



# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

## **Graduating Student Survey: 2021 Summer Semester**

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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### **Item Analysis**

## 1. Sample Demographics

The sample consisted of students who were graduating in Summer 2021. In total, 635 students graduated in Summer 2021. 204 students responded to the survey, indicating a 32% response rate.

**Table 1.1: Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	N	Percentage
African American	58	28
Asian American	6	3
Hispanic American	1	.5
Multiracial	3	1.5
Native American	1	.5
White	135	66
Total	204	100

**Table 1.2: Sex**

Sex	N	Percentage
Male	165	80.9
Female	38	18.6
Unavailable	1	.5
Total	204	100

## Analyses and Charts

Each item from the Graduating Student Survey will be presented below. The total number of respondents (represented by N) and percentage of response types for each option are included. N/A responses were excluded from the analyses, so some items will not represent the full count of respondents. Means (M) and standard deviations (SD) are included with appropriate items.

## 2. General Items about Participants

<i>Item - You are graduating:</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
On time	118	58
Earlier than I thought I would	18	9
Later than I thought I would	66	33
Total	202	100

<i>Item - For this degree, what was your status when you entered USA?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
First-Time College Student	56	30
Transfer Student	87	46
Returning USA Student	47	25
Total	190	100

<i>Item - How many hours a week do you work for pay (on &amp; off campus)?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
0	50	25
0 to 10	20	10
11 to 20	31	15
21 to 30	20	10
More than 30 hours	80	40
Total	201	100

<i>Item - While attending USA, on average, you were a:</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Full-time undergraduate student - I took 12 or more hours per semester.	98	49
Part-time undergraduate student - I took less than 12 hours per semester.	11	6
Full-time graduate student - I took 6 or more hours per semester.	83	42
Part-time graduate student - I took less than 6 hours per semester.	8	4
Total	200	100

### 3. Employment Plans After Graduation

Item	N	Yes	No
Are you currently employed?	199	67	33

Item - After graduation, which of the following will be your primary activity related to employment?	N	Percentage
Stay in my current job.	63	32
Start a new job.	79	40
Look for a job.	45	23
Serve in the Armed Forces.	2	1
Other	10	5
Total	199	100

Item	N	Yes	No	Somewhat
If currently employed, did your major or field of study prepare you for your current position?	129	63	14	23

Item - If currently employed, would you say you are:	N	Percentage
Not at all satisfied with my current position.	14	11
Somewhat satisfied with my current position.	40	31
Satisfied with my current position.	46	36
Very satisfied with my current position	29	23
Total	129	100

Item - If starting a new job after graduation, serving in the Armed forces, or serving in an international volunteer organization, what is your start date?	N	Percentage
Within the first month after graduation	41	54
Two to three months after graduation	21	28
Four to six months after graduation	6	8
More than six months after graduation	1	1
Other time frame	7	9
Total	76	100

Item	N	Yes	No	Somewhat
If <b>starting a new job</b> after graduation, did your major or field prepare you for your new position?	133	75	3	23

<i>Item - If looking for a new job after graduation, do you plan on working:</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
In the state of Alabama	20	44
In another state	23	51
Other	2	4
Total	45	100

<i>Item - If looking for a new job after graduation, did your major or field prepare you for your new position?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>
<b>If looking for a new job</b> after graduation, did your major or field prepare you for your new position?	159	82	2	16

#### 4. Educational Plans After Graduation

<i>Item - After graduation, what are your plans in regards to continuing your education within the next year?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
I have been accepted to graduate or professional school.	21	11
I have applied to graduate or professional school but haven't heard about my acceptance yet.	7	4
I will be pursuing another undergraduate degree.	4	2
I plan on continuing my education but haven't applied yet.	69	36
I don't plan on continuing my education.	92	48
Total	193	100

<i>Item - If pursuing another undergraduate degree or planning to continue my education but haven't applied yet, when do you plan to start?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Within the first month after graduation	5	7
Two to three months after graduation	2	3
Four to six months after graduation	10	14
More than six months after graduation	33	47
Other time frame	21	30
Total	71	100

<i>Item - If planning to continue your education, what is the highest degree you plan to earn?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Bachelor's	6	6
Master's	39	39
Professional (J.D./M.D.)	7	7
Ed.S.	1	1
Ph.D. or Doctoral Level	46	47
Total	99	100

## 5. Advising

<b>Item</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
The information my advisor provided about graduation requirements was accurate.	164	3.3	.78	4	7	43	46
I was satisfied with the quality of advising for career planning.	149	3.11	.86	7	9	48	36
I was satisfied with the quality of advising for planning for graduate/professional school.	134	3.17	.91	8	10	39	43
The frequency with which I met with my advisor was sufficient.	153	3.14	.93	9	11	38	43
I had adequate access to my advisor.	164	3.24	.88	6	11	35	48

<b>Item - Did you encounter any of the following problems with your advisor (check all that apply)?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Incorrect information from my advisor regarding General Education requirements	13	6
Incorrect information from my advisor regarding Major requirements	8	4
Incorrect information from my advisor regarding Minor requirements	1	.5
Incorrect information from my advisor about University policies and procedures	10	5
Trouble with making or keeping an appointment with me	11	5
Inadequate information regarding campus resources available to students	8	4

