

Framingham State University

Office of Institutional Assessment

Graduate Student Exit Survey Report 2020-21

International Education Program Students

Target Population: 203

Total Respondents: 98

Response Rate: 48.28%

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Executive Summary

Strengths of FSU Graduate Programs

- 99% of respondents classified their level of preparation as excellent, good, or adequate.
- 97% of respondents would recommend FSU to other potential students.
- 91% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their graduate degree from FSU has brought them closer to achieving their goals.
- 91% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their graduate experience at FSU was rewarding.
- 86% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their graduate degree from FSU is marketable.
- 91% of respondents indicated they were very satisfied or satisfied with length of graduate program.
- 87% of respondents indicated they were very satisfied or satisfied with accessibility of instructors.
- 86% of respondents indicated they were very satisfied or satisfied with program coverage of relevant content.

Areas of Concern

- 47% of respondents indicated that course requirements and coursework were extremely challenging or challenging.
- 45% of respondents indicated that work or financial obligations were extremely challenging or challenging.

Qualitative Analysis

Below is a summary of the qualitative data. Responses are at the end of the survey.

Strengths of FSU Graduate Programs

- Flexibility, convenience, and quality of program.
- Faculty were knowledgeable and supportive.
- Faculty and staff effectively communicated with students.
- Cost and location.

Ways to make the FSU graduate studies more attractive

- Increase the variety and offering of courses.
- Increase advertising for the graduate programs.
- Assist students in receiving teaching licensure or certification.
- Ensure course content is challenging and relevant to international students.

Items FSU could do better to meet the needs of alumni, current students, or future students

- Improve communication with advisors, administration, and faculty.
- Increase the availability and flexibility of courses.
- Improve alumni networking.
- Provide students with post-graduation job placement/career services.

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

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 2 years	51.02%	50
2 - 3 years	43.88%	43
3 - 4 years	1.02%	1
4- 6 years	3.06%	3
6 - 8 years	1.02%	1
More than 8 years	0.00%	0
Total	100%	98

Majors of Graduate Respondents

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Master of Education: International Teaching	84.69%	83
Master of Education: The Teaching of English as a Second Language	8.16%	8
Master of Education: Educational Leadership	7.14%	7
Total	100%	98

How did you first hear about FSU graduate programs?

Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
From an Employer	30.89%	38.78%	38
From a Co-worker	26.02%	32.65%	32
Word of Mouth from FSU Alumni	19.51%	24.49%	24
Other (please specify)	8.13%	10.20%	10
FSU Website	4.88%	6.12%	6
Word of Mouth from current FSU Student	4.07%	5.10%	5
From an Undergraduate Faculty Member	2.44%	3.06%	3
Other Websites	1.63%	2.04%	2
Graduate Fair/Career Fair	1.63%	2.04%	2
I am a FSU Alumni	0.81%	1.02%	1
Brochure	0.00%	0.00%	0
Radio	0.00%	0.00%	0
Newspaper	0.00%	0.00%	0
Total		100%	98

Other (please specify)
Word of mouth from an IEP coordinator
Web search
WeChat group
Social media (Facebook)
My school partnering program with FSU.
From a few graduates of FRU
From Program Coordinator in Panama.
A program at MET School of Panama

*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:

Wechat Post in China
Facebook
Facebook post
Google search
Facebook
Workplace

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) convenient course times, (2) cost, and (3) program/degree options.

Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
Convenient Course Times (1 st)	15.19%	73.47%	72
Cost (2 nd)	14.77%	71.43%	70
Program/Degree Options (3 rd)	13.08%	63.27%	62
Ability to complete degree/program/coursework online and/or hybrid	11.81%	57.14%	56
Through Recommendations	11.18%	54.08%	53
Location	10.97%	53.06%	52
Unique Program Offered at FSU	8.44%	40.82%	40
Academic Reputation	7.59%	36.73%	36
The Faculty	2.53%	12.24%	12
Size of Academic Program	2.53%	12.24%	12
Other (please specify)	1.05%	5.10%	5
The Administrative Staff	0.63%	3.06%	3
Number of Graduate Students	0.21%	1.02%	1
Research Facilities	0.00%	0.00%	0
Total	100%		98

