# Summary of 2019-2020 Graduating Senior Survey Results

Four hundred fifty-eight graduating seniors responded to the Graduating Senior Survey in 2019-2020. Of the respondents, 56% were female, and 39% were male. Ninety-five percent were enrolled full-time. Eighty-one percent were single. Close to two-thirds (61%) borrowed through the Federal Student Loan Programs to help finance their education. Nearly all (95%) reported no disability. Most respondents lived either in off-campus rooms/apartments (38%), in their own homes (26%), or with their parents/relatives (22%), and 12% lived in dormitories. Majors in the School of Business and Industry made up 38% of the respondents, 34% had majors in the School of Human services & Social Sciences, 16% in the School of Arts and Humanities, 8% in the School of Education, and 5% had majors in the School of Health Professions & Wellness. None in the School Science participated in the survey.

When compared with the average person their age, most considered themselves above average or in the highest 10% in the following characteristics:
- Drive to achieve (76%)
- Understanding of others (68%)
- Academic ability (65%)
- Leadership ability (63%)
- Self-confidence (intellectual) (60%)
- Competitiveness (55%)
- Collaboration (55%)
- Writing ability (56%)

## Perceptions of their Major
- Nearly all indicated the overall quality of their major was good or excellent (95%) and over three-quarters were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall education at JSU (82%);
- Library books and materials (97%), Computer labs (94%) facilities, and laboratory (91%) facilities for majors were adequate or more than adequate;
- One-half or more frequently applied concepts learned in their major to solve actual problems (56%),  expressed ideas in writing (54%), and expressed ideas orally (50%);
- A majority agreed or strongly agreed that:
    - fundamental theories were taught (92%)
    - faculty were approachable (91%) and accessible outside of class (87%)
    - program faculty were professionally competent (88%) and effective teachers (87%)
    - courses were intellectually stimulating (87%)
    - grading procedures were fair (87%)
    - my advisor was willing to help (87%)
    - at least one professor worked closely with me (85%)
    - current research methods were taught (84%)
    - requirements were explained clearly (82%)
    - sufficient practical training was provided (72%)

## Educational Outcomes
Respondents thought the following educational outcomes were important and that their JSU experiences prepared them well to perform them:
- Listening effectively (98%)
- Working cooperatively and as a team member (97%)
- Speaking effectively (96%)
- Knowing how to access the information needed in one's professional position (96%)
- Reading comprehension (96%)
- Defining and solving problems (96%)
- Conducting work activities in an ethical manner (95%)

- Thinking objectively about beliefs, attitudes, and values (95%)
- Having tolerance for different points of view (95%)
- Recognizing and acting upon ethical principles (95%)
- Understanding and exercising one's rights, responsibilities, and privileges as a citizen (95%)
- Analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information (95%)
- Specialized occupational skills and knowledge (95%)
- Writing effectively (95%)
- Using computers to search for and retrieve information (94%)
- Making and exercising a lifelong commitment to learning (94%)
- Basic computer skills (93%)
- Working with people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds (93%)
- Understanding the interaction of people and their environment (92%)
- Resolving interpersonal conflict (92%)
- Making formal presentations (90%)
- Knowledge of the principles of good mental and physical health (89%)
- Understanding the present as it relates to historical events and processes (87%)
- Understanding international issues (84%)
- Understanding another culture and language (81%)

**Satisfaction with University facilities, services, and climate**
- The majority (89%) of respondents were satisfied with class size, the course content in their major (84%), out-of-class availability of instructors (83%), the testing/grading system (83%), and the availability of computers (79%).
- About three-quarters were satisfied with general registration procedures (74%), and attitude of non-teaching staff toward students (73%).
- Two-thirds or more of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the services and facilities they used the most, including:
  - Houston Cole Library (79%)
  - Internet registration (78%)
  - Hybrid/Blended Courses (77%)
  - Fitness & Wellness Center (76%)
  - Online courses through Distance Education (73%)
  - Transcript Services (71%)
  - Academic Advisement Office (71%)
  - Computer labs (71%)
  - Student Accounts Office (payments window) (70%)
  - University bookstore (69%)
  - Testing services (69%)
  - Recreational & Intramural sports (69%)
  - Supplemental learning/tutoring (68%)
  - Classroom facilities (68%)
  - Laboratory facilities (66%)

**Student Self-efficacy and Self-efficacy with Technology**
Respondents had access to a PC (41%), a laptop or notebook computer (97%), and other portable devices such as iPad or smart phone (87%). The majority had Internet connectivity 24 hours/7 days a week (85%).

Respondents agreed that … (On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1=strongly disagree and 5=strongly agree)

|  | In general | With technology |
|---|---|---|
| • They can always manage to solve difficult problems if they try hard enough. | *(M=4.44)* | *(M=4.04)* |
| • It is easy for them to stick to their aims and accomplish their goals. | *(M=4.19)* | *(M=4.05)* |
| • They are confident that they could deal efficiently with unexpected events. | *(M=4.23)* | *(M=3.91)* |
| • Thanks to their resourcefulness, they know how to handle unforeseen situations. | *(M=4.17)* | *(M=3.94)* |
| • They can solve most problems if they invest the necessary effort. | *(M=4.44)* | *(M=4.08)* |
| • They can remain calm when facing difficulties because they can rely on their coping abilities. | *(M=4.07)* | *(M=3.97)* |
| • When they are confronted with a problem, they can usually find several solutions. | *(M=4.18)* | *(M=3.94)* |
| • No matter what comes their way, they are usually able to handle it. | *(M=4.27)* | *(M=4.00)* |
| • If they are in trouble, they can usually think of something to do. | *(M=4.19)* | - |
| • If someone opposes them, they can find means and ways to get what they want. | *(M=3.55)* | - |
|  | *M*=Mean | |

## Canvas & Online Learning

Nearly all (97%) took online courses while working on their degrees.

Over two-thirds of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with distance learning services and systems provided by Online@JSU Office, except for "Honorlock Remote Test Proctoring" (60%):

- Online courses through Canvas (82%)
- Overall user experience with the Canvas LMS (81%)
- Canvas Student Mobile App (81%)
- Supports provided by Online@JSU Office (79%)
- Turnitin Feedback Studio Plagiarism Tool (78%)
- Support provided directly through Canvas Help (73%)
- Kaltura – Viewing videos in Kaltura Media Gallery (69%)

Over one-half of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that:

- The instructors were effective in delivering the online learning courses (81%)
- Overall, their attitude toward online learning was positive (77%)
- The online learning courses that they have taken provided them with a valuable learning experience (75%)
- They would advise other students to take online learning courses (71%)
- Online learning minimizes the inequalities in education (56%)

Department Heads and Directors and other administrators can find additional assessment data and filter data by school, department or major on Tableau Server, JSU's Assessment System, by going to http://oira.jsu.edu:8000/. User IDs and passwords are available by calling Institutional Research & Effectiveness at 256 782-5109.