

Graduate Students Exit Survey- Fall 2017

Prepared by: Office of Data Analytics and Institutional Research
(DAIR)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Graduate Student Exit Survey is to assess opinions of graduate students about their experience at AUC. The Graduate Student Exit Survey was developed by the Office of Data Analytics and Institutional Research (DAIR) and the Office of Graduate Studies.

DAIR emailed the survey invitations to 287 graduate students on Jan 10th, 2018. The survey remained accessible until Feb 7th, 2018, and one email reminder was sent throughout this period. Upon closing the survey, **146** students had completed it, for a response rate of about 50%.

METHODOLOGY AND ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

This report consists of four parts:

Part I: General demographic information presented as frequencies and charts

Part II: Questions regarding graduate students' academic experience, in addition to the overall students' rating to some academic aspects presented as frequencies and charts

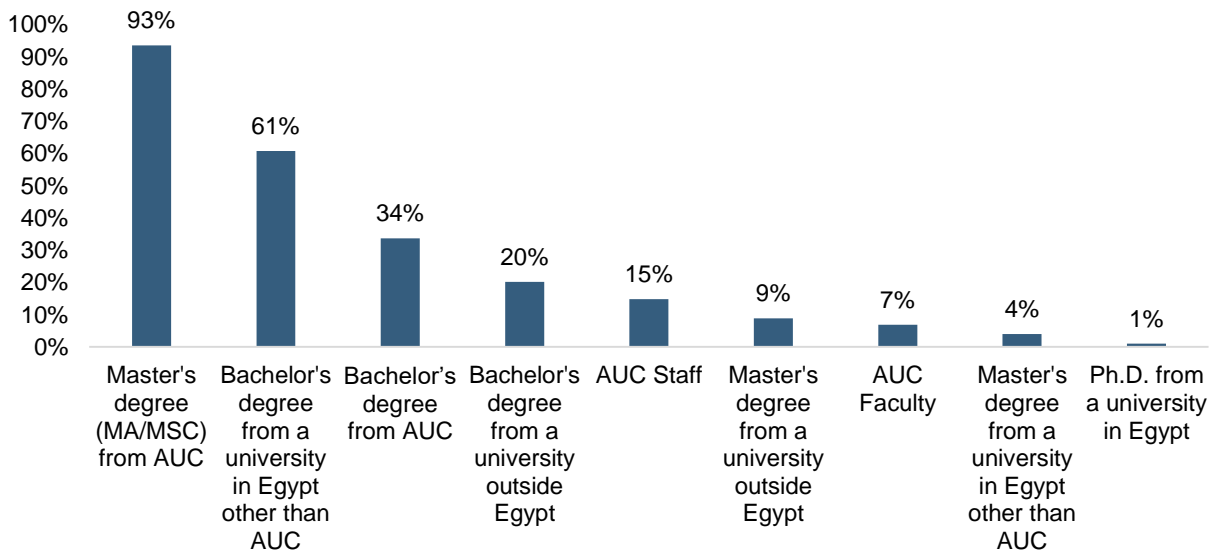
Part III: Questions regarding graduate students' rating of their experiences and provided support services presented as frequencies and charts

Part IV: Overall student satisfaction

PART I: GENERAL DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Q1: Please identify yourself.

Answer Choices	Responses	Count
AUC Staff	14.81%	16
AUC Faculty	6.86%	7
Bachelor's degree from AUC	33.64%	37
Bachelor's degree from a university in Egypt other than AUC	60.71%	68
Bachelor's degree from a university outside Egypt	20.20%	20
Master's degree (MA/MSc) from AUC	93.48%	129
Master's degree from a university in Egypt other than AUC	4.00%	4
Master's degree from a university outside Egypt	8.91%	9
Ph.D. from a university in Egypt	1.03%	1
Ph.D. from a university outside Egypt	0.00%	0
If you are not AUC Alumni, please specify the name and the location of your Undergraduate Institution:		69
Answered		146
Skipped		0

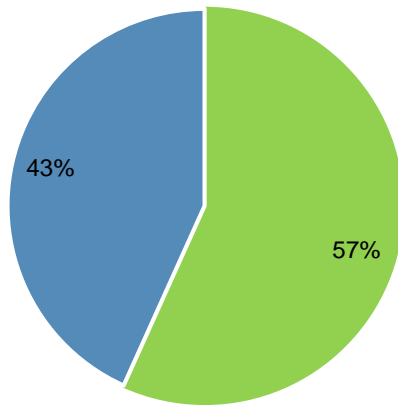


If you are not AUC Alumni, please specify the name and the location of your Undergraduate Institution:

Undergraduate Institution	Number of Responses
Cairo University	19
Ain Shams University	9
German University in Cairo (GUC)	5
Misr International University (MIU)	5
Alexandria University	2
British University in Egypt (BUE)	2
Helwan University	2
Al Azhar University in Palestine	1
Assiut University	1
Banha University	1
California State University, Northridge	1
Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands	1
Zagazig University	1
Higher Technological Institute, 10th of Ramadan	1
Khalifa University – UAE	1
King Abdel Aziz University- KSA	1
Military Technical college	1
MSA	1
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL	1
Ohio State University	1
Oxford, UK	1
Police Academy	1
Qatar University	1
Rutgers University, NJ, USA	1
The American University of Beirut	1
The Arab Open University	1
University of Technology Petronas- Malaysia	1
University of Maine, USA	1
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada	1
The University of Tokyo (Tokyo, JAPAN)	1
University of Vienna, Austria	1
University of Maiduguri, Nigeria	1
Total	69

Q2: Please check what is applicable for you:

Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Full-time student - 3 courses per semester	56.74%	80
Part-time student - less than 3 courses per semester	43.26%	61
Answered		141
Skipped		5

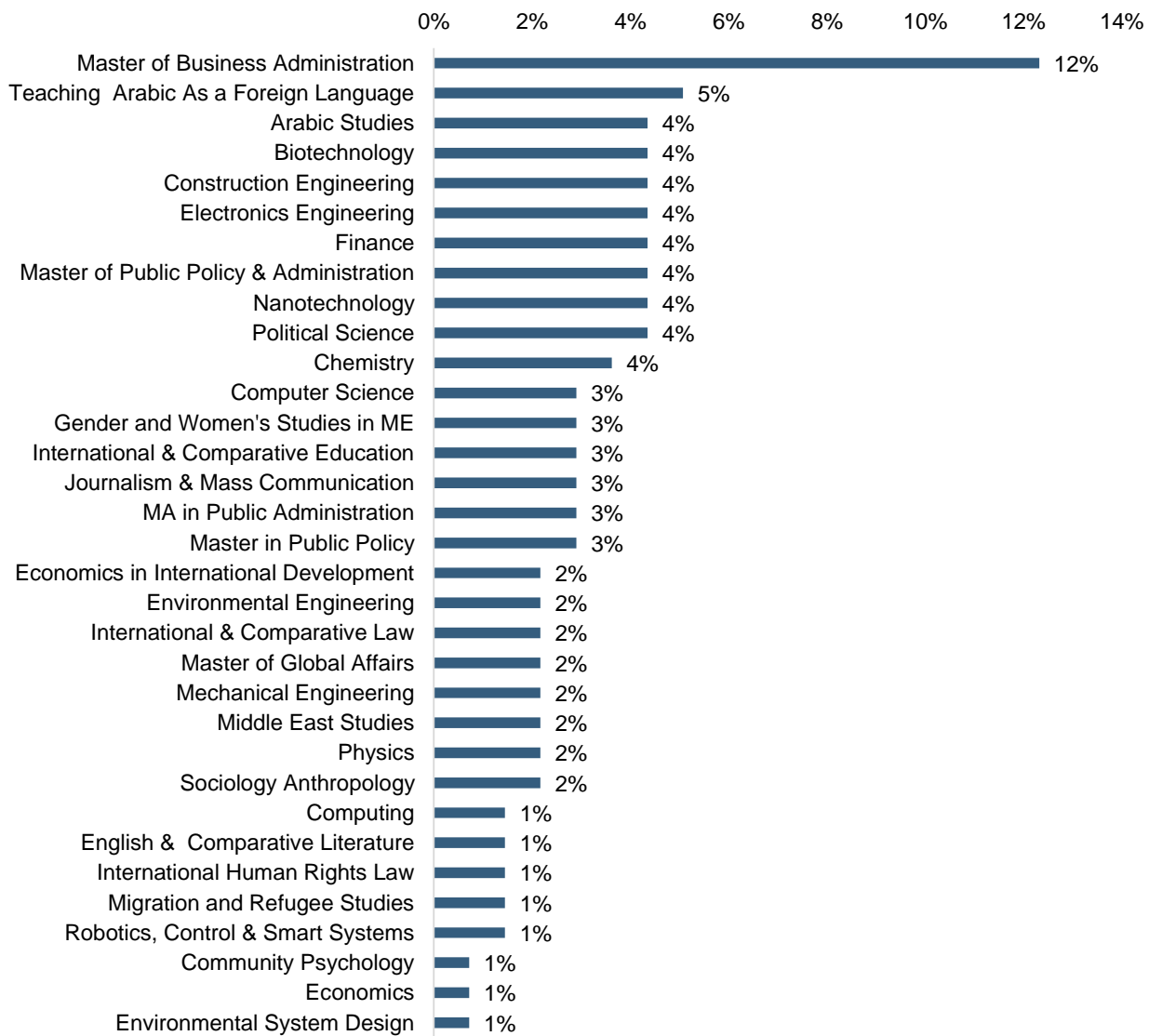


■ Full-time student - 3 courses per semester
 ■ Part-time student - less than 3 courses per semester

Q3: Primary Academic Program.

Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Arabic Studies	4.35%	6
Biotechnology	4.35%	6
Chemistry	3.62%	5
Community Psychology	0.72%	1
Computer Science	2.90%	4
Computing	1.45%	2
Construction Engineering	4.35%	6
Economics	0.72%	1
Economics in International Development	2.17%	3
Electronics Engineering	4.35%	6
English & Comparative Literature	1.45%	2
Environmental Engineering	2.17%	3
Environmental System Design	0.72%	1
Finance	4.35%	6
Gender and Women's Studies in ME	2.90%	4
International & Comparative Education	2.90%	4
International & Comparative Law	2.17%	3
International Human Rights Law	1.45%	2
Journalism & Mass Communication	2.90%	4
MA in Public Administration	2.90%	4
Master in Public Policy	2.90%	4
Master of Business Administration	12.32%	17
Master of Global Affairs	2.17%	3
Master of Public Policy & Administration	4.35%	6
Mechanical Engineering	2.17%	3
Middle East Studies	2.17%	3
Migration and Refugee Studies	1.45%	2
Nanotechnology	4.35%	6

Physics	2.17%	3
Political Science	4.35%	6
Robotics, Control & Smart Systems	1.45%	2
Sociology Anthropology	2.17%	3
Teaching Arabic As a Foreign Language	5.07%	7
Answered		138
Skipped		8

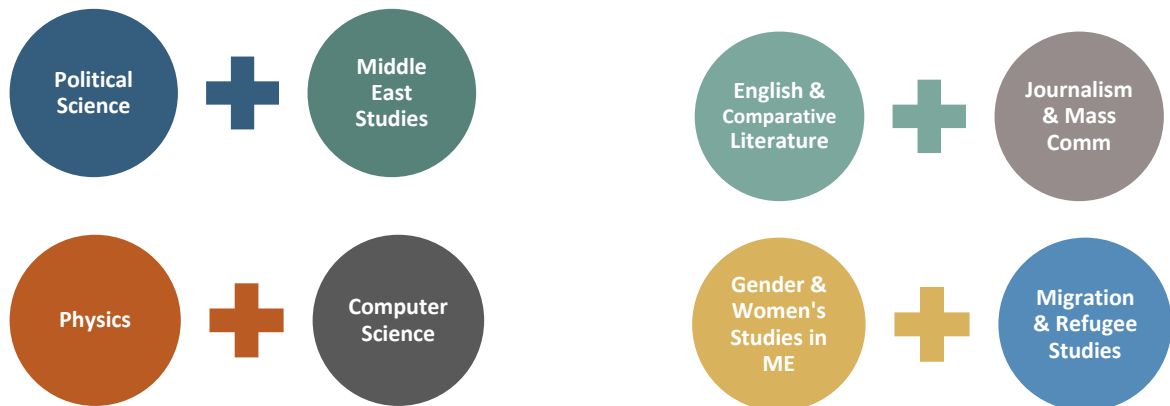


Q4: If you are in a dual degree, kindly specify second academic program at AUC.

Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Community Psychology	12.5%	1
Computer Science	12.5%	1
Gender and Women's Studies in ME	12.5%	1
International & Comparative Law	12.5%	1
Journalism & Mass Communication	12.5%	1
Master of Business Administration	12.5%	1
Middle East Studies	12.5%	1
Migration and Refugee Studies	12.5%	1
Answered		8
Skipped		138

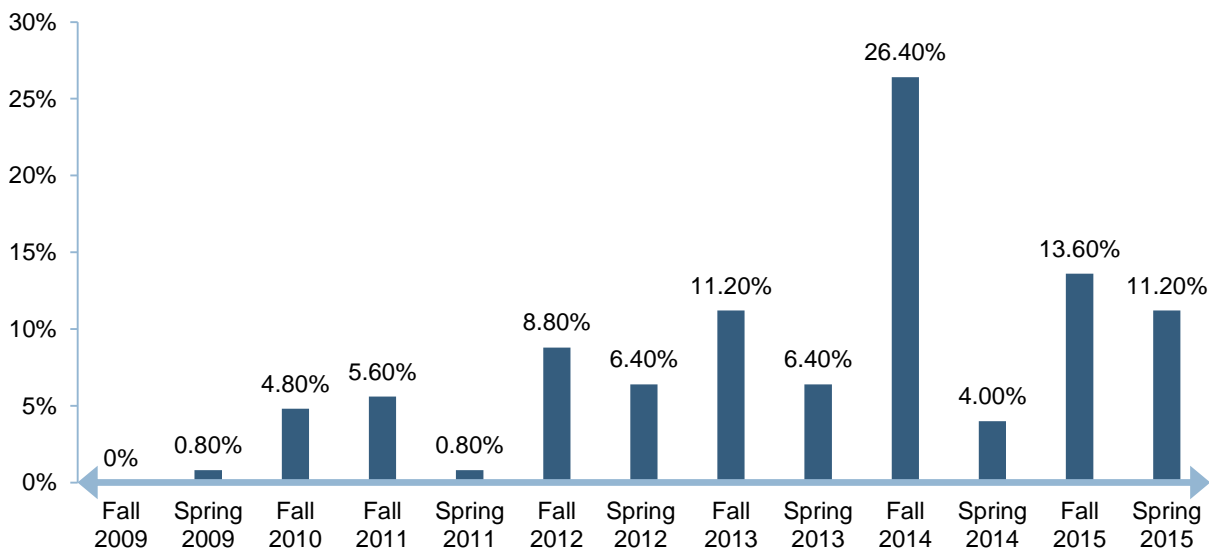
- 8 students reported that they are enrolled in a secondary program, three of which reported their secondary program the same as the primary program. (Highlighted below)
- One mentioned only “Community Psychology” as the secondary program. (Highlighted below)
- Reported dual degrees for the 8 students were as follows:

Primary Program	Secondary Program
Gender and Women's Studies in ME	Gender and Women's Studies in ME
Master of Business Administration	Master of Business Administration
International & Comparative Law	International & Comparative Law
Not mentioned	Community Psychology
Political Science	Middle East Studies
English & Comparative Literature	Journalism & Mass Communication
Physics	Computer Science
Gender and Women's Studies in ME	Migration and Refugee Studies



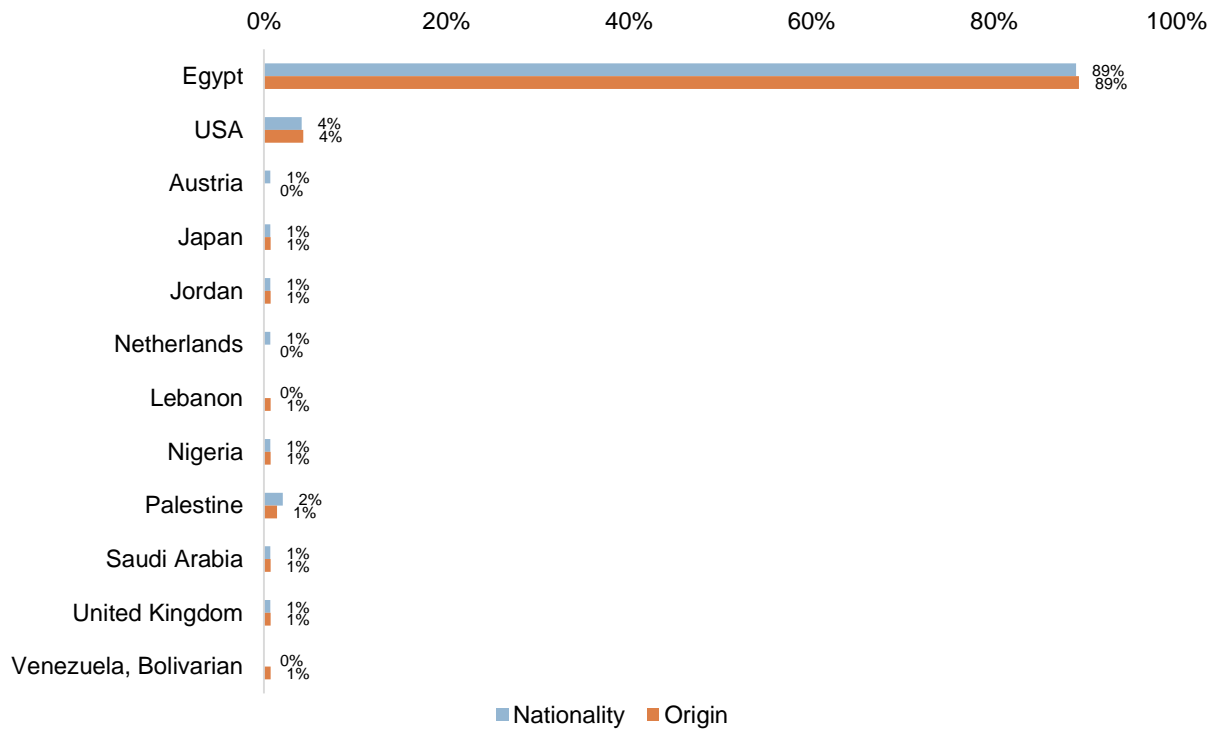
Q5: Year and semester you enrolled as a Graduate Student at AUC:

Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Fall 2009	0%	0
Spring 2009	0.80%	1
Fall 2010	4.80%	6
Fall 2011	5.60%	7
Spring 2011	0.80%	1
Fall 2012	8.80%	11
Spring 2012	6.40%	8
Fall 2013	11.20%	14
Spring 2013	6.40%	8
Fall 2014	26.40%	33
Spring 2014	4.00%	5
Fall 2015	13.60%	17
Spring 2015	11.20%	14
Answered		125
Skipped		21