Other (please specify)
Met Thai teacher's license requirements
Because they did it during vacations and professors came to Costa Rica
The way the international program fit my life and was affordable
Career Advancement
I was able to do it in Trinidad and Professors came to us (before COVID)

*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	11.22%	11
No	88.78%	87
Total	100%	98

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

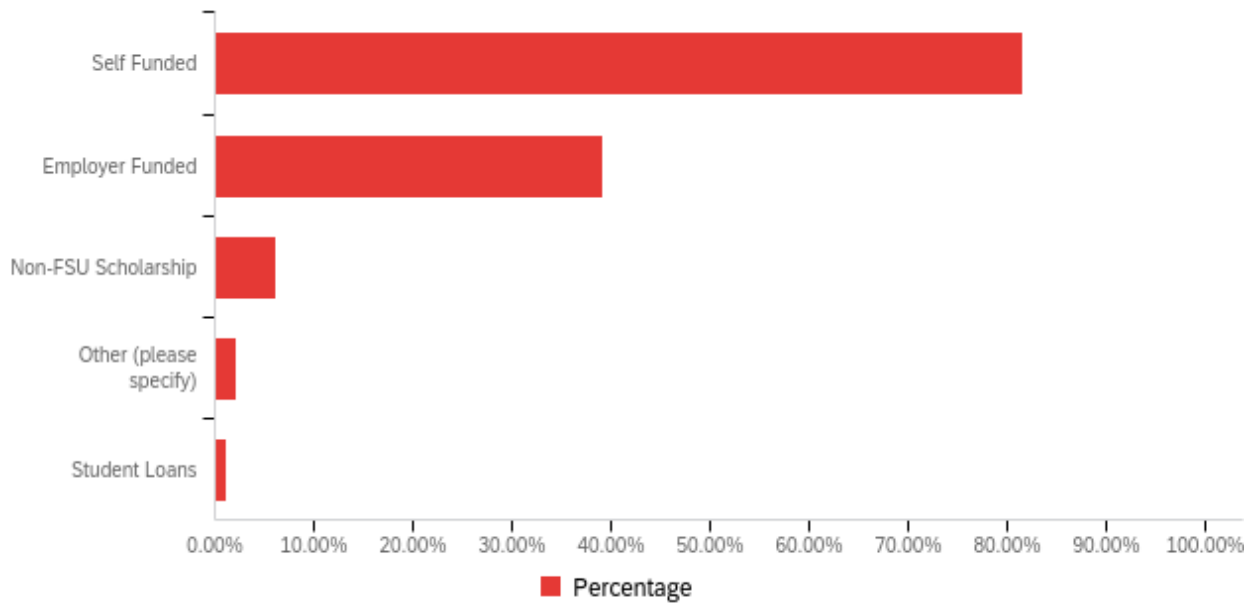
Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
1st Choice	90.63%	87
2nd Choice	4.17%	4
3rd Choice	0.00%	0
FSU was not one of my top three choices	5.21%	5
Total	100%	96

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

Question	Extremely Unchallenging	Not Challenging	Neutral	Challenging	Extremely Challenging	Total
Work or Financial Obligations	2.06% 2	13.40% 13	39.18% 38	36.08% 35	9.28% 9	100% 97
	15.46% 15			45.36% 44		
Family Obligations	5.38% 5	24.73% 23	27.96% 26	36.56% 34	5.38% 5	100% 93
	30.11% 28			41.94% 39		
Location/Transportation	14.12% 12	38.82% 33	40.00% 34	5.88% 5	1.18% 1	100% 85
	52.94% 45			7.06% 6		
Immigration Regulations	22.64% 12	41.51% 22	33.96% 18	1.89% 1	0.00% 0	100% 53
	64.15% 34			1.89% 1		
Program Requirements or Structure	6.19% 6	32.99% 32	32.99% 32	27.84% 27	0.00% 0	100% 97
	39.18% 38			27.84% 27		
Course Availability	11.49% 10	40.23% 35	36.78% 32	10.34% 9	1.15% 1	100% 87
	51.72% 45			11.49% 10		
Communication with Faculty	14.58% 14	55.21% 53	21.88% 21	7.29% 7	1.04% 1	100% 96
	69.79% 67			8.33% 8		
Communication with Graduate Office Staff	19.32% 17	47.73% 42	23.86% 21	6.82% 6	2.27% 2	100% 88
	67.05% 59			9.09% 8		
Communication with Graduate Advisor	18.99% 15	49.37% 39	26.58% 21	3.80% 3	1.27% 1	100% 79
	68.36% 54			5.07% 4		
Communication with Students Services Staff	15.28% 11	44.44% 32	38.89% 28	1.39% 1	0.00% 0	100% 72
	59.72% 43			1.39% 1		

