



Framingham State University

Office of Institutional Assessment

Graduate Student Exit Survey Report 2018-19

Target Population: 434

Total Respondents: 160

Response Rate: 36.87%

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Introduction

The 2019 Graduate Student Exit Survey was sent out by email on May 5, 2019. The survey was sent to a total of 434 Framingham State University graduate students who have completed their degree or were about to complete their degree at the end of Spring 2019 semester. The Office of Institutional Assessment received 160 completed surveys. The response rate for the survey was 36.87%.

Graduation Rates

The table below shows the number of students who graduated in the 2018-2019 academic year for each program who received survey responses. The table also lists the number of respondents and the response rate for each program.

Programs	Total Degrees Conferred	Survey Respondents	Response Rate
Master of Arts: Counseling Psychology	23	7	30.43%
Master of Business Administration: Management	13	5	38.46%
Master of Education: Art	12	3	25.00%
Master of Education: Curriculum and Instructional Technology (online)	6	5	83.33%
Master of Education: Education Technology (online)	6	1	16.67%
Master of Education: International Teaching	147	54	36.73%
Master of Education: Literacy and Language	7	3	42.86%
Master of Education: Mathematics	8	1	12.50%
Master of Education: Nutrition Education – Nutrition Education Specialist	19	8	42.11%
Master of Education: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM)	4	3	75.00%
Master of Education: Special Education	15	3	20.00%
Master of Education: TESL (Licensure)	22	14	63.64%
Master of Education: TESL (Non-Licensure)	31	12	38.71%
Master of Science: Food and Nutrition, Specialization Coordinated Program in Dietetics	16	5	31.25%
Master of Science: Food and Nutrition, Specialization Food Science and Nutrition Science	3	1	33.33%
Master of Science: Nursing – Education	18	6	33.33%
Master of Science: Nursing – Leadership	14	7	50.00%
Master of Healthcare Administration	12	3	25.00%
Master of Human Resource Management	11	5	45.45%
Master of Public Administration	22	10	45.45%
Professional Science Master’s Degree in Biotechnology	5	1	20.00%



How many years did it take you to finish this degree?

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 2 years	37.11%	59
2 - 4 years	52.83%	84
4- 6 years	8.18%	13
6 - 8 years	1.89%	3
More than 8 years	0.00%	0
Total	100%	159

Majors of Graduate Respondents

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Master of Arts		
Counseling Psychology (Licensure Track)	3.13%	5
Counseling Psychology (Non-Licensure Track)	1.25%	2
Master of Business Administration		
Management	3.13%	5
Master of Education		
Art	1.88%	3
Curriculum and Instructional Technology (online)	3.13%	5
Educational Technology (online)	0.63%	1
International Teaching	33.75%	54
Literacy and Language	1.88%	3
Mathematics	0.63%	1
Nutrition Education - Nutrition Education Specialist	5.00%	8
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM)	1.88%	3
Special Education	1.88%	3
The Teaching of English as a Second Language (Licensure)	8.75%	14
The Teaching of English as a Second Language (Non-Licensure)	7.50%	12
Master of Science		
Food and Nutrition, Specialization Coordinated Program in Dietetics	3.13%	5
Food and Nutrition, Specialization Food Science and Nutrition Science	0.63%	1
Nursing - Leadership	4.38%	7
Nursing - Education	3.75%	6
Master of Human Resource Management	3.13%	5
Master of Public Administration	6.25%	10
Master of Healthcare Administration	1.88%	3
Professional Science Master's Degree in Biotechnology	0.63%	1
Unknown	1.88%	3
Total	100%	160



How did you first hear about FSU graduate programs?

Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
Word of Mouth from FSU Alumni	25.91%	31.25%	50
FSU Website	20.73%	25.00%	40
From a Co-worker	16.06%	19.38%	31
I am a FSU Alumni	9.84%	11.88%	19
From an Employer	8.81%	10.63%	17
Other Websites	6.74%	8.13%	13
Other (please specify)	5.18%	6.25%	10
Word of Mouth from current FSU Student	5.18%	6.25%	10
From an Undergraduate Faculty Member	1.04%	1.25%	2
Graduate Fair/Career Fair	0.52%	0.63%	1
Newspaper	0.00%	0.00%	0
Radio	0.00%	0.00%	0
Brochure	0.00%	0.00%	0
Total	100%		160

Other (please specify)
Facebook posting in Korea
Friend
Google
Google
Google Search
I am from Framingham
[redacted]
Searched online
Word of mouth from students in my BA course

*Percent of Cases (Number of times the factor was selected divided by the sample size)



If you selected "Other Websites" above, please specify which websites in the space provided:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics coordinated programs in Massachusetts universities
Facebook
Facebook
Facebook
Facebook posting in Teachers Job group in Korea.
From a family member
Google
Googled for a MA university with a program in instructional technology
I googled for affordable schools near my location in Massachusetts offering master's in public administration and Framingham was among the few that popped up so I did my research and chose it. Don't really remember the specific website but I remember starting from google.
I was using Google to search for graduate programs in my area.
Ma DESE site had links to programs.
USDA website
Various education-related websites (Thailand). It was the Bangkok program I completed.



Why did you choose to attend FSU for your graduate program? Please rank your top 5 reasons.

In the table below respondents were asked to rank the top five most significant reasons why they chose to attend FSU for their graduate program. Respondents indicated the most significant reasons were (1) cost, (2), location, and (3) convenient course times.

Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
Cost (1 st)	17.57%	86.88%	139
Location (2 nd)	14.41%	71.25%	114
Convenient Course Times (3 rd)	14.03%	69.38%	111
Program/Degree Options	13.91%	68.75%	110
Ability to complete degree/program/ coursework online and/or hybrid	13.15%	65.00%	104
Unique Program Offered at FSU	7.33%	36.25%	58
Through Recommendations	6.83%	33.75%	54
Academic Reputation	5.94%	29.38%	47
The Faculty	2.65%	13.13%	21
Size of Academic Program	1.64%	8.13%	13
Number of Graduate Students	1.01%	5.00%	8
Other (please specify)	1.01%	5.00%	8
Research Facilities	0.38%	1.88%	3
The Administrative Staff	0.13%	0.63%	1
Total	100%		160

Other (please specify)
Completed Undergrad at FSU
facilities for a foreign student to get the degree.
I had taken UG courses years ago at FSU
International program
It wasn't [Redacted]
It's the program my school offers.
Prof's w/PhD's

*Percent of Cases (Number of times the factor was selected divided by the sample size)



Did you apply to any other universities for graduate school?

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	20.63%	33
No	79.38%	127
Total	100%	160

What was your rating of FSU at the time you applied for admission?

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
1st Choice	92.41%	146
2nd Choice	5.70%	9
3rd Choice	0.63%	1
FSU was not one of my top three choices	1.27%	2
Total	100%	158



