

# Ph.D. Exit Survey

## Welcome

Welcome to the University of Pennsylvania's Ph.D. Exit Survey. As a recipient of the Ph.D. degree, your feedback is essential to us! Information gathered in this survey assists us in identifying potential areas for improvement of our doctoral programs.

We want to assure you that your individual response to the survey will be kept strictly confidential. No individually-identifiable information will ever be reported. Results will be shared only in aggregate form. If you find a question that you don't want to answer, please just skip it and move on. Your insight and opinions about the quality of graduate education at the University of Pennsylvania are very important to us.

### 1. In which Graduate Group were you enrolled?

### 2. When did you first enroll at Penn as a graduate student?

Term

Year

### 3. When will you receive your doctoral degree?

Term

Year

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## Support: Academic

**4. Did your Ph.D. program provide you with a formal orientation to help you understand the process of completing your graduate degree?**

- Yes  No

**5. If you answered Yes to question 4, how effective was this orientation in helping you to understand the process of completing your graduate degree?**

- Very ineffective  Fairly ineffective  Neither ineffective nor effective  Fairly effective  Very effective  Did not participate

**6. Were you provided with a written set of expectations about academic requirements and expected progress?**

- Yes  No

**7. Once you completed coursework, passed the Candidacy Exam, and moved to the dissertation stage, did your program/ dissertation committee provide a formal assessment of your academic progress at least annually?**

- Yes  No

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## 8. What was the best doctoral level course (lecture, seminar, etc.) that you took at Penn?

Graduate Group

Best Instructor

Course Title

## 9. Please consider your Candidacy Exam (the last examination before you undertook your dissertation research). Was this a beneficial educational experience?

Not beneficial       Somewhat beneficial       Beneficial       Very beneficial

## 10. Do you think the Candidacy Exam in its current form should be modified?

Yes       No       Don't know

## 11. If you answered Yes to question 10, please explain how the Candidacy Exam should be modified.

## 12. Rate the extent to which the following factors were an obstacle to your academic progress.

	Not an obstacle	A minor obstacle	A moderate obstacle	A major obstacle	Not applicable
Financial commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family obligations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of faculty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program structure or requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Course scheduling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Immigration laws or regulations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

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## Support: Faculty

In the following several questions, we are interested in gathering information about whether you received advice from individual faculty members regarding your graduate education, career development, and/or other matters of concern to you as a graduate student.

### 13. How many faculty served on your Dissertation Committee?

### 14. Please rate your Dissertation Advisor with regard to the timeliness of his or her advice.

	Not at all timely	Not very timely	Somewhat timely	Very timely	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 15. Please rate your Dissertation Advisor with regard to the helpfulness of his or her advice.

	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 16. Was your Dissertation Advisor a mentor to you?

- Yes  No

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**17. Other than your Dissertation Advisor, is there a faculty member within your Graduate Group whom you consider to be a mentor?**

Yes

No

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## Support: Faculty

**18. Please think about the mentor you have identified within your Graduate Group, rate this faculty member with regard to the timeliness of his or her advice.**

	Not at all timely	Not very timely	Somewhat timely	Very timely	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**19. Now, please rate this faculty member with regard to the helpfulness of his or her advice.**

	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**20. Other than your advisor, is there a faculty member outside your Graduate Group whom you consider to be a mentor?**

- Yes  No

## Support: Faculty

**21. Other than your advisor, is there a faculty member outside your Graduate Group whom you consider to be a mentor?**

Yes

No

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## Support: Faculty

**22. Please think about the mentor you have identified outside your Graduate Group, rate this faculty member with regard to the timeliness of his or her advice.**

	Not at all timely	Not very timely	Somewhat timely	Very timely	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**23. Now, please rate this faculty member with regard to the helpfulness of his or her advice.**

	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful	Not applicable
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your dissertation research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice writing & revising the dissertation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of academic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Selection of nonacademic career options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for professional employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## Support: Financial

### 24. How much have you borrowed to finance your doctoral education?

- I have not borrowed to finance my doctoral education.
- \$ 1 to \$ 9,999
- \$ 10,000 to \$ 19,999
- \$ 20,000 to \$ 29,999
- \$ 30,000 to \$ 39,999
- \$ 40,000 to \$ 49,999
- Over \$ 50,000

### 25. If you answered Yes to question 24, in which years of doctoral study did you borrow? Please mark all that apply.

- 1       2       3       4       5       6       7       8+

### 26. If you received financial support, please indicate the number of years you received this support in each of the categories below (please use a decimal if necessary). Please answer all instances that apply.

Teaching Assistant (TA)

Research Assistant (RA) or equivalent

University or school fellowship

Outside fellowship

Foreign government

Corporate funds

Other

### 27. How familiar are you with the criteria used to allocate financial support?

- Not at all familiar       A little familiar       Quite familiar       Very familiar

**28. To the best of your knowledge, has financial support for students in your program been fairly allocated?**

No

Partly

Mostly

Yes

## Support: Graduate Student Center

**29. Have you attended activities and/or used the services of the Graduate Student Center?**

Yes

No

**30. Please provide any feedback to the Graduate Student Center you believe would help it to better serve future students.**



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## Experience: Teaching & Research

**34. Were there organized seminars, colloquia, or conferences sponsored by your Graduate Group at which graduate students presented their research?**

Yes

No

**35. How many research presentations (including poster presentations) did you make on the campus during your graduate studies (not including presentations given in class or in regularly scheduled not-for-credit lab meetings)?**

**36. How many research presentations (including poster presentations) did you make at meetings away from your campus (regional, national, or international)?**

**37. If you made a presentation away from campus, did you receive any funds for travel from your program?**

Yes

No

**38. If you made a presentation away from campus, did you received any funds for travel from GAPSA?**

Yes

No

**39. Based on research conducted while you were a graduate student, how many articles or book chapters have you authored or co-authored that have been published or accepted for publication?**

