



Graduate Students Exit Survey

Evaluation Report

Spring 2022

The Office of Strategy Management and Institutional Effectiveness

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INTRODUCTION

The Graduate Student Exit Survey is administered to all graduating students from AUC MA/MS and Ph.D. programs every semester. The survey aims to ensure the continuing quality of education the AUC provides its graduate students. Furthermore, it captures future graduate enrollment through student recommendations or further pursuits of post-graduate studies. The Graduate Student Exit Survey is typically mandatory for all students expecting to graduate each semester.

METHODOLOGY

This survey was designed and administered by the Office of Strategy Management and Institutional Effectiveness in cooperation with the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies. Graduate students whose last semester was Spring 2022 were invited to participate in the survey on June 22nd, 2022, with six reminder emails to boost the response rate.¹ In total, 44 responses were received, yielding an overall response rate of 59%.²

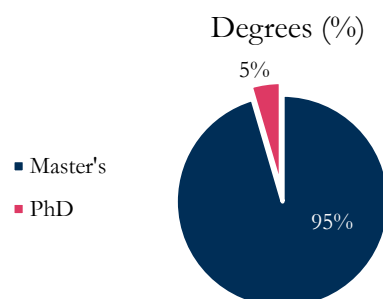
¹ There are 86 graduate students whose last semester was Spring 2022; however, since some recipients had opted out of receiving surveys, the number of alumni who received the survey is 74.

²² This and all upcoming percentages are rounded up to the nearest digit.

I. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

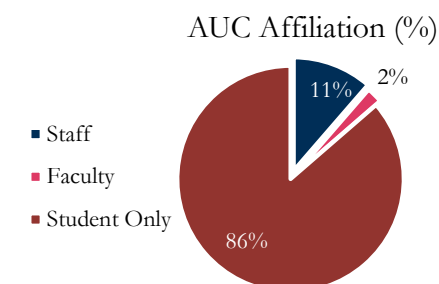
DEGREE PURSED AT AUC

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Master's (MA, MS, MPA, etc.)	95%	42
PhD	5%	2
Total Responses		44



AUC AFFILIATION

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
AUC Staff	11%	5
AUC Faculty	2%	1
Student Only	86%	38
Total Responses		44



SCHOOLS REPRESENTED



Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Humanities and Social Sciences	39%	17
Global Affairs & Public Policy	32%	14
Science and Engineering	20%	9
School of Business	9%	4
Total Responses		44

SINGLE DEGREES BY SCHOOL

Primary Program	Percentage	Count
Humanities & Social Sciences	39%	17
Counseling Psychology	7%	3
Educational Leadership	2%	1
English & Comparative Literature	5%	2
International & Comparative Education	2%	1
Community Psychology	5%	2
Philosophy	2%	1
Political Science	5%	2
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages	7%	3
Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language	5%	2
Global Affairs & Public Policy	32%	14
International Human Rights Law & Justice	2%	1
Journalism & Mass Communication	2%	1
LLM in International & Comparative Law	2%	1
Master in Public Policy	7%	3
Master of Global Affairs	11%	5
Middle East Studies	2%	1
Migration and Refugee Studies	2%	1
TV & Digital Journalism	2%	1
Sciences & Engineering	20%	9
Biotechnology	2%	1
Computer Science	2%	1
Mechanical Engineering	2%	1
Nanotechnology	2%	1
Ph.D. in Engineering	5%	2
Physics	2%	1
Sustainable Development	5%	2
School of Business	9%	4
Economics in International Devel	5%	2
Finance	2%	1
Master of Business Administration	2%	1

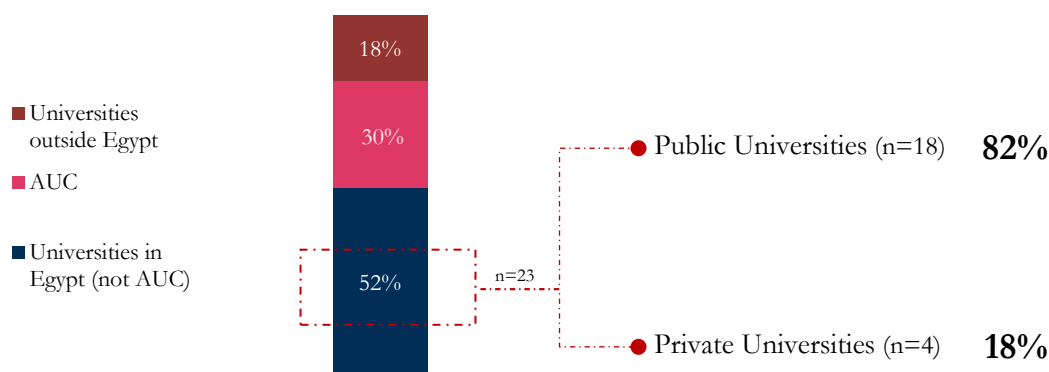
Dual Degrees

Of the 44 respondents, **four** students obtained dual degrees:

#	Program 1	Program 2
1	Master of Global Affairs	Journalism & Mass Communication
2	Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
3	Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language	Egyptology & Coptology
4	Ph.D. in Engineering	Master of Business Administration

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

Universities Awarding BA/BS (%)

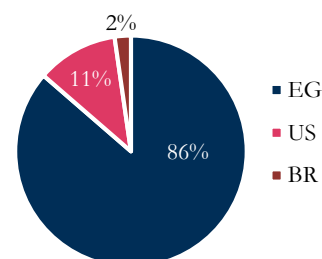


Answer choices	Percentage	Count
A university in Egypt other than AUC ³	52%	23
AUC	30%	13
A university outside Egypt	18%	8
Total Responses		44

PRIMARY NATIONALITY

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
EG	86%	38
US	11%	5
BR	2%	1
Total Responses		44