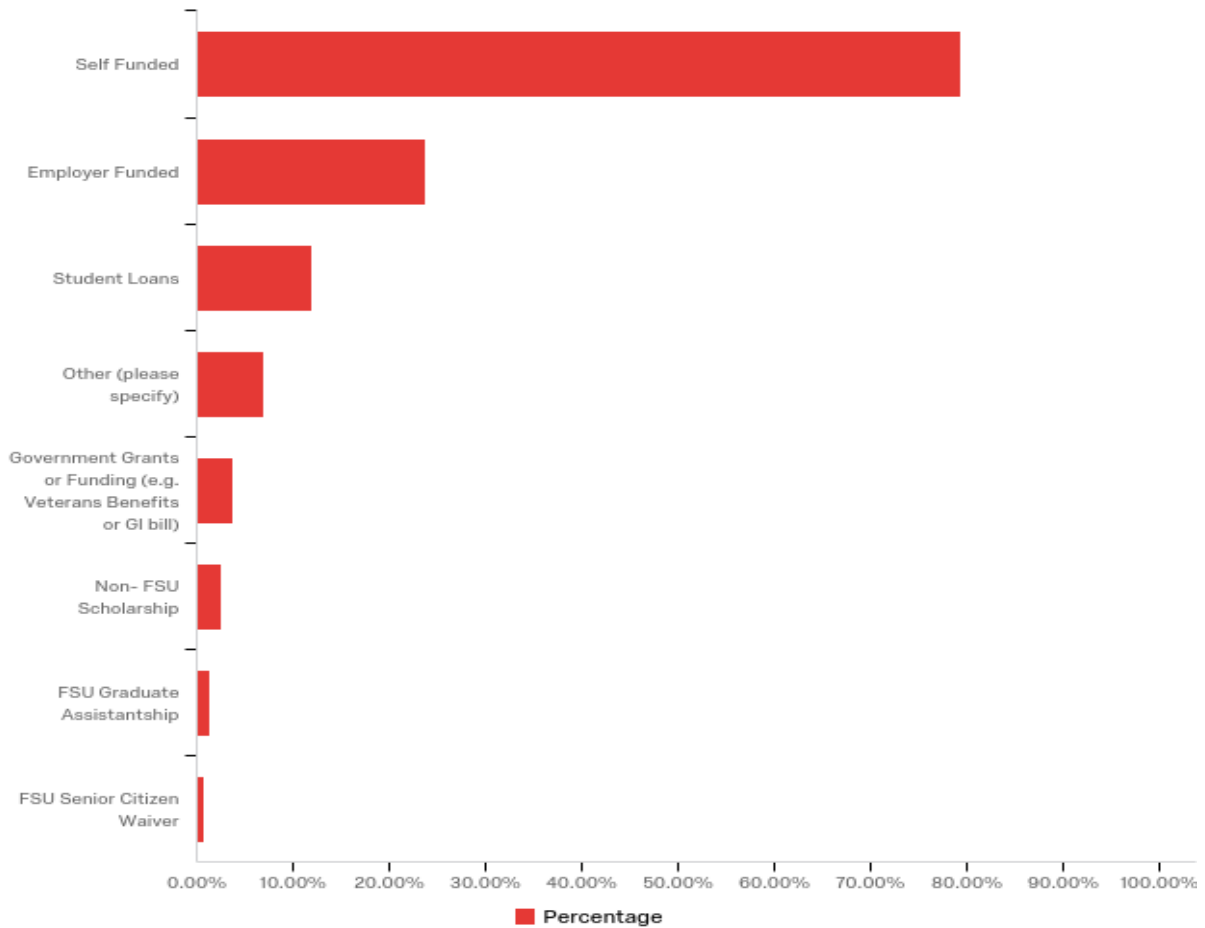
Please indicate the level of challenge presented by each item below based on your experience while pursuing your graduate degree:

Question	Extremely Challenging	Challenging	Neutral	Not Challenging	Extremely Unchallenging	Total	Rating Average
Work or Financial Obligations	8.23% 13	48.10% 76	28.48% 45	15.19% 24	0.00% 0	100% 158	2.51
	56.33% 89			15.19% 24			
Family Obligations	13.01% 19	34.93% 51	26.03% 38	19.86% 29	6.16% 9	100% 146	2.71
	47.94% 70			26.02% 38			
Location/Transportation	1.99% 3	22.52% 34	21.19% 32	42.38% 64	11.92% 18	100% 151	3.40
	24.51% 37			54.30% 82			
Immigration Regulations	4.17% 3	8.33% 6	16.67% 12	45.83% 33	25.00% 18	100% 72	3.79
	12.50% 9			70.83% 51			
Program Requirements or Structure	3.82% 6	27.39% 43	36.94% 58	26.75% 42	5.10% 8	100% 157	3.02
	31.21% 49			31.85% 50			
Course Availability	5.84% 9	16.23% 25	37.01% 57	31.17% 48	9.74% 15	100% 154	3.23
	22.07% 34			40.91% 63			
Communication with Faculty	2.55% 4	10.83% 17	24.84% 39	45.86% 72	15.92% 25	100% 157	3.62
	13.38% 21			61.78% 97			
Communication with Graduate Office Staff	6.04% 9	14.77% 22	23.49% 35	41.61% 62	14.09% 21	100% 149	3.43
	20.81% 31			55.70% 83			
Communication with Graduate Advisor	10.37% 14	15.56% 21	23.70% 32	34.07% 46	16.30% 22	100% 135	3.30
	25.93% 35			50.37% 68			
Communication with Students Services Staff	7.69% 8	8.65% 9	28.85% 30	43.27% 45	11.54% 12	100% 104	3.42
	16.34% 17			54.81% 57			