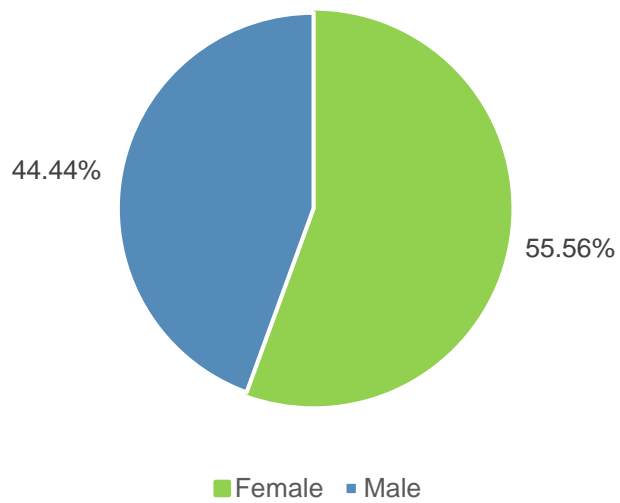
Q6: Nationality and country of origin:

Answer Choices	Nationality	Country of Origin
Egypt	89%	89%
United States of America	4%	4%
Austria	1%	0%
Japan	1%	1%
Jordan	1%	1%
Netherlands	1%	0%
Lebanon	0%	1%
Nigeria	1%	1%
Palestine	2%	1%
Saudi Arabia	1%	1%
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1%	1%
Venezuela, Bolivarian	0%	1%
Answered		145
Skipped		1



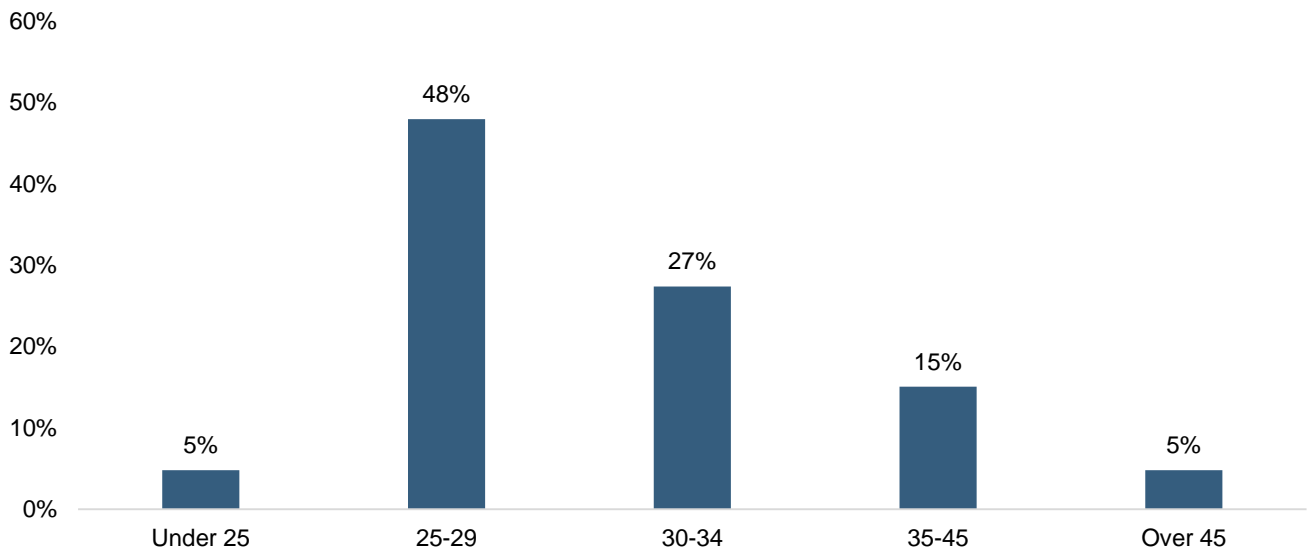
Q7- Gender:

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Male	44.44%	64
Female	55.56%	80
Answered		144
Skipped		2



Q8: Age:

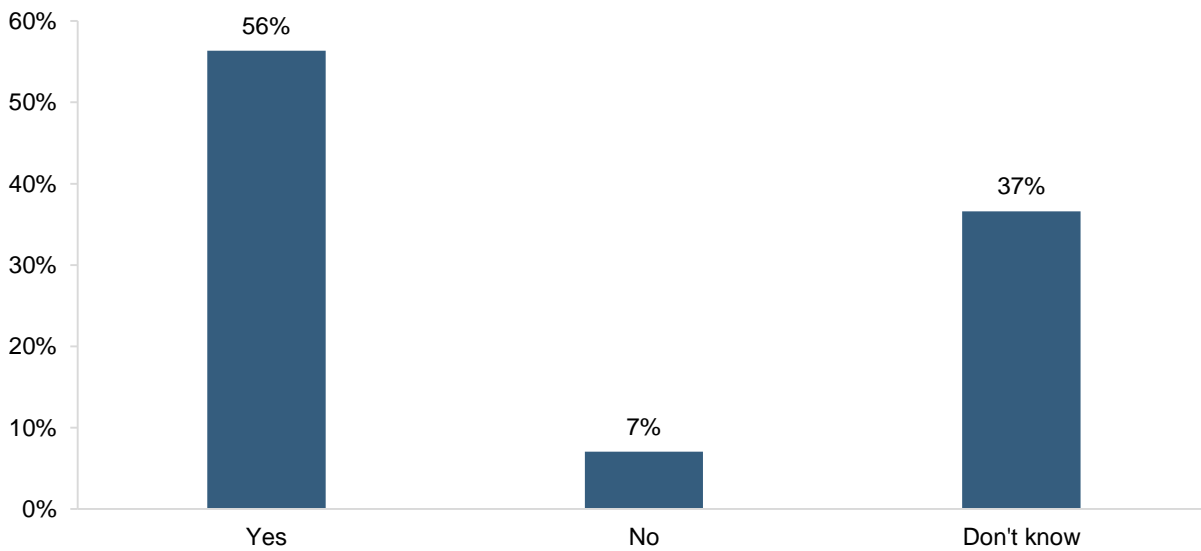
Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Under 25	4.79%	7
25-29	47.95%	70
30- 34	27.40%	40
35-45	15.07%	22
Over 45	4.79%	7
Answered		146
Skipped		0



FUTURE ACADEMIC CAREER PLANS

Q9: For MA/MS students: do you intend to pursue a Ph.D. degree?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	56.34%	80
No	7.04%	10
Don't Know	36.62%	52
Answered		142
Skipped		4



If your answer is "Yes", which institution(s) and PhD program(s) you wish to join?

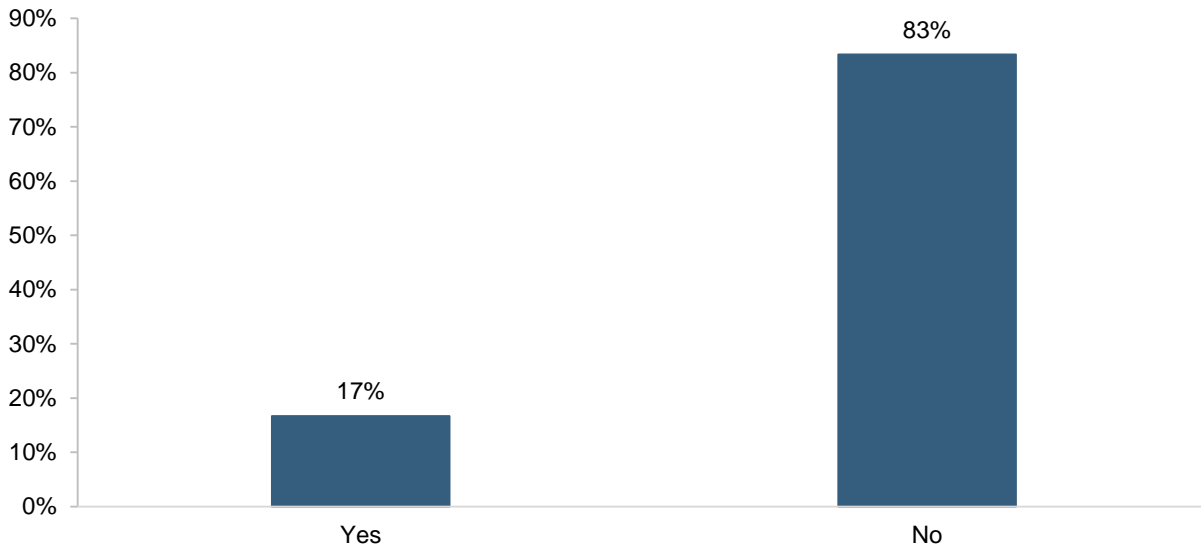
#	Institution	Program
1	Abroad	Not mentioned
2	Zewail City	Biomedical Science program
3	University of New York at Buffalo	Not mentioned
4	Canada	PhD in financial mathematics
5	USA	Not mentioned
6	Not mentioned	Science and Engineering - Biomedical
7	GWST	Not mentioned
8	AUC	Electronics and Communications Engineering