Communication with Graduate Admissions Office Staff	12.05% 10	50.60% 42	34.94% 29	2.41% 2	0.00% 0	100% 83
	62.65% 52			2.41% 2		
Communication with Graduate Registrar Office Staff	13.92% 11	48.10% 38	35.44% 28	2.53% 2	0.00% 0	100% 79
	62.02% 49			2.53% 2		
Course Requirements and Coursework	4.12% 4	19.59% 19	28.87% 28	42.27% 41	5.15% 5	100% 97
	23.71% 23			47.42% 46		
Portfolio Requirement	4.08% 4	23.47% 23	35.71% 35	35.71% 35	1.02% 1	100% 98
	27.55% 27			36.73% 36		
Practicum Requirement	4.41% 3	27.94% 19	47.06% 32	19.12% 13	1.47% 1	100% 68
	32.35% 22			20.59% 14		
Comprehensive Exam	3.23% 2	25.81% 16	46.77% 29	24.19% 15	0.00% 0	100% 62
	29.04% 18			24.19% 15		

How did you finance your graduate education?



Answer	Response Percent	Percent of Cases*	Response Count
Self-Funded	62.70%	80.61%	79
Employer Funded	30.16%	38.78%	38
Non-FSU Scholarship	4.76%	6.12%	6
Other (please specify)	1.59%	2.04%	2
Student Loans	0.79%	1.02%	1
FSU Graduate Assistantship	0.00%	0.00%	0
Government Grants or Funding (e.g. Veterans Benefits or GI bill)	0.00%	0.00%	0
FSU Senior Citizen Waiver	0.00%	0.00%	0
Total	100%		98

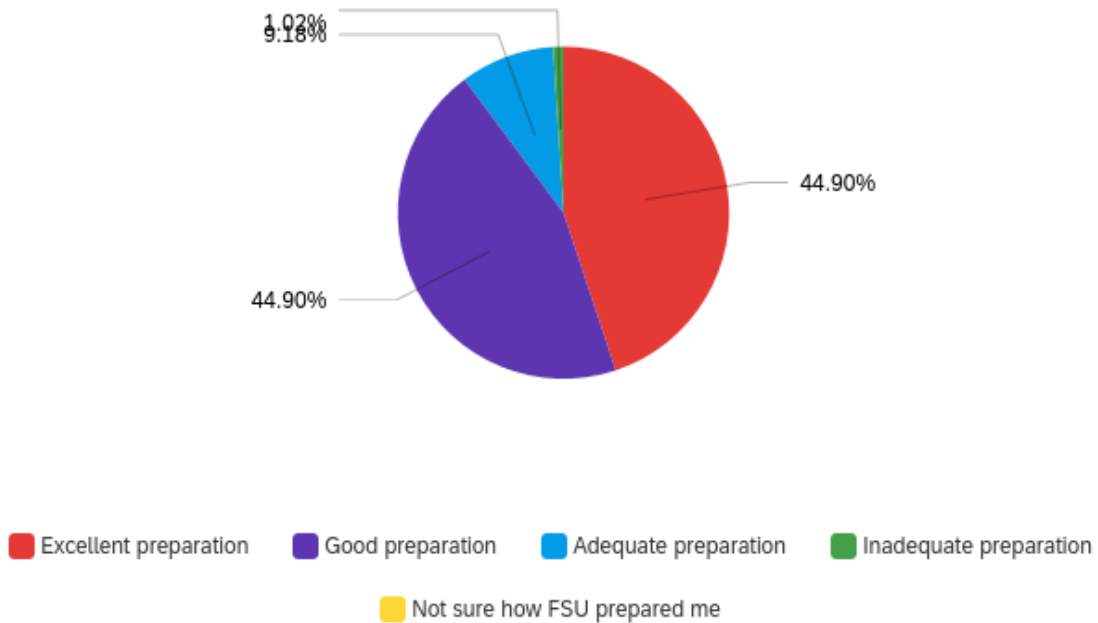
Other (please specify)
Site Coordinator scholarship
Employee loan