Communication with Graduate Admissions Office Staff	4.17% 6	8.33% 12	26.39% 38	44.44% 64	16.67% 24	100% 144	3.61
	12.50% 18			61.11% 88			
Communication with Graduate Registrar Office Staff	5.00% 7	10.00% 14	26.43% 37	43.57% 61	15.00% 21	100% 140	3.54
	15.00% 21			58.57% 82			
Course Requirements and Coursework	3.16% 5	53.16% 84	27.22% 43	12.66% 20	3.80% 6	100% 158	2.61
	56.32% 89			16.46% 26			
Portfolio Requirement	4.44% 6	37.04% 50	38.52% 52	16.30% 22	3.70% 5	100% 135	2.78
	41.48% 56			20.00% 27			
Practicum Requirement	8.74% 9	39.81% 41	33.01% 34	14.56% 15	3.88% 4	100% 103	2.65
	48.55% 50			18.44% 19			
Comprehensive Exam	16.16% 16	35.35% 35	31.31% 31	12.12% 12	5.05% 5	100% 99	2.55
	51.51% 51			17.17% 17			

How did you finance your graduate education?



Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
Self-Funded	61.06%	79.38%	127
Employer Funded	18.27%	23.75%	38
Student Loans	9.13%	11.88%	19
Other (please specify)	5.29%	6.88%	11
Government Grants or Funding (e.g. Veterans Benefits or GI bill)	2.88%	3.75%	6
Non- FSU Scholarship	1.92%	2.50%	4
FSU Graduate Assistantship	0.96%	1.25%	2
FSU Senior Citizen Waiver	0.48%	0.63%	1
Total	100%		160

*Percent of Cases (Number of times the factor was selected divided by the sample size)



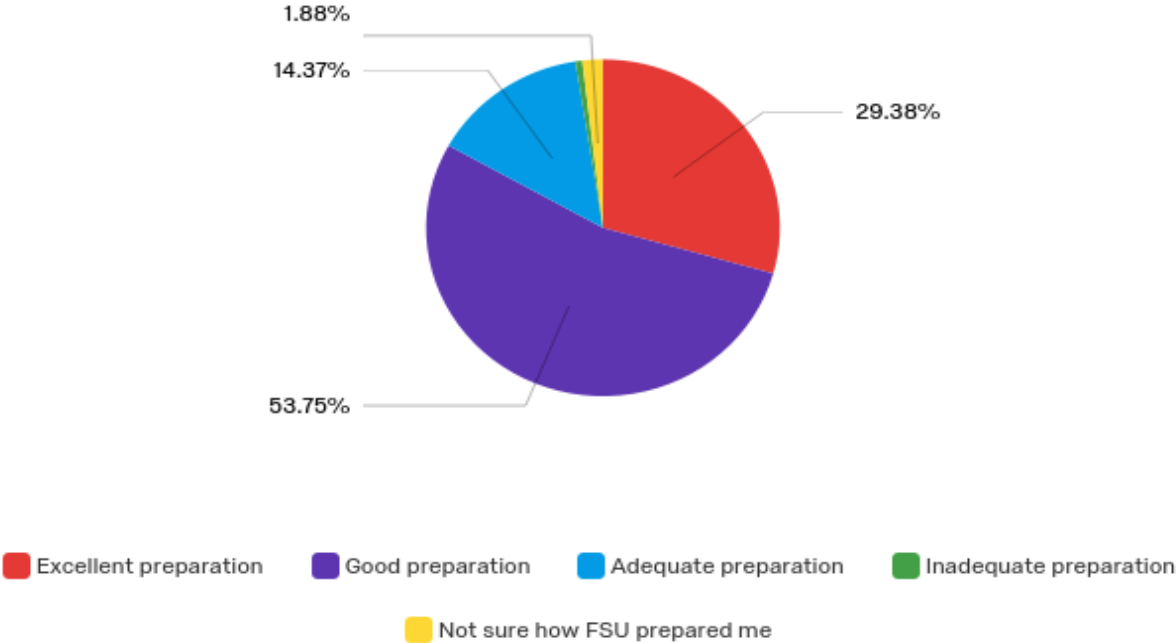
Other (please specify)
[Redacted] Scholarship
[Redacted] Scholarship
[Redacted] Scholarship through FSU
Combination of employer and self-funded
District reimbursement
Employer and self-funded. I also received a scholarship from Framingham State's [Redacted]
FSU Scholarship
Part employer-funded, part self-funded
Teach For America Stipend
The school funded half and I paid half if I had good grades and finish it.
tuition waiver