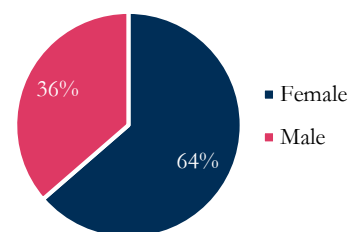
Primary Nationality (%)



GENDER

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Female	64%	28
Male	36%	16
Total Responses		44

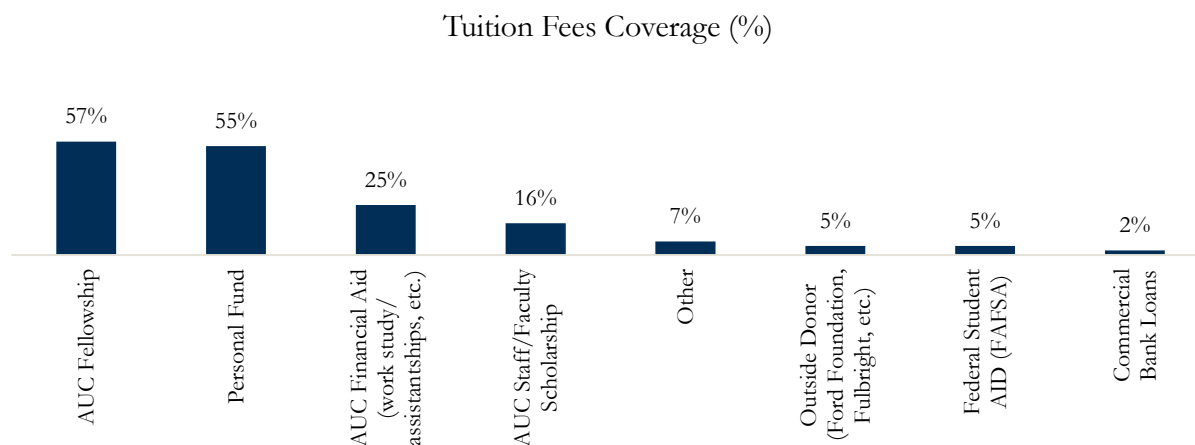
Gender (%)



³ One respondent did not provide further details. Accordingly, percentages of public and private degrees were calculated out of n=22.

TUITION FEES COVERAGE

HOW DID YOU COVER THE COST OF YOUR TUITION AT AUC? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)



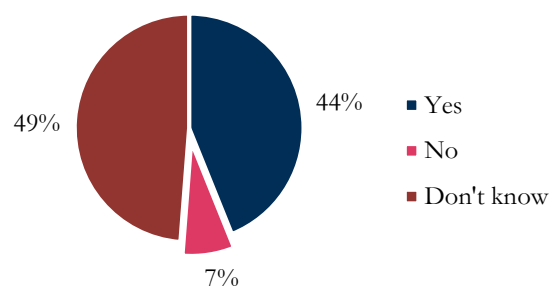
Answer choices	Percentage	Count
AUC Fellowship	57%	25
Personal fund	55%	24
AUC Financial aid (work study/assistantships or tuition discount)	25%	11
AUC Staff/Faculty Scholarship	16%	7
Other (please specify)	7%	3
Outside donor (Ford Foundation, Fulbright, your employer, etc.)	5%	2
Federal Student AID (FAFSA)	5%	2
Commercial bank loans	2%	1
Total Responses		44

FUTURE ACADEMIC PLANS

DO YOU INTEND TO PURSUE A PH.D. DEGREE?

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	44%	18
No	7%	3
Don't know	49%	20
Total Responses		41

Intent of Pursuing PhDs (%)



*WHICH INSTITUTION(S) AND PH.D. PROGRAM(S) WOULD YOU CONSIDER JOINING?
PLEASE LIST YOUR TOP TWO OPTIONS, AND SPECIFY THE NAME OF THE INSTITUTION
& COUNTRY*

Respondents' Primary MA/MS Programs	First Ph.D. Program of Preference	First Institution of Preference	Second Ph.D. Program of Preference	Second Institution of Preference
Humanities & Social Sciences				
English & Comparative Literature		University of Miami		University of Central Florida
		Columbia University, USA		Howard University, USA
Political Science	International Political Economy	Kings College, UK		
Philosophy	Philosophy	University of Minnesota	Philosophy	Rochester University
Global Affairs & Public Policy				
Master in Public Policy	Still thinking about it		Still thinking about it	
	Public Policy	University of Chicago	Behavioral economics	University of Chicago
Master of Global Affairs		Harvard		Boston
Middle East Studies		SOAS of London		Oxford University
TV & Digital Journalism	Mass communication	UK	Mass communication	USA
Sciences & Engineering				
Biotechnology	Cellular and molecular physiology	Johns Hopkins University, USA	Neuroscience, physiology, and pharmacology	UCL, UK
Computer Science		AUC		
Mechanical Engineering	Engineering	AUC		
Nanotechnology		Cleveland clinic US		Khalifa University UAE
Sustainable Development	International Development/Public Policy	University of Toronto	International Development/Public Policy	London School of Economics
School of Business				
Finance		ESADE		UCB

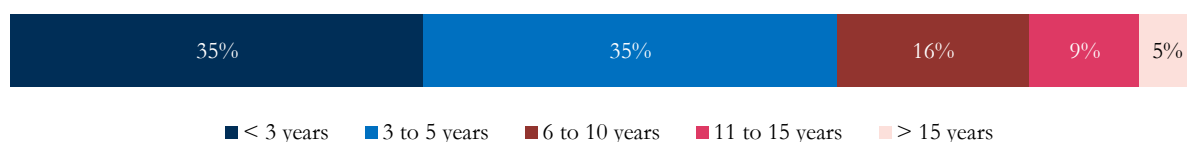
EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS



Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Employed full-time	77%	33
Employed part-time	14%	6
Unemployed, seeking employment	9%	4
Total Responses		43

WORK EXPERIENCE AT PROGRAM START



Answer choices	Percentage	Count
< 3 years	35%	15
3 to 5 years	35%	15
6 to 10 years	16%	7
11 to 15 years	9%	4
> 15 years	5%	2
Total Responses		43

POSITIVE IMPACT ON SALARIES



Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	81%	35
No	19%	8
Total Responses		43

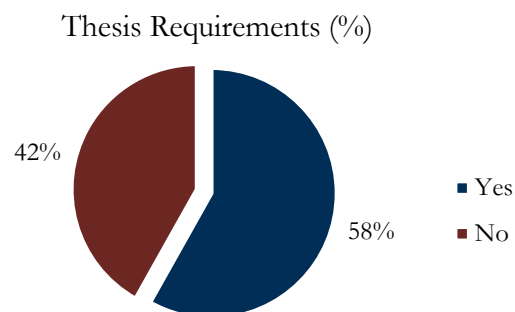
II. RESPONDENT-PROVIDED FEEDBACK

01- ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

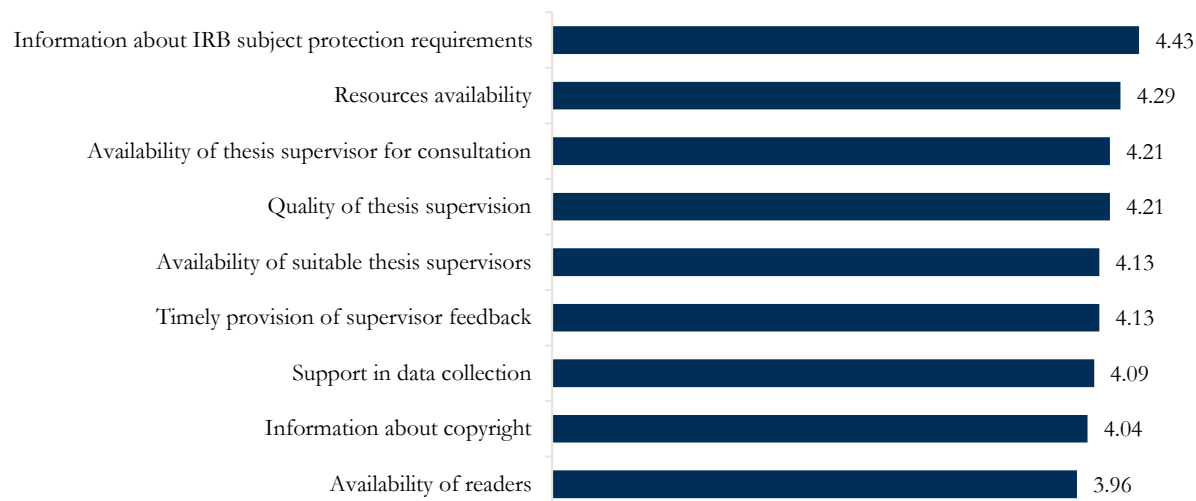
THESIS WRITING EXPERIENCES

IS WRITING A THESIS PART OF YOUR DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	58%	25
No	42%	18
Total Responses		43



PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH THE FOLLOWING:



Answer Choices	Very satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Information about IRB subject protection requirements	46%	11	33%	8	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	13%	3	24	4.43
Resources availability	46%	11	38%	9	17%	4	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	24	4.29
Availability of thesis supervisor for consultation	54%	13	21%	5	17%	4	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	24	4.21
Quality of thesis supervision	54%	13	21%	5	17%	4	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	24	4.21
Availability of suitable thesis supervisors	46%	11	33%	8	13%	3	4%	1	4%	1	0%	0	24	4.13

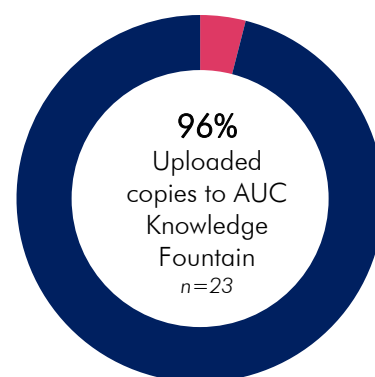
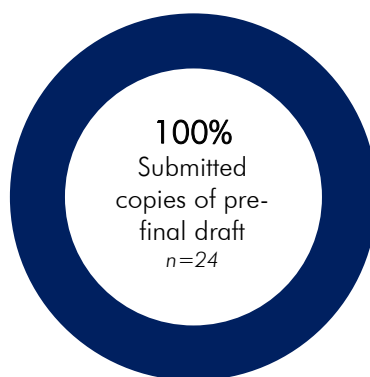
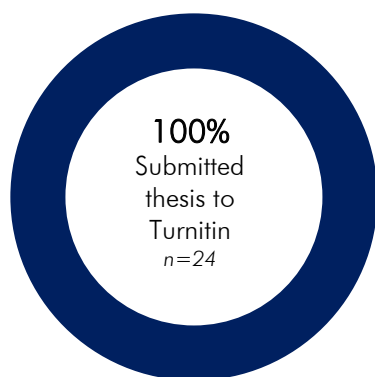
Answer Choices	Very satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Timely provision of supervisor feedback	54%	13	21%	5	13%	3	8%	2	4%	1	0%	0	24	4.13
Support in data collection	46%	11	21%	5	25%	6	0%	0	4%	1	4%	1	24	4.09
Information about copyright	33%	8	46%	11	17%	4	0%	0	4%	1	0%	0	24	4.04
Availability of readers	33%	8	38%	9	21%	5	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	24	3.96

HOW HELPFUL WAS/WERE YOUR SUPERVISOR(S) FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES?