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

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

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
A Great Deal	58.16%	57
Quite a Lot	31.63%	31
Some	10.20%	10
A Little	0.00%	0
None	0.00%	0
Total	100%	98

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



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent preparation	44.90%	44
Good preparation	44.90%	44
Adequate preparation	9.18%	9
Inadequate preparation	1.02%	1
Not sure how FSU prepared me	0.00%	0
Total	100%	98

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

Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total
GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE	47.06% 40	31.76% 27	21.18% 18	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100% 85
	78.82% 67			0.00% 0		
GRADUATE ADMISSIONS OFFICE	45.56% 41	35.56% 32	18.89% 17	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100% 90
	81.12% 73			0.00% 0		
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE	42.53% 37	34.48% 30	22.99% 20	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100% 87
	77.01% 67			0.00% 0		
FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS	30.43% 14	21.74% 10	43.48% 20	4.35% 2	0.00% 0	100% 46
	52.17% 24			4.35% 2		

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

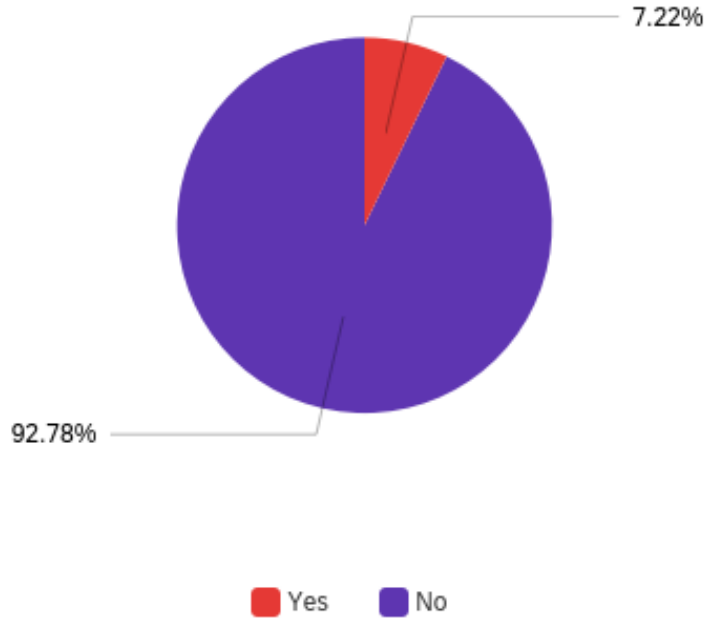
Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total
Diversity of students with whom you took courses	52.63% 50	32.63% 31	12.63% 12	2.11% 2	0.00% 0	100% 95
	85.26% 81			2.11% 2		
Academic quality of students with whom you took courses	41.24% 40	35.05% 34	15.46% 15	7.22% 7	1.03% 1	100% 97
	76.29% 74			8.25% 8		
Quality of instruction in your courses	34.69% 34	47.96% 47	13.27% 13	3.06% 3	1.02% 1	100% 98
	82.65% 81			4.08% 4		
Faculty expertise	55.67% 54	27.84% 27	15.46% 15	1.03% 1	0.00% 0	100% 97
	83.51% 81			1.03% 1		
Feedback you received in courses from faculty	38.78% 38	40.82% 40	14.29% 14	5.10% 5	1.02% 1	100% 98
	79.60% 78			6.12% 6		
Accessibility of instructors	44.90% 44	41.84% 41	10.20% 10	3.06% 3	0.00% 0	100% 98
	86.74% 85			3.06% 3		
Finding and working with your graduate program coordinator	48.94% 46	29.79% 28	15.96% 15	2.13% 2	3.19% 3	100% 94
	78.73% 74			5.32% 5		
Quality of graduate advising from major professor or graduate advisor	34.15% 28	30.49% 25	28.05% 23	2.44% 2	4.88% 4	100% 82
	64.64% 53			7.32% 6		
Degree plan flexibility and elective choices	32.94% 28	30.59% 26	27.06% 23	4.71% 4	4.71% 4	100% 85
	63.53% 54			9.42% 8		
Program coverage of relevant content	41.84% 41	43.88% 43	13.27% 13	1.02% 1	0.00% 0	100% 98
	85.72% 84			1.02% 1		