How applicable were the program requirements to your current/or future workplace?

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
A Great Deal	46.25%	74
Quite a Lot	35.00%	56
Some	15.63%	25
A Little	2.50%	4
None	0.63%	1
Total	100%	160



After completing your graduate program, how would you classify your level of preparation?



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent preparation	29.38%	47
Good preparation	53.75%	86
Adequate preparation	14.37%	23
Inadequate preparation	0.63%	1
Not sure how FSU prepared me	1.88%	3
Total	100%	160



Please indicate your level of satisfaction with FSU Graduate Services in the following areas:

Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total	Rating Average
GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE	27.85% 44	38.61% 61	23.42% 37	8.23% 13	1.90% 3	100% 158	2.18
	66.46% 105			10.13% 16			
GRADUATE ADMISSIONS OFFICE	28.03% 44	45.22% 71	22.29% 35	3.18% 5	1.27% 2	100% 157	2.04
	73.25% 115			4.45% 7			
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE	23.42% 37	41.14% 65	27.85% 44	5.70% 9	1.90% 3	100% 158	2.22
	64.56% 102			7.60% 12			
FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS	10.19% 16	17.20% 27	66.24% 104	2.55% 4	3.82% 6	100% 157	2.73
	27.39% 43			6.37% 10			



Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of your graduate education experiences related to your degree:

Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total	Rating Average
Diversity of students with whom you took courses	33.58% 45	38.81% 52	20.90% 28	3.73% 5	2.99% 4	100% 134	2.04
	72.39% 97			6.72% 9			
Academic quality of students with whom you took courses	28.89% 39	42.22% 57	17.78% 24	7.41% 10	3.70% 5	100% 135	2.15
	71.11% 96			11.11% 15			
Quality of instruction in your courses	27.01% 37	47.45% 65	16.79% 23	8.76% 12	0.00% 0	100% 137	2.07
	74.46% 102			8.76% 12			
Faculty expertise	34.56% 47	46.32% 63	13.97% 19	5.15% 7	0.00% 0	100% 136	1.90
	80.88% 110			5.15% 7			
Feedback you received in courses from faculty	25.55% 35	44.53% 61	20.44% 28	5.84% 8	3.65% 5	100% 137	2.18
	70.08% 96			9.49% 13			
Accessibility of instructors	37.50% 51	43.38% 59	14.71% 20	3.68% 5	0.74% 1	100% 136	1.87
	80.88% 110			4.42% 6			
Finding and working with your graduate program coordinator	26.83% 33	30.08% 37	26.83% 33	11.38% 14	4.88% 6	100% 123	2.37
	56.91% 70			16.26% 20			
Quality of graduate advising from major professor or graduate advisor	24.79% 29	35.90% 42	25.64% 30	7.69% 9	5.98% 7	100% 117	2.34
	60.69% 71			13.67% 16			
Degree plan flexibility and elective choices	26.61% 33	36.29% 45	20.97% 26	11.29% 14	4.84% 6	100% 124	2.31
	62.90% 78			16.13% 20			
Program coverage of relevant content	27.21% 37	52.94% 72	14.71% 20	4.41% 6	0.74% 1	100% 136	1.99
	80.15% 109			5.15% 7			



