	Excellent (%)
Rate the overall quality of instruction in your course(s) taken online.	640	183	8.3	16.4	49.7	25.6
Please rate the quality of instruction for your blended (some online and some on-campus) course(s).	589	235	6.3	13.6	49.2	30.9
Rate the overall quality of instruction in your course(s) taken on-campus.	670	149	1.8	7.9	51.5	38.8

Table 4.6: Sakai & course availability

Question	n	N/A (n)	Very Dissatisfied (%)	Dissatisfied (%)	Satisfied (%)	Very Satisfied (%)
Sakai/ USAonline.	815	8	2.5	6.4	61.5	29.7
Availability of MAJOR SPECIFIC courses needed to progress in or complete your degree.	758	64	5.8	15.8	52.4	26
Availability of GENERAL EDUCATION courses needed to progress in or complete your degree.	668	155	2.5	10.3	63	24.1

5). Library

Table 5.1: Reason & uses of Marx Library

Question	n	Most Used	2nd	3rd	4th
What is the primary reason for using the Marx Library?	827	To Study	Conduct Library research	Group assignment	Use computer
Which Marx Library services do you use?	827	Study rooms	Reference service	PAWS Computers	ARC Lab

Table 5.2: Hours/ week

Question	n	1 to 10 Hours (%)	11 to 20 Hours (%)	21 to 30 Hours (%)	More than 30 (%)
In hours per week, how often do you visit the Marx Library on campus?	504	91.5	6.4	1.6	0.6
In hours per week, how often do you use the Marx Library online?	414	95.3	3.6	0.7	0.4

Table 5.3: Sufficiency of Marx Library

Question	n	N/A (n)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)
The Marx Library is sufficient for my general needs.	608	191	0.8	2.6	64.3	32.2
The Marx Library provides sufficient resources for academic needs.	597	203	0.8	4.5	63.3	31.3
Marx Library resources are readily available for my needs.	596	202	1	3.2	64.6	31.2
Technology in the Marx Library is sufficient.	570	228	0.9	8.8	64	26.3
Technology in the Marx Library is readily available.	563	231	0.7	5.3	66.6	27.4
The hours of operation of the Marx Library are sufficient.	585	210	4.6	6	57.9	31.5
The Marx Library (online) is sufficient for my general needs.	577	220	1.2	4.5	63.3	31
The Marx Library (online) provides sufficient resources for academic needs.	578	221	1.2	6.2	61.6	31
Marx Library (online) resources are readily available for my needs.	581	218	1	4	63.7	31.3