Answer Choices	Very helpful		Helpful		Not very helpful		Not helpful at all		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Mentoring and academic advising	71%	17	21%	5	8%	2	0%	0	24	3.63
Identification of a thesis/dissertation research topic	71%	17	17%	4	13%	3	0%	0	24	3.58
Support in research methodology	71%	17	17%	4	13%	3	0%	0	24	3.58
Support in writing a thesis/dissertation proposal	63%	15	29%	7	8%	2	0%	0	24	3.54
Evaluation of thesis progress	63%	15	29%	7	8%	2	0%	0	24	3.54
Information about IRB	58%	14	33%	8	4%	1	4%	1	24	3.46

PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING WITH REGARD TO YOUR THESIS SUBMISSION.



Answer Choices	Yes		No		Total
	%	C	%	C	
I have submitted my thesis to Turnitin to check for plagiarism	100%	24	0%	0	24
I have submitted copies of the pre-final draft to my thesis supervisor and readers as directed	100%	24	0%	0	24
I have uploaded a soft copy of my thesis to the AUC Knowledge Fountain	96%	23	4%	1	24

WORKSHOPS

How USEFUL⁴ WAS EACH OF THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS TO YOU?



Answer Choices	Very Useful		Useful		Not Useful		Not Useful at All		Did not Attend		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Thesis Boot Camp	10%	4	5%	2	0%	0	0%	0	86%	36	42	3.67
Writing the Literature review	26%	11	10%	4	2%	1	0%	0	62%	26	42	3.63
Oral Communication and Presentation skills	12%	5	10%	4	0%	0	0%	0	79%	33	42	3.56
Graduate Student Support Grants Application	10%	4	2%	1	2%	1	0%	0	86%	36	42	3.5
Research methodology	17%	7	17%	7	2%	1	0%	0	64%	27	42	3.4
Academic integrity and research ethics	29%	12	26%	11	2%	1	2%	1	40%	17	42	3.36
Library research guidance	14%	6	17%	7	2%	1	0%	0	67%	28	42	3.36
Survey design & data analysis	12%	5	14%	6	2%	1	0%	0	71%	30	42	3.33
Thesis proposal writing	10%	4	14%	6	2%	1	0%	0	74%	31	42	3.27
Thesis Writing (Methodology, Results and Discussions)	10%	4	14%	6	2%	1	0%	0	74%	31	42	3.27
IRB (Institutional Review Board)	10%	4	10%	4	5%	2	0%	0	76%	32	42	3.2
How to apply for PhD	2%	1	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	95%	40	42	3
Grant proposal writing	2%	1	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	95%	40	42	3
Statistical package (SPSS, survey monkey, etc.)	2%	1	10%	4	7%	3	0%	0	81%	34	42	2.75

⁴ Statements were rated on a scale of 1 – 4: 4-Very useful, 3-Useful, 2-Not useful, 1-Not useful at all.

WHICH OF THESE WORKSHOPS THAT YOU'VE ATTENDED WOULD YOU RECOMMEND TO YOUR COLLEAGUES AS THE MOST USEFUL?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Academic integrity and research ethics	48%	14
Writing the Literature review	41%	12
Research methodology	34%	10
IRB (Institutional Review Board)	28%	8
Thesis proposal writing	24%	7
Library research guidance	24%	7
Thesis Writing (Methodology, Results and Discussions)	21%	6
Statistical package (SPSS, survey monkey, etc ...)	14%	4
Survey design & data analysis	14%	4
Thesis Boot Camp	14%	4
Oral Communication and Presentation skills	7%	2
Graduate Student Support Grants Application	7%	2
How to apply for a PhD	3%	1
If there are other workshops you would suggest that are not currently provided, please list them below		1
Total Responses		29

Top Six Recommended Workshops

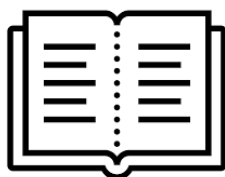
In descending order of recommendation

(n=29)