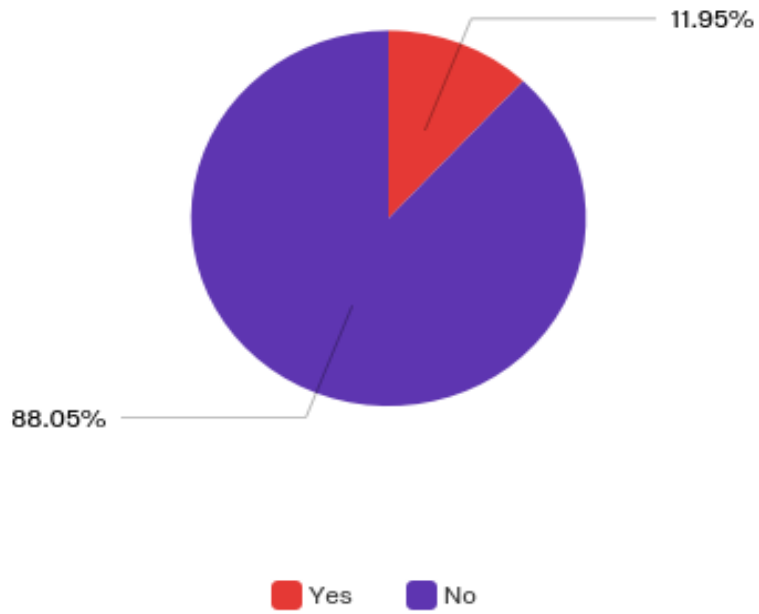
Sequencing of content across program courses	23.53% 32	48.53% 66	24.26% 33	2.21% 3	1.47% 2	100% 136	2.10
	72.06% 98			3.68% 5			
Assistance with external certification process	18.28% 17	27.96% 26	34.41% 32	13.98% 13	5.38% 5	100% 93	2.60
	46.24% 43			19.36% 18			
Availability of field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	16.87% 14	37.35% 31	28.92% 24	12.05% 10	4.82% 4	100% 83	2.51
	54.22% 45			16.87% 14			
Quality of your field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	23.08% 18	34.62% 27	29.49% 23	8.97% 7	3.85% 3	100% 78	2.36
	57.70% 45			12.82% 10			
Timing of your field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	18.99% 15	30.38% 24	37.97% 30	10.13% 8	2.53% 2	100% 79	2.47
	49.37% 39			12.66% 10			
Length of graduate program	37.23% 51	45.99% 63	11.68% 16	5.11% 7	0.00% 0	100% 137	1.85
	83.22% 114			5.11% 7			
Support in planning and completing thesis, projects in lieu, or portfolio, or comprehensive exam	18.55% 23	45.16% 56	18.55% 23	11.29% 14	6.45% 8	100% 124	2.42
	63.71% 79			17.74% 22			
Assistance with finding employment	10.14% 7	20.29% 14	39.13% 27	20.29% 14	10.14% 7	100% 69	3.00
	30.43% 21			30.43% 21			

Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements:

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Rating Average
My graduate degree from FSU has brought me closer to achieving my goals	45.28% 72	47.17% 75	4.40% 7	2.52% 4	0.63% 1	100% 159	1.66
	92.45% 147			3.15% 5			
My graduate experience at FSU was rewarding	42.04% 66	47.77% 75	7.01% 11	3.18% 5	0.00% 0	100% 157	1.71
	89.81% 141			3.18% 5			
My graduate coursework at FSU was challenging	22.78% 36	56.96% 90	13.92% 22	5.70% 9	0.63% 1	100% 158	2.04
	79.74% 126			6.33% 10			
My graduate degree from FSU is marketable	32.91% 52	54.43% 86	10.76% 17	1.27% 2	0.63% 1	100% 158	1.82
	87.34% 138			1.90% 3			