#	Institution	Program
9	Not mentioned	Sustainable Development
10	Not mentioned	PhD in economics
11	Abroad	Material Science/ Electrical and electronics engineering
12	Europe	International Law or politics programs
13	UBC, Carnegie Mellon, MIT	Not mentioned
14	USA/ Europe	Political Science and Development Studies
15	Canada/ Europe	PhD in socio-legal studies, sociology of law, and Middle East studies
16	AUC	Construction Engineering
17	Not mentioned	Environmental Engineering
18	Undecided	Educational Leadership or International and Comparative Education.
19	AUC	
20	I'm applying to several universities: California Institute of Technology - Electrical Engineering MIT - Electrical Engineering University of California San Diego - Electrical Engineering University of Illinois - Electrical Engineering University of Toronto - Biomedical Engineering University of British Columbia - Electrical Engineering Waterloo University - Electrical Engineering	
21	Not mentioned	Electronics Engineering
22	Not mentioned	Environmental
23	Harvard, Mac gill, Paris Dauphine, HEC	Not mentioned
24	Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada	PhD in Geography
25	Not mentioned	Information Management Systems
26	AUC, Europe	Biotechnology Program
27	Not mentioned	PhD in Higher Education
28	Undecided	Public Policy
29	Not mentioned	Construction engineering
30	Cambridge	degree in Education
31	University of Manchester, UK	Middle eastern studies

#	Institution	Program
32	Leiden University	Not mentioned
33	University of California, Irvine	Not mentioned
34	UCF - Teesside university - Texas A&M	Nanotechnology/Petroleum engineering/Environmental engineering science
35	Not mentioned	Arabic Literature or Applied Linguistics
36	AUC	Undecided
37	Not mentioned	Mechanical Engineering
38	London School of Economics	PhD in Economics
39	USA	Not mentioned
40	University of Cambridge	PhD in Development Studies
41	The University of California, Riverside	Not mentioned
42	AUC	ph.D. degree of Computer Science
43	Columbia University	Anthropology PhD programs
44	Undecided	Undecided
45	San Francisco State University, or Widener University, or California Institute for Integral Sciences. All are US based institutions	PhD program: Human Sexuality
46	Undecided	Journalism and mass communication,
47	AUC	Ph.D. in Chemistry Department
48	London School of Economics or Europe	Sociology PhD program
49	Undecided	Environmental Engineering
50	Universities in the US.	Arabic Literature Program
51	Not mentioned	DBA
52	Not mentioned	Construction Engineering
53	University of California	Not mentioned
54	USA or Canada	Electrical Engineering or a Nano Engineering PhD program
55	Harvard, MIT	Not mentioned
56	University of Texas at Austin,	middle eastern studies languages and cultures.
57	AUC	Program : Educational psychology
Undecided Yet		18 respondents

Q10: Are you enrolled in AUC's PhD Program?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	16.67%	4
No	83.33%	20
Answered		24
Skipped		122



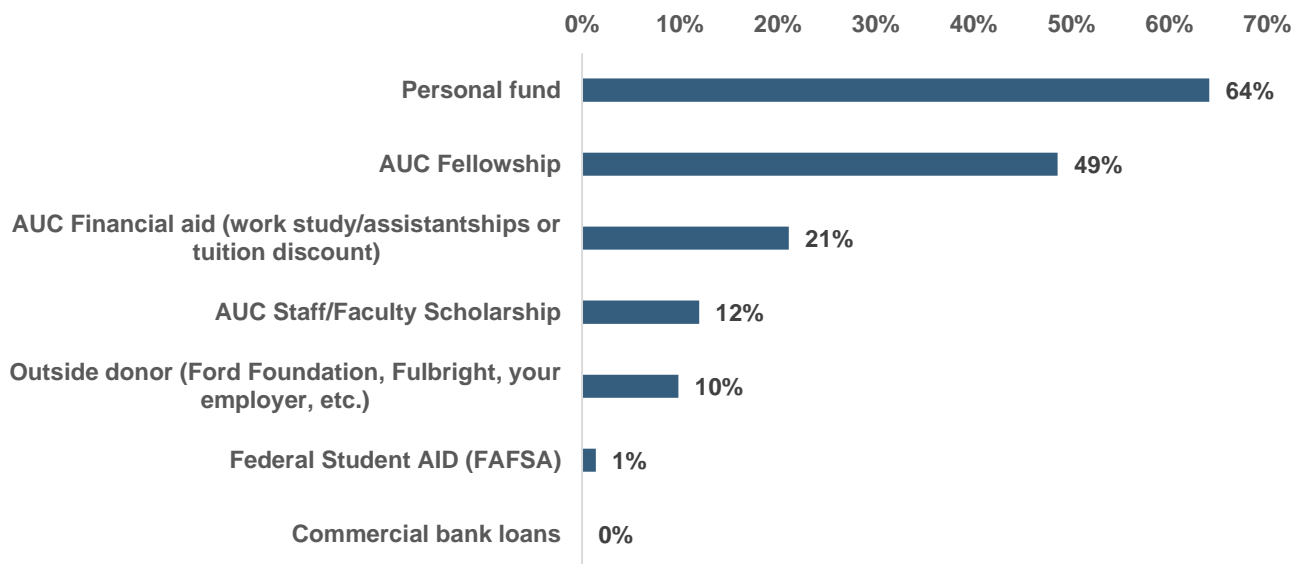
If "Yes", how many years did it take for you to get your PhD:

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
3 years	25%	1
5 years	25%	1
6 years	50%	2
Answered		4

AUC TUITION COVERAGE

Q11: How did you cover the cost of your tuition at AUC? Check all that apply.

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Personal fund	64.08%	91
AUC Financial aid (work study/assistantships or tuition discount)	21.13%	30
AUC Fellowship	48.59%	69
AUC Staff/Faculty Scholarship	11.97%	17
Outside donor (Ford Foundation, Fulbright, your employer, etc.)	9.86%	14
Commercial bank loans	0.00%	0
Federal Student AID (FAFSA)	1.41%	2
Other (please specify)		11
Answered		142
Skipped		4



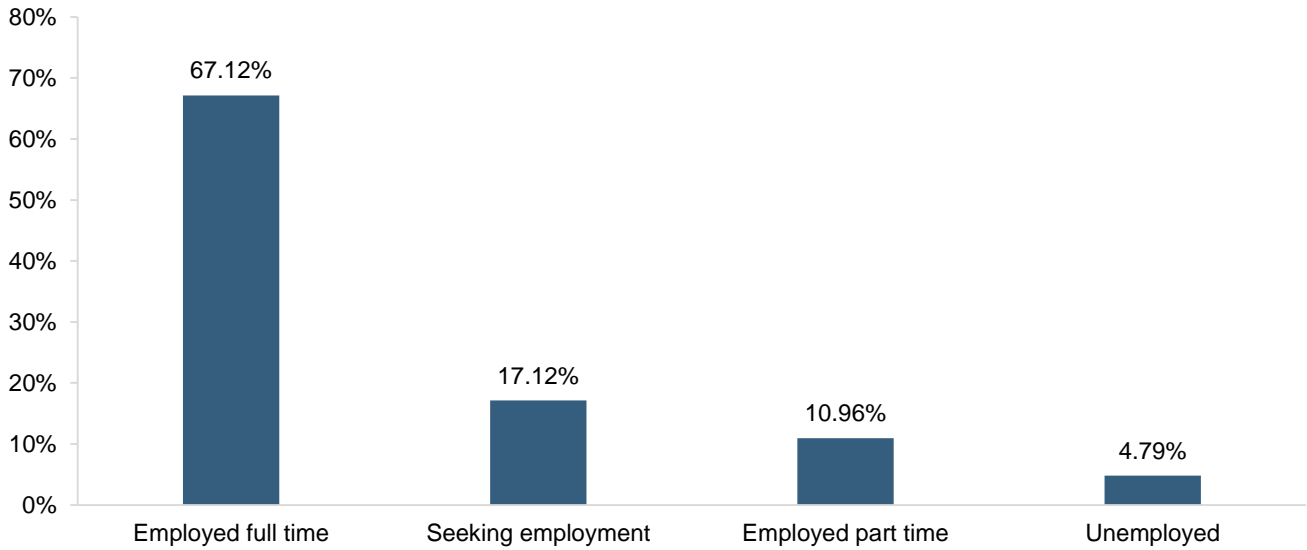
Others:

#	Response
1	Dutch student loan
2	Plus corporate fund
3	Company sponsored
4	Yousef Jameel Fellowship
5	Engaged Scholars
6	Alfi sustainable development
7	Sponsorship from my current employer
8	Company support plus personal fees
9	Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund
10	My Salary
11	Tarek Juffali Fellowship, Sustainable Development SASAKAWA

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

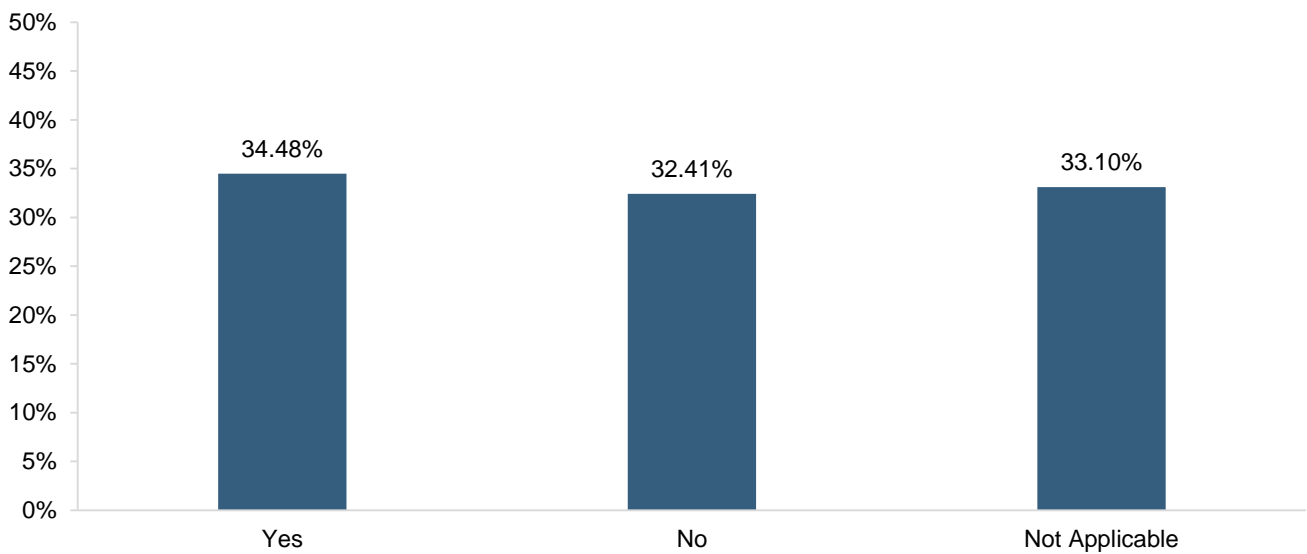
Q13: Indicate your current status:

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Employed full time	67.12%	98
Employed part time	10.96%	16
Seeking employment	17.12%	25
Unemployed	4.79%	7
Answered		146
Skipped		0



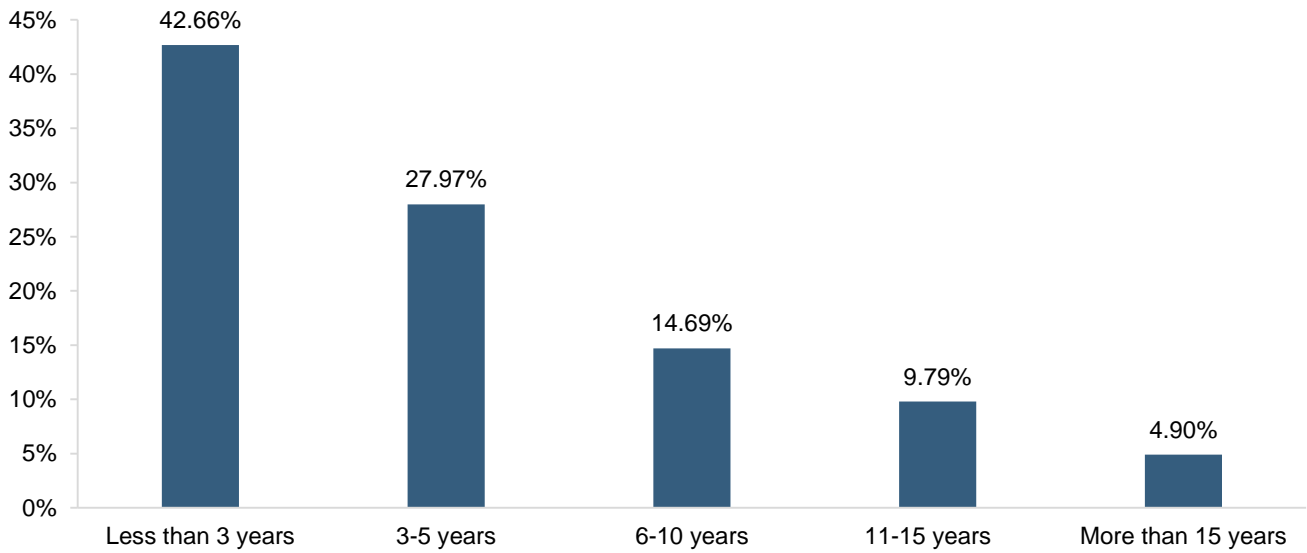
Q14: Has your AUC graduate degree had a positive impact on your salary?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	34.48%	50
No	32.41%	47
Not Applicable	33.10%	48
Answered		145
Skipped		1



Q15: How much work experience did you have when you started your graduate program?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Less than 3 Years	42.66%	61
3- 5 Years	27.97%	40
6- 10 Years	14.69%	21
11- 15 Years	9.79%	14
More than 15 Years	4.90%	7
Answered		143
Skipped		3



PART II: ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE WITH WRITING A THESIS

Q16: Is writing a thesis part of your degree program requirements?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Yes	82.96%	112
No	17.04%	23
Answered		135
Skipped		11

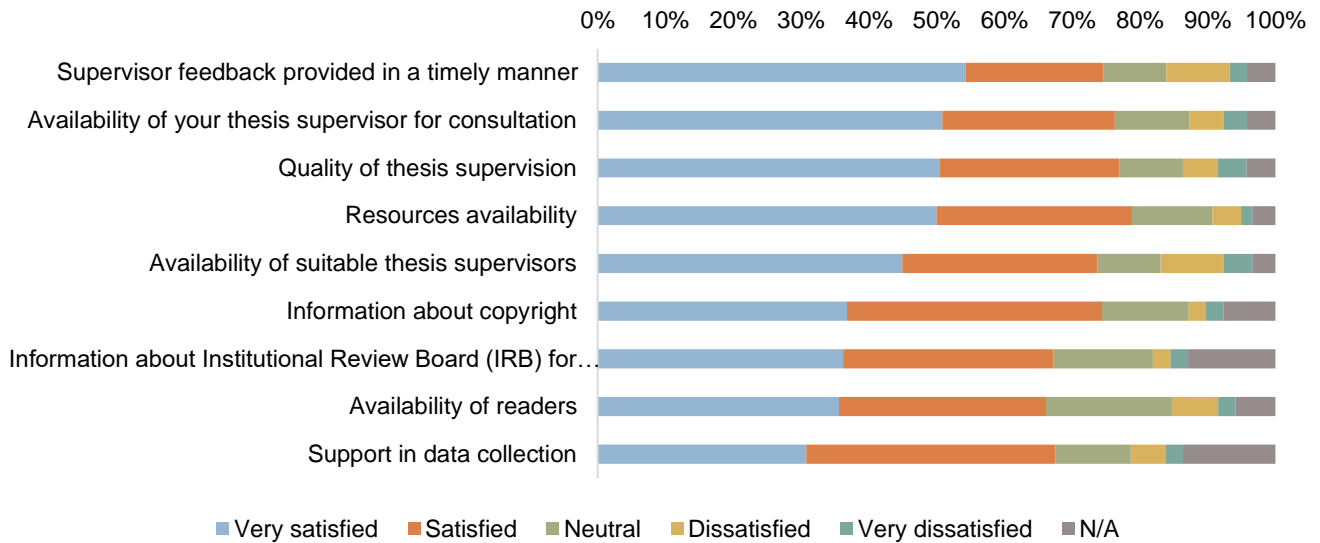


Q17: If your answer in the previous question is "Yes', please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following:

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A	Total	Weighted average						
Availability of suitable thesis supervisors	45%	53	29%	34	9%	11	9%	11	4%	5	3%	4	118	4.04
Availability of your thesis supervisor for consultation	51%	60	25%	30	11%	13	5%	6	3%	4	4%	5	118	4.2
Availability of readers	36%	42	31%	36	19%	22	7%	8	3%	3	6%	7	118	3.95
Quality of thesis supervision	50%	59	27%	31	9%	11	5%	6	4%	5	4%	5	117	4.19
Supervisor feedback provided in a timely manner	54%	64	20%	24	9%	11	9%	11	3%	3	4%	5	118	4.19
Resources availability	50%	59	29%	34	12%	14	4%	5	2%	2	3%	4	118	4.25

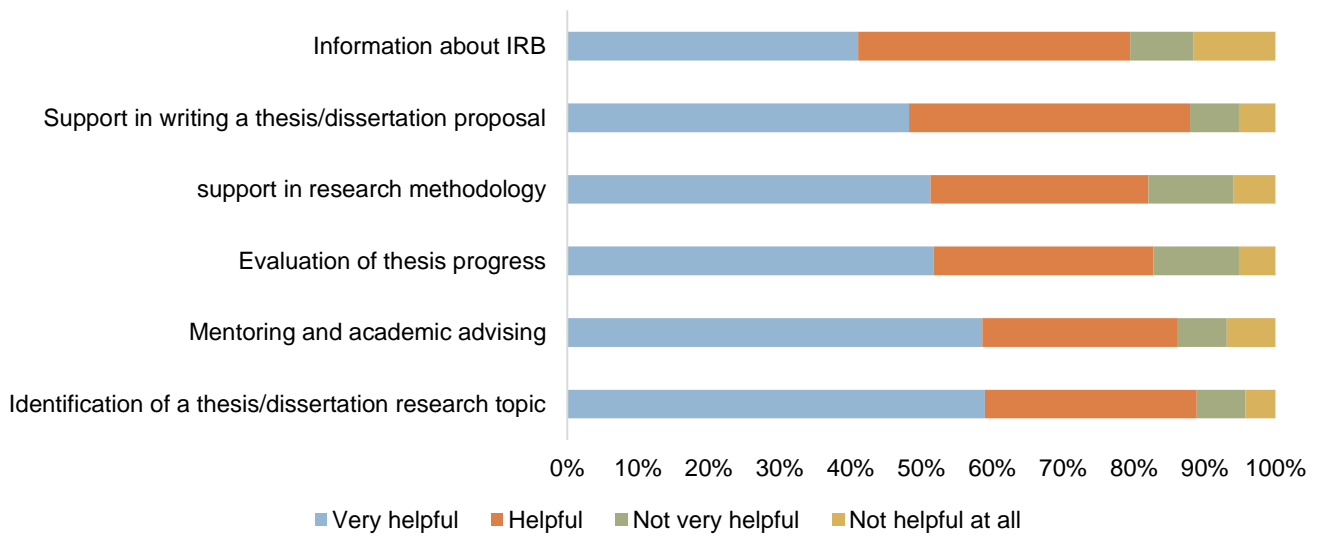
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	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A	Total	Weighted average						
Support in data collection	31%	36	37%	43	11%	13	5%	6	3%	3	14%	16	117	4.02
Information about copyright	37%	43	38%	44	13%	15	3%	3	3%	3	8%	9	117	4.12
Information about Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the Protection of Human subjects requirements	36%	42	31%	36	15%	17	3%	3	3%	3	13%	15	116	4.1
Answered													118	
Skipped													28	