48%

Academic Integrity
& Research Ethics



41%

Writing the Literature
Review



34%

Research
Methodology



28%

IRB



24%

Thesis Proposal Writing

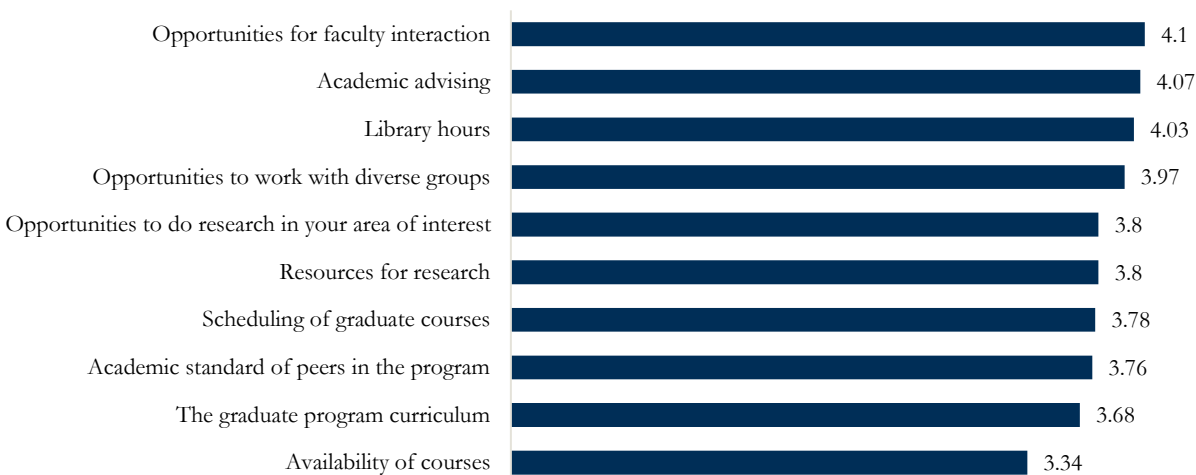


24%

Library Research
Guidance

QUALITY OF ACADEMIC FACTORS

PLEASE RATE⁵ THE QUALITY OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

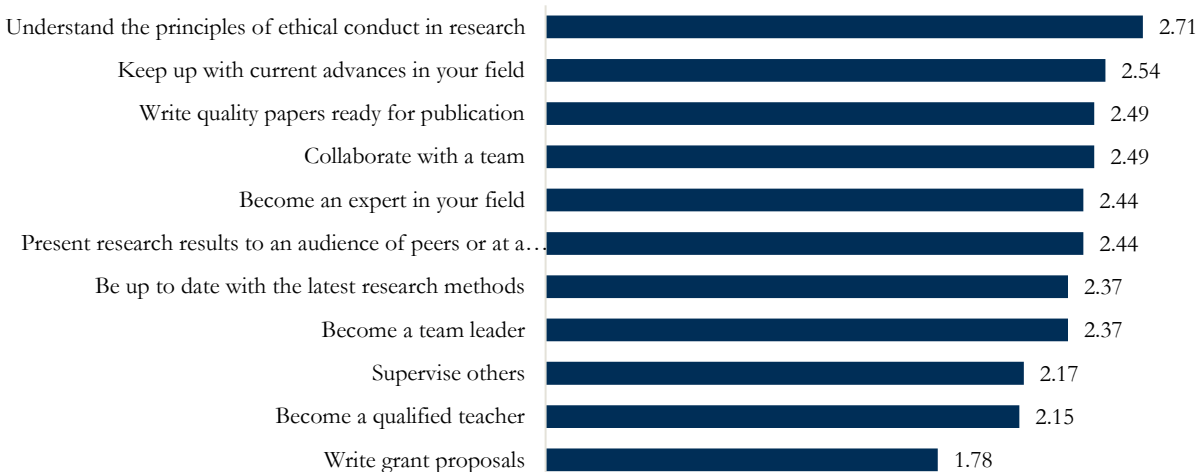


Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Opportunities for interaction with faculty	49%	20	20%	8	24%	10	7%	3	0%	0	0%	0	41	4.1
Your academic advising	51%	21	17%	7	22%	9	7%	3	2%	1	0%	0	41	4.07
Library hours	32%	13	34%	14	22%	9	0%	0	2%	1	10%	4	41	4.03
Opportunities to work with diverse groups in team projects	44%	18	20%	8	20%	8	10%	4	2%	1	5%	2	41	3.97
Opportunities to do research in your area of interest	34%	14	32%	13	20%	8	10%	4	5%	2	0%	0	41	3.8
Resources for research	37%	15	27%	11	17%	7	12%	5	5%	2	2%	1	41	3.8
Scheduling of your graduate courses	39%	16	27%	11	17%	7	7%	3	10%	4	0%	0	41	3.78
Academic standard of your peers in the program	37%	15	22%	9	29%	12	5%	2	7%	3	0%	0	41	3.76
The graduate program curriculum	27%	11	34%	14	24%	10	10%	4	5%	2	0%	0	41	3.68
Availability of courses you needed	20%	8	24%	10	34%	14	15%	6	7%	3	0%	0	41	3.34

⁵ Statements were rated on a scale of 1 – 5: 5-Excellent, 4-Very Good, 3-Good, 2-Fair, 1-Poor

SKILL ENHANCEMENT

PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT⁶ TO WHICH YOUR GRADUATE EDUCATION AT AUC IS ENHANCING THESE SKILLS:



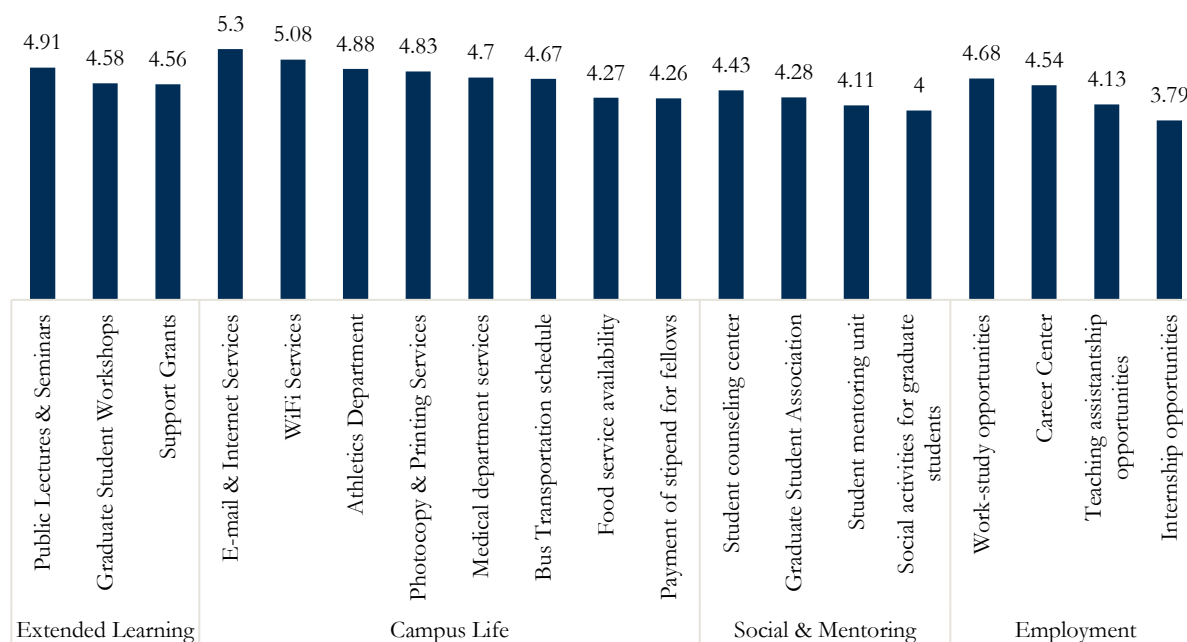
Answer Choices	To a great extent		To some extent		Not at all		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Understand the principles of ethical conduct in research	73%	30	24%	10	2%	1	41	2.71
Keep up with current advances in your field	59%	24	37%	15	5%	2	41	2.54
Write quality papers ready for publication	56%	23	37%	15	7%	3	41	2.49
Collaborate with a team	54%	22	41%	17	5%	2	41	2.49
Become an expert in your field	51%	21	41%	17	7%	3	41	2.44
Present research results to an audience of peers or at a conference	56%	23	32%	13	12%	5	41	2.44
Be up to date with the latest research methods	46%	19	44%	18	10%	4	41	2.37
Become a team leader	46%	19	44%	18	10%	4	41	2.37
Supervise others	34%	14	49%	20	17%	7	41	2.17
Become a qualified teacher	37%	15	41%	17	22%	9	41	2.15
Write grant proposals	17%	7	44%	18	39%	16	41	1.78