Sequencing of content across program courses	41.05% 39	40.00% 38	18.95% 18	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100% 95
	81.05% 77			0.00% 0		
Assistance with external certification process	32.10% 26	28.40% 23	27.16% 22	4.94% 4	7.41% 6	100% 81
	60.50% 49			12.35% 10		
Availability of field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	23.88% 16	20.90% 14	32.84% 22	5.97% 4	16.42% 11	100% 67
	44.78% 30			22.39% 15		
Quality of your field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	25.35% 18	32.39% 23	23.94% 17	4.23% 3	14.08% 10	100% 71
	57.74% 41			18.31% 13		
Timing of your field experience(s)/practicum(s)/internship(s)	21.92% 16	35.62% 26	26.03% 19	4.11% 3	12.33% 9	100% 73
	57.54% 42			16.44% 12		
Length of graduate program	42.71% 41	47.92% 46	8.33% 8	1.04% 1	0.00% 0	100% 96
	90.63% 87			1.04% 1		
Support in planning and completing thesis, projects in lieu, or portfolio, or comprehensive exam	29.21% 26	43.82% 39	22.47% 20	3.37% 3	1.12% 1	100% 89
	73.03% 65			4.49% 4		
Assistance with finding employment	15.63% 10	10.94% 7	40.63% 26	14.06% 9	18.75% 12	100% 64
	26.57% 17			32.81% 21		

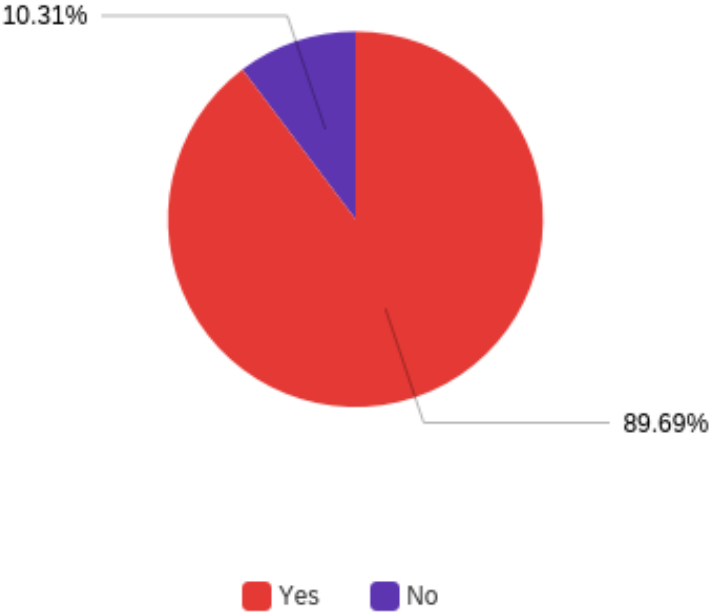
Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements:

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
My graduate degree from FSU has brought me closer to achieving my goals	47.96% 47	42.86% 42	6.12% 6	3.06% 3	0.00% 0	100% 98
	90.82% 89			3.06% 3		
My graduate experience at FSU was rewarding	50.00% 49	40.82% 40	8.16% 8	1.02% 1	0.00% 0	100% 98
	90.82% 89			1.02% 1		
My graduate coursework at FSU was challenging	24.49% 24	54.08% 53	12.24% 12	8.16% 8	1.02% 1	100% 98
	78.57% 77			9.18% 9		
My graduate degree from FSU is marketable	35.71% 35	50.00% 49	11.22% 11	1.02% 1	2.04% 2	100% 98
	85.71% 84			3.06% 3		

Did you receive your undergraduate degree from FSU?