## 6. Career Services

<b>Item - What services available at USA Career Services did you use to search for or secure a job? (Select all that apply.)</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Attended career fairs	21	10
Attended career-related seminars/events	11	5
Facebook	11	5
Met with Career Advisor	10	5
Participated in a mock interview	8	4
Pinterest	5	3
Received assistance with resume/interview preparation	22	11
Searched postings in the job binders	5	3
Twitter	1	.5
Used the career resource library	6	3
Used the Career Services website	19	9
Other	21	10

<b>Item</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Have you visited the Office of Career Services in the past year?	182	5	95

<b>Item</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
How would you rate your overall experience with Career Services?	9	3.22	.97	0	33	11	56

## 7. Academic Resources

Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Library resources were sufficient to meet my needs.	156	3.45	.64	1	4	44	51
Labs, studios, and other academic spaces were sufficient to meet my needs.	141	3.40	.66	1	6	45	48
Computing resources (labs, machines, software) were sufficient to meet my needs.	139	3.40	.62	1	5	48	47
Available technology/instrumentation/equipment was sufficient to meet my needs.	139	3.40	.61	1	4	49	46

## 8. Course Offerings

Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Courses in my major were offered with sufficient frequency.	177	3.29	.76	3	10	42	45
I felt the variety of electives available to me in my major were sufficient.	147	3.18	.87	5	14	38	43

## 9. Faculty and Course Work

Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
In general, faculty were interested in my academic success.	182	3.47	.60	2	3	42	53
Faculty were accessible outside of class.	177	3.46	.64	0	6	42	53
As an undergraduate, I felt that my general education courses at USA prepared me for the courses in my major.	123	3.13	.83	5	14	45	37
The coursework for my program was engaging.	181	3.29	.69	2	8	49	41



Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Overall, my coursework was challenging.	177	3.44	.65	0	9	40	52
The foundational courses in my program prepared me for the upper-level courses.	165	3.33	.64	1	6	52	41
I felt well prepared to take the licensure exam. (Respond only if a licensure exam is required for you to practice.)	113	3.27	.76	4	5	49	42

### 10. Educational Opportunities

Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
There was ample opportunity to apply what I was learning to real-world problems or jobs.	166	3.37	.65	1	5	48	45
There was ample opportunity to take part in an internship or co-op.	131	3.20	.84	5	11	43	41
There was ample opportunity to take part in service-learning.	114	3.16	.85	6	11	45	39
There was ample opportunity to work with faculty on research outside of class.	129	3.11	.95	9	12	36	42
There was ample opportunity to engage in independent research outside of class.	138	3.08	.92	9	12	41	38

### 11. Internships and Cooperative Education Experiences

Item - Have you participated in any of the following (select all that apply)?	N	Percentage
Internship (paid)	26	13
Internship (unpaid)	31	15
Cooperative Education program	7	3
I have not participated	105	52

<i>Item - If you participated in an internship, how did you find out about the internship?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Faculty member	26	47
Family	7	13
Friends	4	7
Staff member	2	4
Other	16	29
Total	55	100

<b>Item</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<i>If you participated in an internship, did you receive academic credit for it?</i>	149	69	31

## 12. Graduate Student Experience

<b>Item</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
My thesis/dissertation advisor encouraged my intellectual growth and curiosity.	153	3.43	.76	2	10	31	57
My thesis/dissertation advisor provided regular, constructive feedback to me regarding my progress.	154	3.38	.85	4	12	26	58
I was encouraged to develop my writing skills and submit work for publication.	149	3.29	.92	7	9	31	53
The graduate program included instruction that emphasized the importance of research integrity and professional ethics.	130	3.51	.58	0	4	41	55
The graduate program included research projects and/or papers requiring individual effort and independent learning.	76	3.5	.62	1	3	41	55
My interactions with the Department Graduate Coordinator/Chair were handled promptly and accurately.	60	3.48	.70	2	7	33	58

My interactions with the College Director of Graduate Studies Office were handled promptly and accurately	56	3.54	.60	0	5	36	59
My interactions with the USA Graduate School were handled promptly and accurately.	67	3.46	.68	2	6	37	55

### 13. Student Organizations

Item	N	M	SD	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Being involved in a student organization added value to my experiences as a student at USA.	75	3.33	.70	1	9	44	45

### 14. Overall Experiences

Item	N	M	SD	Not Safe	Somewhat Safe	Safe	Very Safe
Overall, how safe did you feel while on campus?	144	3.38	.67	1	8	44	47

Item	N	M	SD	Definitely No	Probably No	Probably Yes	Definitely Yes
If you had to do it over again, would you attend USA?	176	3.29	.75	3	7	46	43

Item	N	M	SD	Definitely No	Probably No	Probably Yes	Definitely Yes
If you had to do it over again, would you graduate with the same major?	175	3.39	.81	3	10	30	56

## 15. Staying Connected After Graduation

<i>Item - As an alumnus/a, what kinds of activities would you like to participate in (select all that apply)?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Tailgates at football games	65	32
Concerts and exhibitions on campus at a discount	50	25
Concerts and exhibitions around town at a discount	55	27
Mentoring current students	57	28
Other	27	13

<i>Item - As an alumnus/a, how would you like the University and your college/school to keep you informed about activities and events at USA (select all that apply)?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Email	129	63
Postal Mail	47	23
Facebook	35	17
LinkedIn	9	4
Twitter	9	4
Other	6	3

<i>Item - What's the best way for your college/school to keep in touch with you (select all that apply)?</i>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Email	145	71
Phone	21	10
Address	50	25