⁶ Statements were rated on a scale of 1 – 3: 3-To a great extent, 2-To some extent, 1-Not at all

02- EXPERIENCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

CAMPUS LIFE & SUPPORT SERVICES

PLEASE RATE⁷ THE QUALITY OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT SERVICES:



Extended Learning

Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Average		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Public lectures and seminars	22%	9	34%	14	22%	9	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	20%	8	41	4.91
Graduate Students Academic Workshops	15%	6	27%	11	27%	11	2%	1	5%	2	0%	0	24%	10	41	4.58
Conference, Research & Study Abroad Support Grants	15%	6	20%	8	17%	7	7%	3	0%	0	2%	1	39%	16	41	4.56

Campus Life

Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Average		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
E-mail & internet services	44%	18	44%	18	7%	3	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	2%	1	41	5.3

⁷ Statements were rated on a scale of 1 – 6: 6-Excellent, 5-Very Good, 4-Good, 3-Average, 2-Fair, 1-Poor

Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Average		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	C	
WiFi services on campus	39%	16	37%	15	17%	7	0%	0	5%	2	0%	0	2%	1	41	5.08
Athletics department	15%	6	27%	11	17%	7	2%	1	0%	0	0%	0	39%	16	41	4.88
Photocopy & printing services on campus	27%	11	32%	13	22%	9	5%	2	0%	0	2%	1	12%	5	41	4.83
Medical department services	17%	7	29%	12	10%	4	5%	2	2%	1	2%	1	34%	14	41	4.7
Bus Transportation schedule	17%	7	20%	8	12%	5	7%	3	0%	0	2%	1	41%	17	41	4.67
Food service availability	10%	4	37%	15	29%	12	22%	9	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	41	4.27
Payment of stipend for fellows	20%	8	22%	9	17%	7	2%	1	5%	2	10%	4	24%	10	41	4.26

Social & Mentoring

Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Average		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	C	
Student counseling center	10%	4	20%	8	10%	4	10%	4	0%	0	2%	1	49%	20	41	4.43
Graduate Student Association	12%	5	20%	8	12%	5	10%	4	5%	2	2%	1	39%	16	41	4.28
Student mentoring unit	7%	3	15%	6	5%	2	12%	5	2%	1	2%	1	56%	23	41	4.11
Social activities for graduate students	10%	4	22%	9	15%	6	7%	3	10%	4	5%	2	32%	13	41	4

Employment

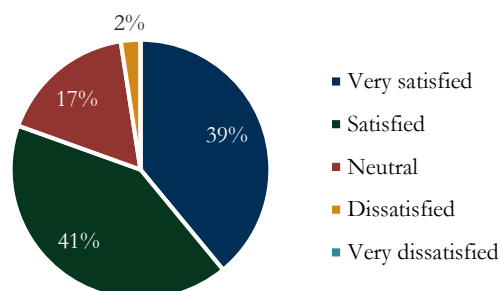
Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Average		Fair		Poor		Unable to assess		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	C	
Work-study opportunities	7%	3	22%	9	15%	6	0%	0	2%	1	0%	0	54%	22	41	4.68
Career Center	10%	4	24%	10	15%	6	7%	3	2%	1	0%	0	41%	17	41	4.54
Teaching assistantship opportunities	10%	4	24%	10	20%	8	12%	5	0%	0	7%	3	27%	11	41	4.13
Internship opportunities	7%	3	20%	8	7%	3	12%	5	2%	1	10%	4	41%	17	41	3.79

03- OVERALL STUDENT SATISFACTION

OVERALL GRADUATE STUDENT SATISFACTION

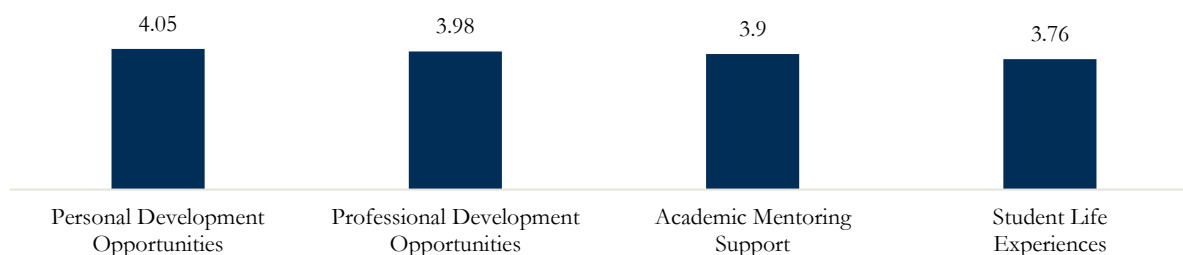
OVERALL, INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF SATISFACTION AS A GRADUATE STUDENT AT AUC.