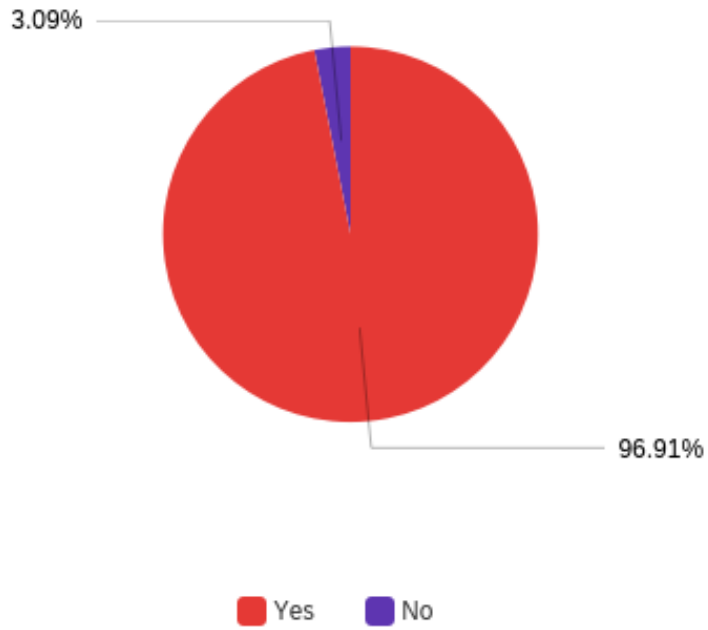


Would you select FSU if you were to begin graduate school all over again?



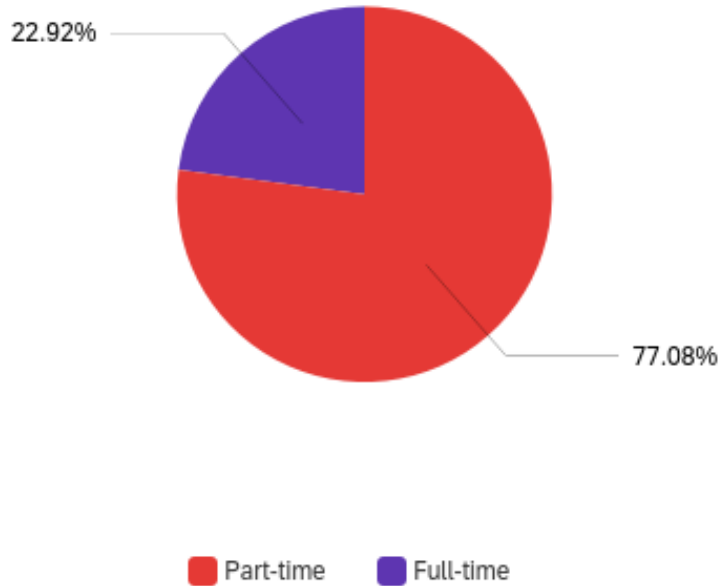
Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	89.69%	87
No	10.31%	10
Total	100%	97

Would you recommend FSU to other potential students?



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	96.91%	94
No	3.09%	3
Total	100%	97

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



Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Part-time	77.08%	74
Full-time	22.92%	22
Total	100%	96

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

Field	Average Percentage	Count
I would have preferred online:	37.80%	81
My courses were online:	54.66%	98

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%.

Did you complete your degree at an International Education Program site?

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.00%	98
No	0.00%	0
Total	100%	98

Please select the International Education Program location where you completed your degree:

Answer	Response Percent	Response Count
Bangkok, Thailand	21.43%	21
Monterrey, Mexico	21.43%	21
Panama City, Panama	18.37%	18
Seoul, S. Korea	8.16%	8
Xiamen, China	8.16%	8
Shanghai, China	7.14%	7
San Jose, Costa Rica	5.10%	5
Guatemala City, Guatemala	5.10%	5
Port of Spain, Trinidad	4.08%	4
Sao Paulo, Brazil	1.02%	1
Total	100%	98