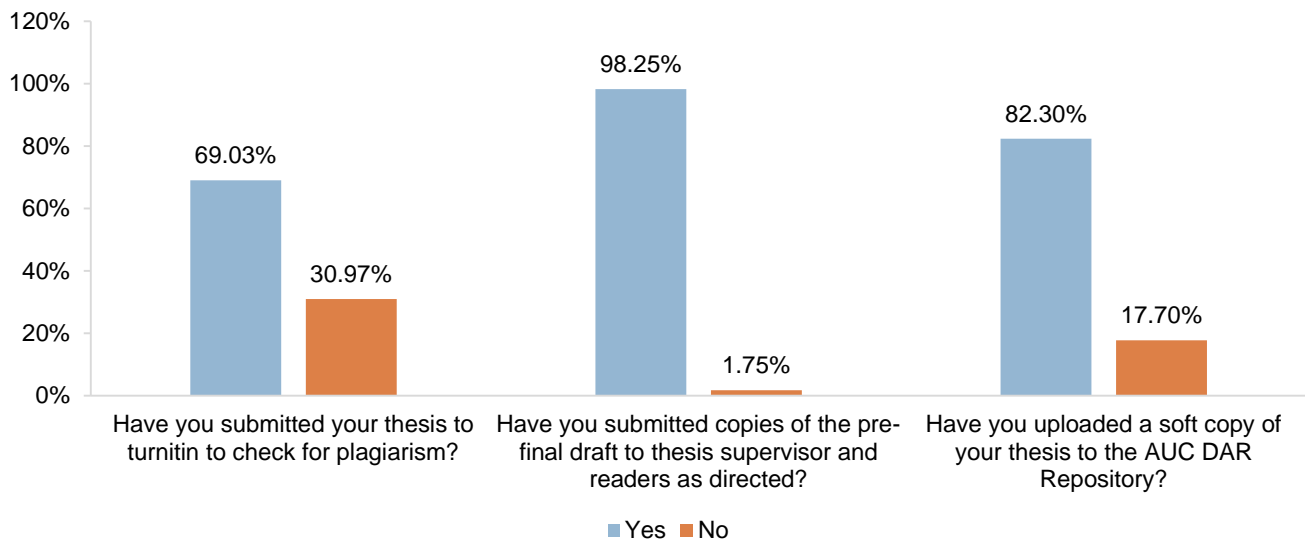
Q18: How helpful was/were your supervisor(s) for each of the following activities?

	Very Helpful		Helpful		Not Very Helpful		Not Helpful at all		Total	Weighted average
Identification of a thesis/dissertation research topic	59%	69	30%	35	7%	8	4%	5	117	3.44
Support in writing a thesis/dissertation proposal	48%	56	40%	46	7%	8	5%	6	116	3.31
support in research methodology	51%	60	31%	36	12%	14	6%	7	117	3.27
Evaluation of thesis progress	52%	60	31%	36	12%	14	5%	6	116	3.29
Mentoring and academic advising	59%	68	28%	32	7%	8	7%	8	116	3.38
Information about IRB	41%	46	38%	43	9%	10	12%	13	112	3.09
Answered										117
Skipped										29



Q19: How helpful was/were your supervisor(s) for each of the following activities?

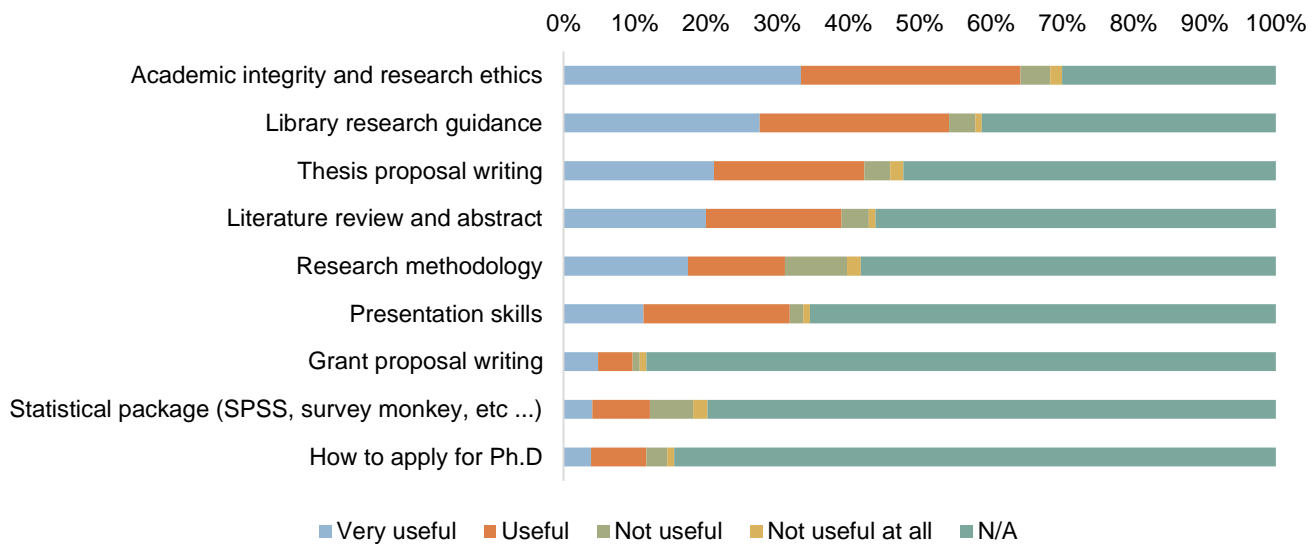
Answer Choices	Yes		No		Total
	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	
Have you submitted your thesis to turnitin to check for plagiarism?	69.03%	78	30.97%	35	113
Have you submitted copies of the pre-final draft to thesis supervisor and readers as directed?	98.25%	112	1.75%	2	114
Have you uploaded a soft copy of your thesis to the AUC DAR Repository?	82.30%	93	17.70%	20	113
Answered					114
Skipped					32



OVERALL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Q20: If you attended any of the following workshops, please indicate the level of usefulness:

	Very Useful		Useful		Not Useful		Not Useful at all		N/A		Total	Weighted average
Academic integrity and research ethics	33%	40	31%	37	4%	5	2%	2	30%	36	120	3.37
Presentation skills	11%	12	21%	22	2%	2	1%	1	65%	70	107	3.22
Thesis proposal writing	21%	23	21%	23	4%	4	2%	2	52%	57	109	3.29
Research methodology	17%	18	14%	14	9%	9	2%	2	58%	60	103	3.12
Literature review and abstract	20%	21	19%	20	4%	4	1%	1	56%	59	105	3.33
Library research guidance	28%	30	27%	29	4%	4	1%	1	41%	45	109	3.38
Statistical package (SPSS, survey monkey, etc ...)	4%	4	8%	8	6%	6	2%	2	80%	79	99	2.7
How to apply for Ph.D	4%	4	8%	8	3%	3	1%	1	84%	87	103	2.94
Grant proposal writing	5%	5	5%	5	1%	1	1%	1	88%	91	103	3.17
Answered												124
Skipped												22

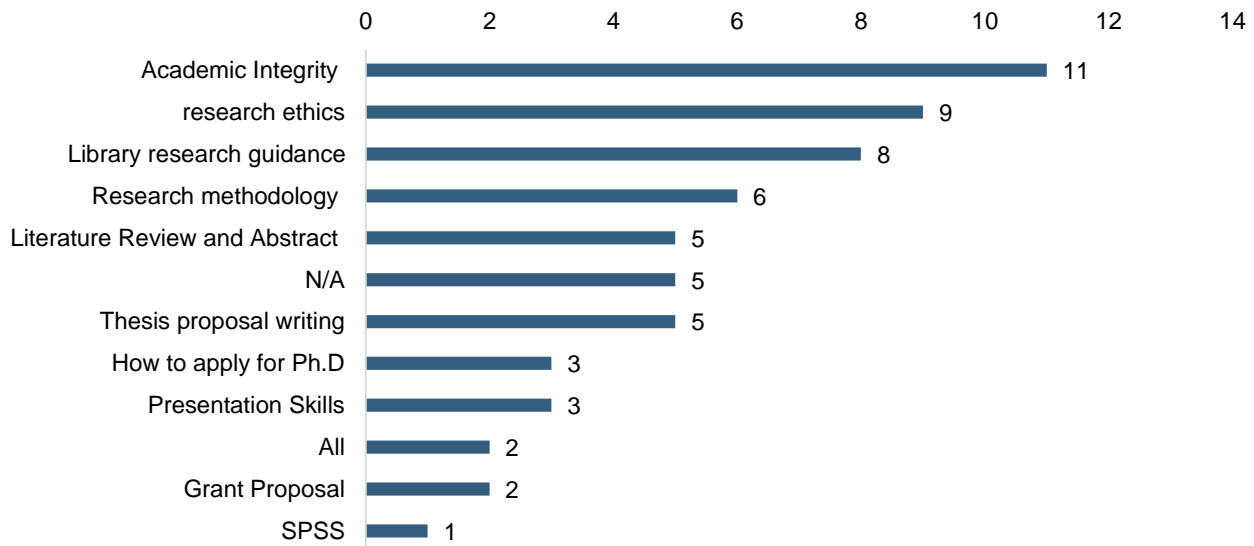


Which of these workshops would you recommend to your fellow colleagues as the most useful?