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Very satisfied	39%	16
Satisfied	41%	17
Neutral	17%	7
Dissatisfied	2%	1
Very dissatisfied	0%	0
Total Responses		41



SATISFACTION WITH GRADUATE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

OVERALL, AS A GRADUATE STUDENT AT AUC, HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE FOLLOWING?

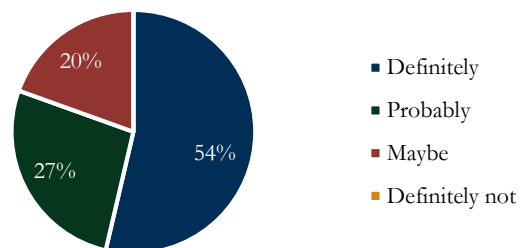


Answer Choices	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	WA
	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C	%	C		
Your personal development opportunities	39%	16	34%	14	20%	8	7%	3	0%	0	41	4.05
Your professional development opportunities	34%	14	39%	16	20%	8	5%	2	2%	1	41	3.98
Academic mentoring support	37%	15	34%	14	12%	5	17%	7	0%	0	41	3.9
Your student life experience	27%	11	37%	15	24%	10	10%	4	2%	1	41	3.76

AUC RECOMMENDATION

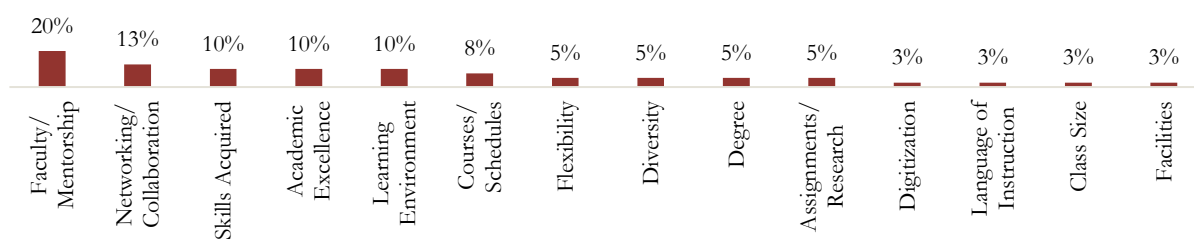
WOULD YOU RECOMMEND AUC TO A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE CONSIDERING YOUR FIELD OF STUDY?

Answer choices	Percentage	Count
Definitely	54%	22
Probably	27%	11
Maybe	20%	8
Definitely not	0%	0
Please elaborate:		5
Total Responses		41

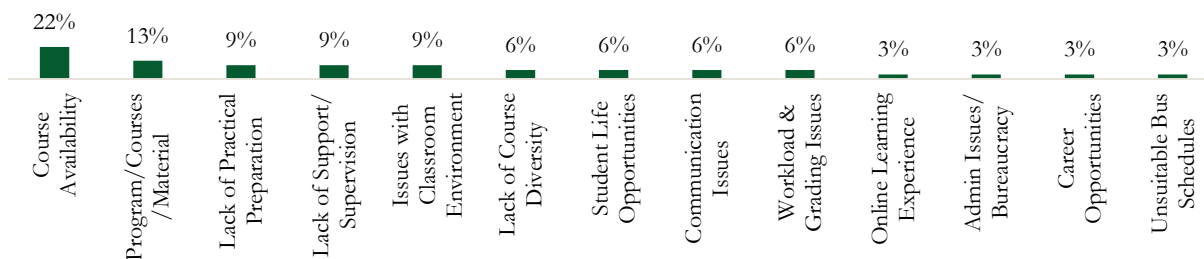


04- OPEN-ENDED QUESTION RESPONSES

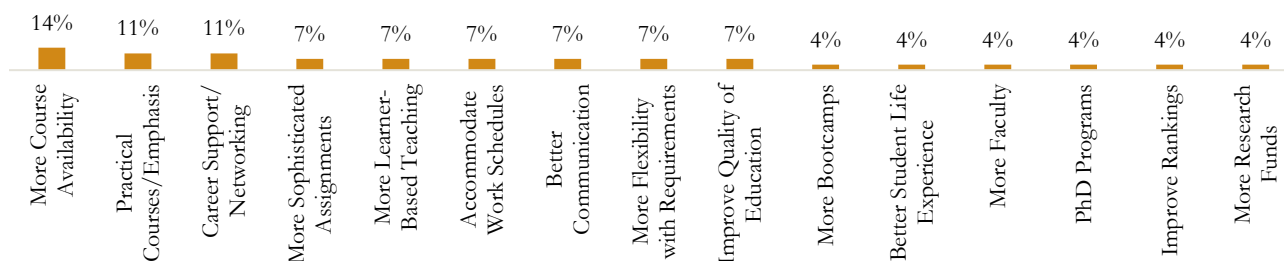
WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF YOUR GRADUATE EXPERIENCE AT AUC? (19 RESPONSES; 40 POINT MENTIONS)



WHAT ARE THE WEAKNESSES OF YOUR GRADUATE EXPERIENCE AT AUC? (21 RESPONSES; 32 POINT MENTIONS)