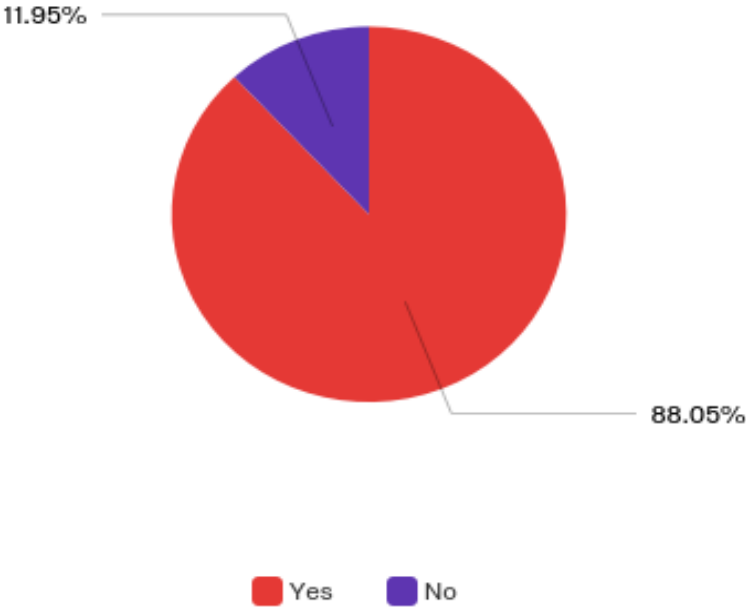
Did you receive your undergraduate degree from FSU?



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	11.95%	19
No	88.05%	140
Total	100%	159



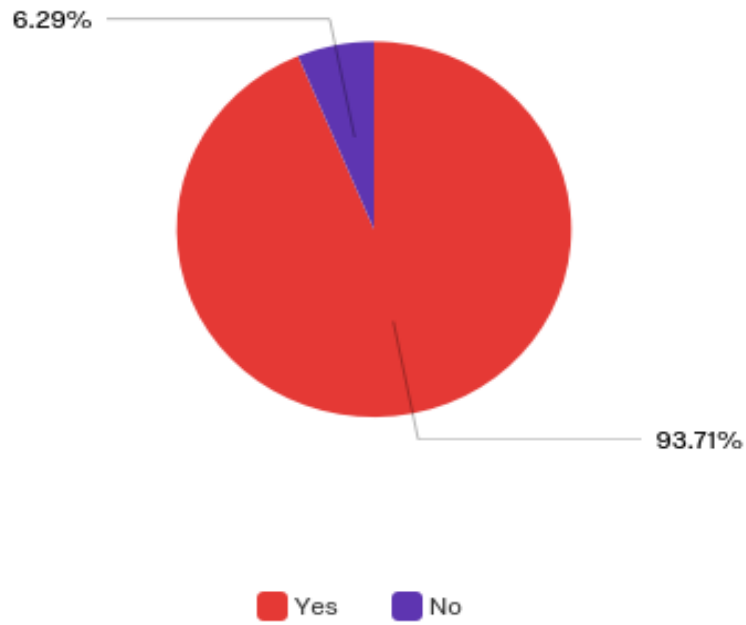
Would you select FSU if you were to begin graduate school all over again?



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	88.05%	140
No	11.95%	19
Total	100%	159



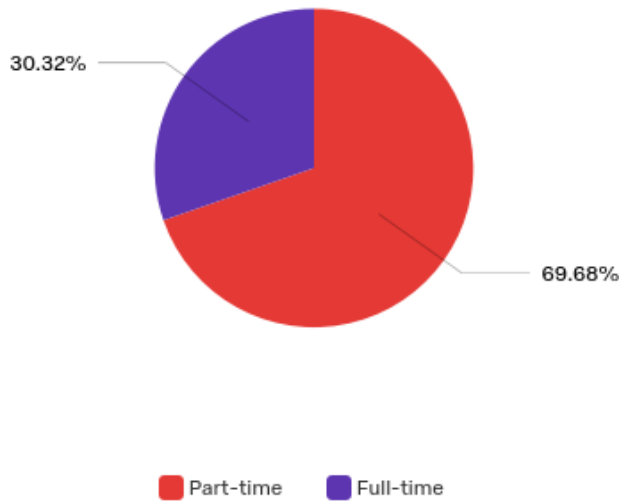
Would you recommend FSU to other potential students?



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	93.71%	149
No	6.29%	10
Total	100%	159



Did you complete this degree as a part-time or full-time student?