#	Response	Count
1	Academic Integrity	11
2	Research ethics	9
3	Library research guidance	8
4	Research methodology	6
5	Literature Review and Abstract	5
6	N/A	5
7	Thesis proposal writing	5
8	How to apply for Ph.D	3
9	Presentation Skills	3
10	All	2
11	Grant Proposal	2
12	SPSS	1

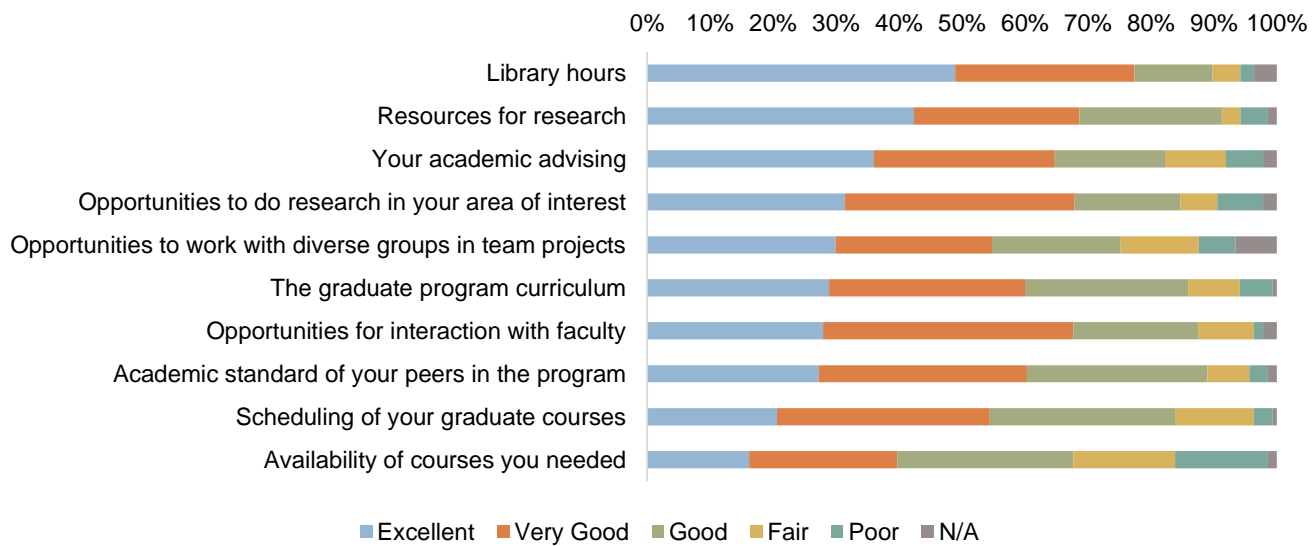
N.B Two students mentioned that the Research Methodology workshop is catastrophic and needs a lot of emphasis

Recommended Workshops for fellow colleagues



Q21: Please rate the quality of each of the following:

	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Fair		Poor		N/A		Total	Weight average
Your academic advising	36%	49	29%	39	18%	24	10%	13	6%	8	2%	3	136	36%
The graduate program curriculum	29%	39	31%	42	26%	35	8%	11	5%	7	1%	1	135	29%
Opportunities for interaction with faculty	28%	38	40%	54	20%	27	9%	12	1%	2	2%	3	136	28%
Opportunities to work with diverse groups in team projects	30%	41	25%	34	20%	28	12%	17	6%	8	7%	9	137	30%
Opportunities to do research in your area of interest	31%	43	37%	50	17%	23	6%	8	7%	10	2%	3	137	31%
Availability of courses you needed	16%	22	24%	32	28%	38	16%	22	15%	20	1%	2	136	16%
Scheduling of your graduate courses	21%	28	34%	46	29%	40	13%	17	3%	4	1%	1	136	21%
Academic standard of your peers in the program	27%	37	33%	45	29%	39	7%	9	3%	4	1%	2	136	27%
Resources for research	42%	58	26%	36	23%	31	3%	4	4%	6	1%	2	137	42%
Library hours	49%	67	28%	39	12%	17	4%	6	2%	3	4%	5	137	49%
Answered													137	
Skipped														9



Q22: Please indicate the extent to which your graduate education at AUC is enhancing these skills.

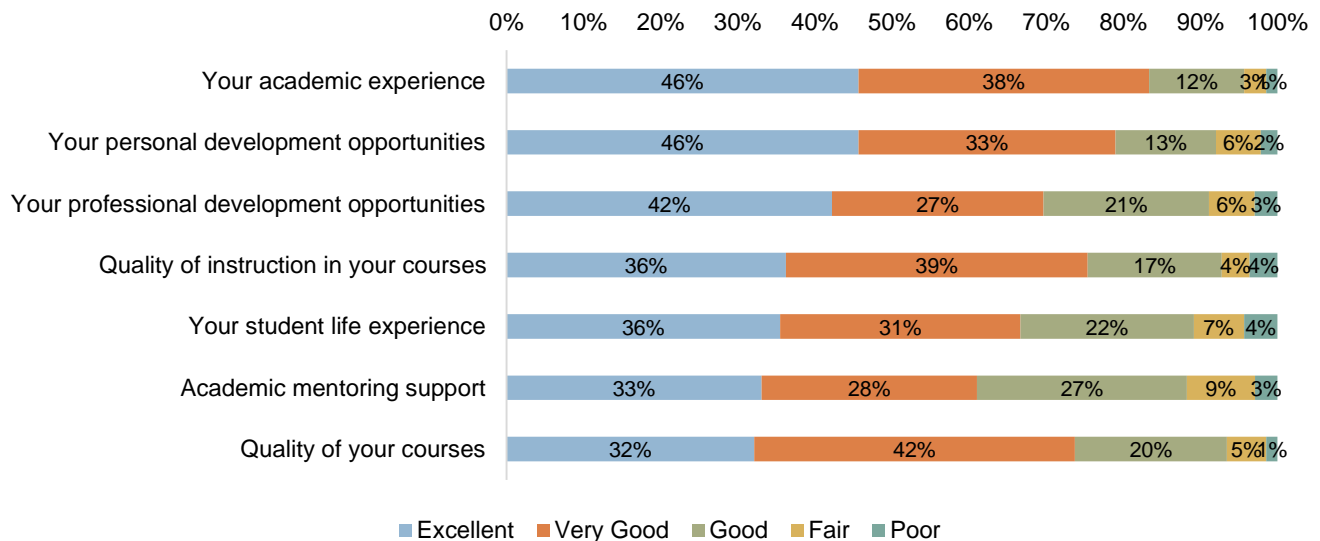
	To a great Extent		To some Extent		Not at all		Total	Weighted average
Become an expert in your field	50%	69	46%	64	4%	5	138	2.46
Be up to date with the latest research methods	55%	76	38%	53	7%	9	138	2.49
Write quality papers ready for publication	48%	66	47%	65	5%	7	138	2.43
Present research results to an audience of peers or at a conference	55%	75	39%	53	7%	9	137	2.48
Write grant proposals	22%	30	40%	53	38%	51	134	1.84
Supervise others	32%	43	48%	65	20%	27	135	2.12
Become a qualified teacher	40%	55	40%	55	20%	27	137	2.2
Collaborate with a team	53%	72	40%	54	7%	10	136	2.46
Become a team leader	47%	64	42%	57	10%	14	135	2.37
Understand the principles of ethical conduct in research	73%	100	23%	32	4%	5	137	2.69
Keep up with current advances in your field	58%	79	32%	44	10%	13	136	2.49
Answered								138
Skipped								8



PART III: STUDENTS RATING OF THEIR EXPERIENCE & PROVIDED SUPPORT SERVICES

Q23: Overall, as a graduate student at AUC, how would you rate the following?

	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	Weighted average
Your academic experience	46%	63	38%	52	12%	17	3%	4	1%	2	138	4.23
Your student life experience	36%	49	31%	43	22%	31	7%	9	4%	6	138	3.87
Your personal development opportunities	46%	63	33%	46	13%	18	6%	8	2%	3	138	4.14
Your professional development opportunities	42%	57	27%	37	21%	29	6%	8	3%	4	135	4
Quality of instruction in your courses	36%	50	39%	54	17%	24	4%	5	4%	5	138	4.01
Quality of your courses	32%	44	42%	57	20%	27	5%	7	1%	2	137	3.98
Academic mentoring support	33%	45	28%	38	27%	37	9%	12	3%	4	136	3.79
Answered											138	
Skipped											8	