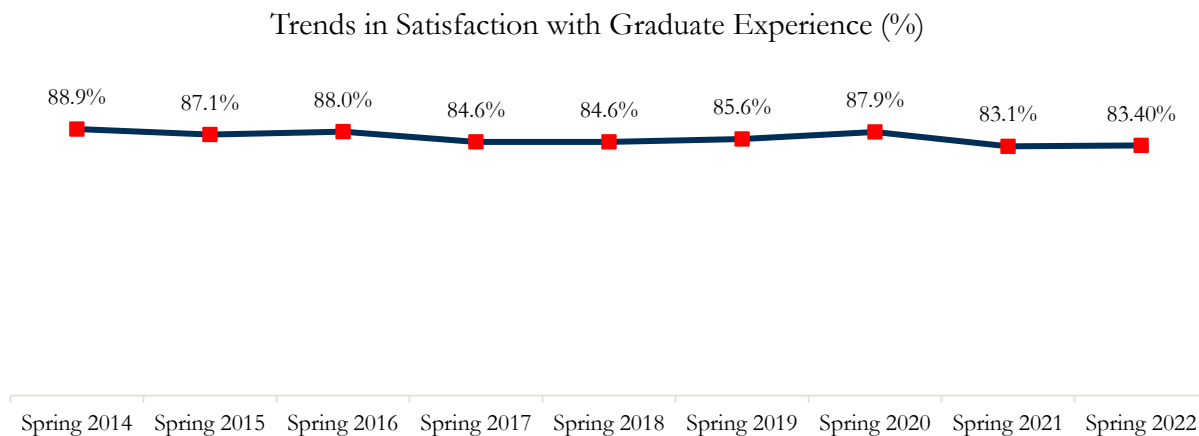


ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT ARE WELCOME (16 RESPONSES; 28 POINT MENTIONS)

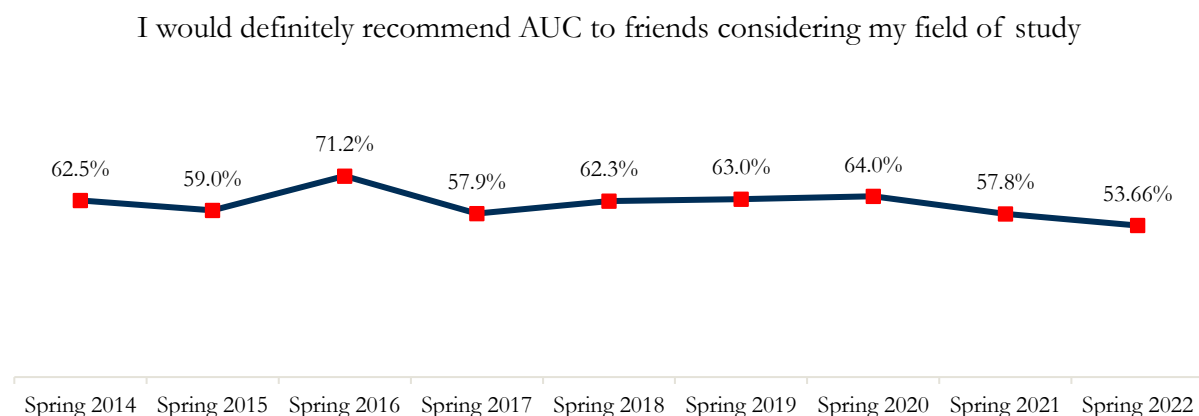


III. TRENDS ON KEY METRICS

OVERALL GRADUATE STUDENT SATISFACTION⁸



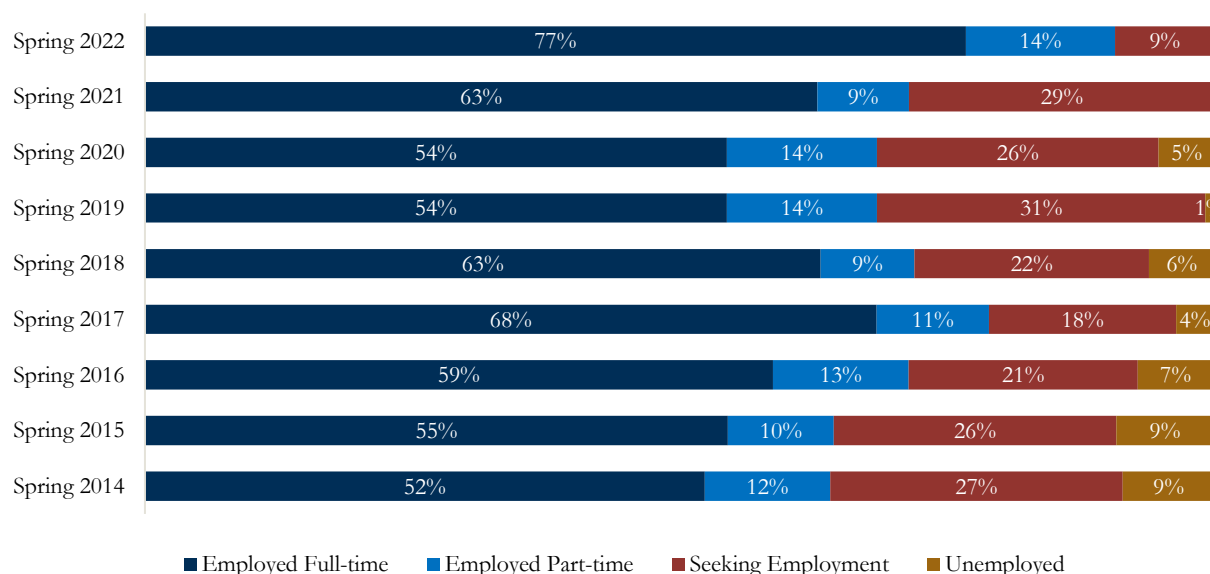
POTENTIAL OF AUC RECOMMENDATION



⁸ Reported on an overall weighted average on a scale from 1 – 5: 5-Very satisfied, 4-Satisfied, 3-Neutral, 2-Dissatisfied, 1-Very dissatisfied

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Trend in Student Employment Status (%)



INTENT TO PURSUE PHDS

Trends in Intent to Pursue PhD (%)