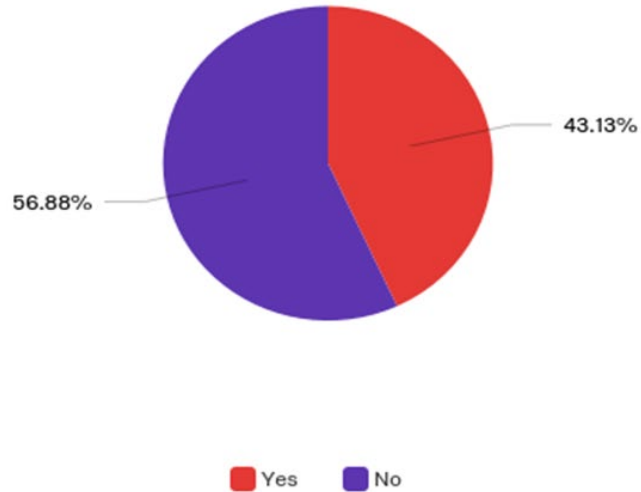
Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Part-time	69.68%	108
Full-time	30.32%	47
Total	100%	155

What percentage of your classes did you take online and what percentage would you have preferred?

Field	Mean	Count
My courses were online:	40.78	150
I would have preferred online:	44.01	137

This question asked respondents to mark the percentage of courses taken online and the percentage they would prefer to take online using a slider that went from 0% - 100%. The table above shows the means for each. Graduate students reported that they took approximately 41% of courses in the online format. Students indicated that they would have preferred to have taken 44% of courses online. This indicates that students are generally satisfied with the balance between face-to-face and online course offerings.

Are you completing your degree at an IEP site?

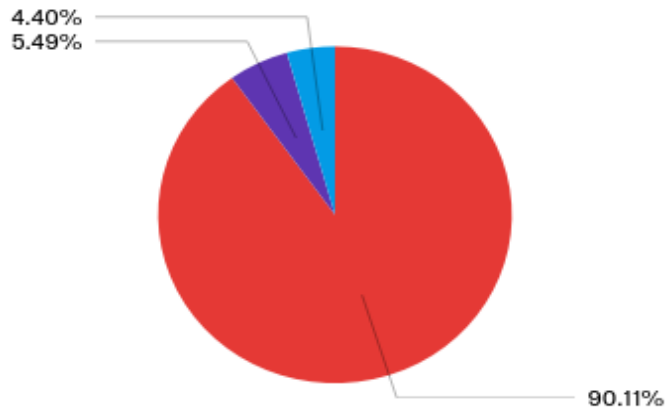


Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	43.13%	69
No	56.88%	91
Total	100%	160

Please select the IEP location where you are completing your degree:

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Seoul, S. Korea	35.94%	23
Bangkok, Thailand	34.38%	22
Xiamen, China	6.25%	4
Guatemala City, Guatemala	6.25%	4
Managua, Nicaragua	4.69%	3
San Jose, Costa Rica	4.69%	3
Taipei, Taiwan	3.13%	2
Monterrey, Mexico	1.56%	1
Port of Spain, Trinidad	1.56%	1
San Pedro Sula, Honduras	1.56%	1
Sao Paulo, Brazil	0.00%	0
Total	100%	64

Are you an in-state, out-of-state, or international student (living inside or outside the U.S.)?



- In-State Student
- Out-of-State Student
- International Student living in the U.S.
- International Student living outside the U.S.

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
In-State Student	90.11%	82
Out-of-State Student	5.49%	5
International Student living in the U.S.	4.40%	4
Total	100%	91



What was your zip code while attending FSU as a graduate student?

Zip Codes by County		
Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Middlesex County	39.53%	34
Worcester County	19.77%	17
Norfolk County	15.12%	13
Suffolk County	12.79%	11
Plymouth County	4.65%	4
Outside of Massachusetts	3.49%	3
Essex County	2.33%	2
Hampshire County	1.16%	1
Hampden County	1.16%	1
Bristol County	0.00%	0
Barnstable County	0.00%	0
Total	100%	86