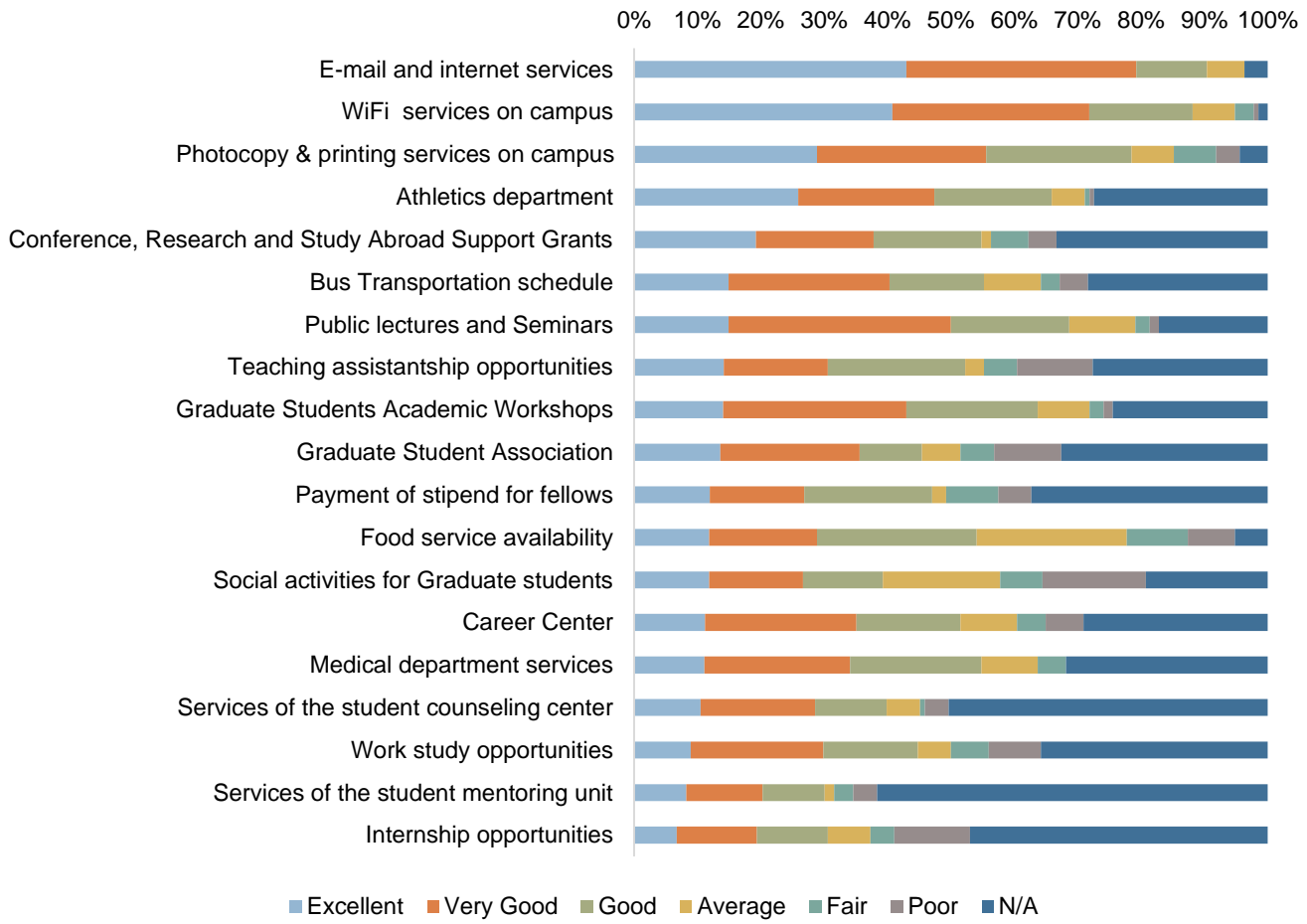


Q24: Please rate the quality of each of the following support services:

	Excellent		Very Good		Good		Fair		Poor		N/A		Total	Weight average
Graduate Students Academic Workshops	14%	19	29%	39	21%	28	8%	11	2%	3	1%	2	24%	33
Conference, Research and Study Abroad Support Grants	19%	26	19%	25	17%	23	1%	2	6%	8	4%	6	33%	45
Bus Transportation schedule	15%	20	25%	34	15%	20	9%	12	3%	4	4%	6	28%	38
Food service availability	12%	16	17%	23	25%	34	24%	32	10%	13	7%	10	5%	7
Medical department services	11%	15	23%	31	21%	28	9%	12	4%	6	0%	0	32%	43
Social activities for Graduate students	12%	16	15%	20	13%	17	19%	25	7%	9	16%	22	19%	26
Services of the student counseling center	11%	14	18%	24	11%	15	5%	7	1%	1	4%	5	50%	67
Services of the student mentoring unit	8%	11	12%	16	10%	13	2%	2	3%	4	4%	5	62%	82
Career Center	11%	15	24%	32	16%	22	9%	12	4%	6	6%	8	29%	39
Internship opportunities	7%	9	13%	17	11%	15	7%	9	4%	5	12%	16	47%	63
Teaching assistantship opportunities	14%	19	16%	22	22%	29	3%	4	5%	7	12%	16	28%	37
Work study opportunities	9%	12	21%	28	15%	20	5%	7	6%	8	8%	11	36%	48
E-mail and internet services	43%	58	36%	49	11%	15	6%	8	0%	0	0%	0	4%	5
WiFi services on campus	41%	55	31%	42	16%	22	7%	9	3%	4	1%	1	1%	2
Photocopy & printing services on campus	29%	39	27%	36	23%	31	7%	9	7%	9	4%	5	4%	6
Athletics department	26%	35	21%	29	19%	25	5%	7	1%	1	1%	1	27%	37

Graduate Students Exit Survey- Fall 2017

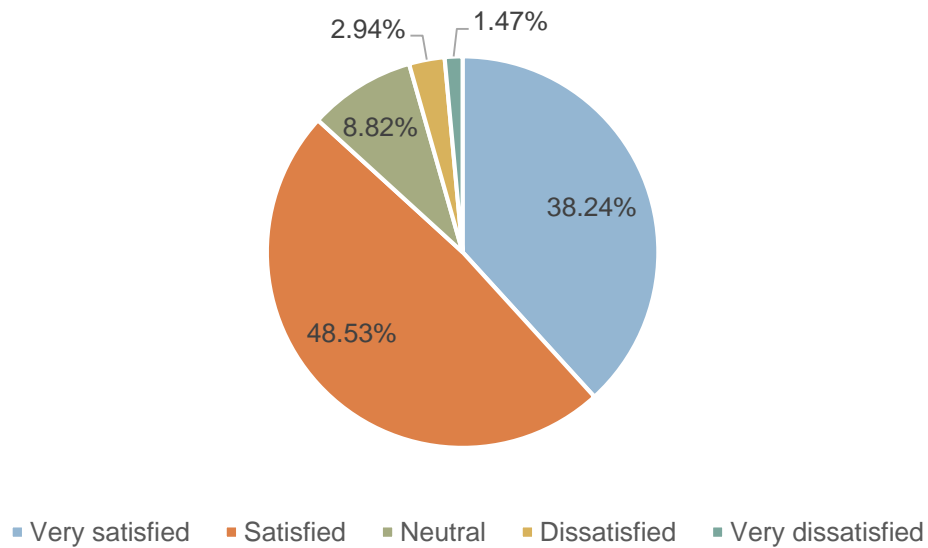
	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A	Total	Weight average						
Payment of stipend for fellows	12%	16	15%	20	20%	27	2%	3	8%	11	5%	7	37%	50
Public lectures and Seminars	15%	20	35%	47	19%	25	10%	14	2%	3	1%	2	17%	23
Graduate Student Association	14%	18	22%	29	10%	13	6%	8	5%	7	11%	14	33%	43
Answered													136	
Skipped													10	



PART IV: OVRALL STUDENTS SATISFACTION

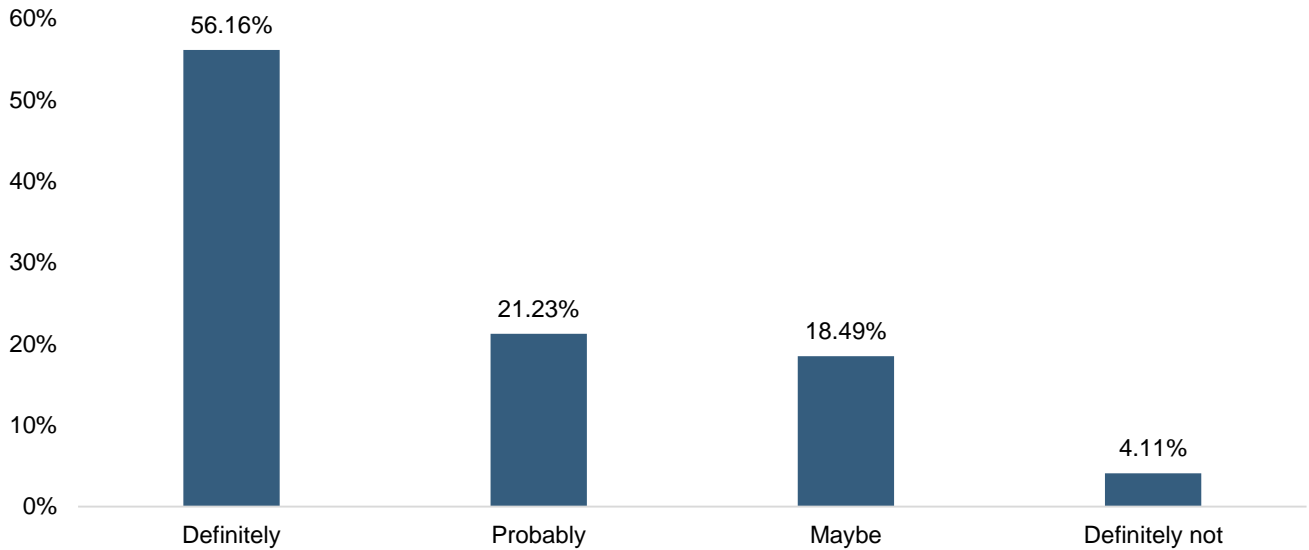
Q25: Overall, indicate your level of satisfaction as a graduate student at AUC.

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Very satisfied	38.24%	52
Satisfied	48.53%	66
Neutral	8.82%	12
Dissatisfied	2.94%	4
Very dissatisfied	1.47%	2
Answered		136
Skipped		10



Q12: Would you recommend AUC to a friend or colleague considering your field of study?

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Definitely	56.16%	82
Probably	21.23%	31
Maybe	18.49%	27
Definitely not	4.11%	6
Please elaborate:		48
Answered		146
Skipped		0



Please elaborate:

Answer Choices	Percentage	Count
Negative responses	45.8%	22
Positive responses	48%	23
Recommended with limitations	6.25%	3
Answered		48