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**40. How many others are currently under review?**

**41. If you were a Research Assistant (RA) at any time during your graduate studies, how helpful was this experience with respect to your professional development?**

Not at all helpful

Not very helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Never an RA

**42. Were you a graduate Teaching Assistant (TA) at any point during your doctoral studies?**

Yes

No

## Experience: Teaching & Research

**43. As a Teaching Assistant (TA), what teaching preparation was provided? Please mark all that apply.**

- None
- Department level teaching workshop or orientation
- School teaching workshop or orientation
- Other

Please specify:

**44. How many semesters did you teach as a Teaching Assistant (TA)?**

**44-1. How many semesters did you teach as a Lecturer (with primary responsibility for the class)?**

**45. With respect to your professional development, how helpful was the experience of being a Teaching Assistant (TA)?**

Not at all helpful

Not very helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Never a TA

## Future

### 46. What are your immediate professional plans?

- I am returning to, or continuing in, my predoctoral employment
- I am pursuing another degree
- I am seeking a position but have no specific prospects
- I am negotiating with one or more organizations
- I have found a job
- Other

Please specify:



## Future

**47. Which best describes the position you plan to obtain during the next academic year? For non-academic positions, please provide further detail in the text box provided.**

- I am not yet sure
- Postdoctoral fellow/trainee
- Tenure track faculty
- Non-tenure track faculty
- Researcher at center/lab/institute
- Administrative academic position
- Other academic position
- Non-academic position

Please specify:

**48. In what sector do you hope to obtain a job?**

- Research university, doctoral granting
- University, masters granting
- College, four year
- Junior college/community college
- Non-profit institution/organization
- National or federal government
- State or local government
- Business/industry
- Other

Please specify:

## Future

**49. Which best describes your position? For non-academic positions, please provide further detail in the text box provided.**

- Postdoctoral fellow/trainee
- Tenure track faculty
- Non-tenure track faculty
- Researcher at center/lab/institute
- Administrative academic position
- Other academic position
- Non-academic position

Please specify:

**50. Is your position in the field of your academic training?**

- Yes
- No

**51. Do you feel this position is consistent with your long-term professional goals?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**52. What is the name of your employer?**

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## 53. Please categorize your employer.

- Research university, doctoral granting
- University, masters granting
- College, four year
- Junior college/community college
- Non-profit institution/organization
- National or federal government
- State or local government
- Business/industry
- Other

Please specify:

## 54. Where is your employer located?

- Within the United States
- Outside the United States

## 55. Name of state or country where your employer is located.

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## Satisfaction

**56. Please rate each of the following.**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
Graduate Group advising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of graduate level courses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall quality of graduate level teaching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall academic experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall student life experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**57. Please rate the adequacy of support you were provided during your graduate education and dissertation research in the following areas.**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent	Not applicable
Financial support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal work space [e.g. desk, office]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library and electronic resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory, clinical or studio facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**58. Do you have any other comments concerning your Graduate Group?**

**59. What was your most valuable academic experience during your graduate studies at Penn?**

**60. If you could change one thing at Penn, what would it be?**

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**61. If you had the option of starting over, would you pursue a Ph.D. again?**

- Yes  No

**62. If so, would you pursue your Ph.D. at Penn again?**

- Yes  No

**63. This decision is based primarily upon:**

- Graduate group experience
- Penn experience
- Current employment opportunities in your field
- Prospects of future opportunities and earnings
- New interests in some other field
- Other

Please specify:

**64. Please feel free to share anything else that you feel is important for Penn to know about your Doctoral program experience.**

# Ph.D. Exit Survey

## Demographics

The following questions are OPTIONAL but your answers are very important to Penn as we seek to foster a welcoming and diverse community. Your name will not be associated with these data, and no individually-identifiable information will ever be reported.

The last question asks you to provide your PennKey. This will allow us to cross-link information in our files in order to increase the usefulness of the survey results. Your individual response will be kept strictly confidential; only aggregate information will be reported. If you find a question that you do not want to answer, please skip it and continue.

### 65. What is your gender?

### 66. Do you identify yourself as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or queer?

- Yes  No

### 67. Are you currently married or living with a long-term partner?

- Yes  No

### 67-1. Does your spouse/partner work outside the home?

- Yes  
 No  
 Not Applicable

### 67-2. Is your partner also a graduate student?

- Yes  
 No  
 Not Applicable

### 68. Please enter the number of dependent children you have under the age of 18.

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**68-1. Indicate the number of children you have in the following age ranges.**

0-2 years	<input type="text"/>
3-5 years	<input type="text"/>
6-12 years	<input type="text"/>
13 and over	<input type="text"/>

**69. What is your present citizenship status?**

- U.S. citizen
- Permanent resident of U.S.
- International (please specify country of citizenship):

**70. If you are an international student, please specify whether you plan to return to your country for professional employment within the next two years.**

- Yes
- No

**71. From the categories below, please select the group with which you most closely identify.**

- Black non-Hispanic
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic
- White non-Hispanic
- Other (please specify):

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**72. Which of the following best describes your social class when you were growing up?**

- Low-income or poor
- Working-class
- Middle-class
- Upper-middle or professional-middle
- Wealthy

**Please enter your PennKey.**

**For instance, "student" is the PennKey for "student@upenn.edu"**



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## Community

Lastly, we would like to gather your input on a variety of aspects related to the broader Penn community. As a means of assessing Penn's culture and climate, both undergraduates and faculty are also being asked to answer the questions below.

### 73. How often have you had conversations with Penn colleagues (students and post docs) who differ from you...

	Never or rarely	Occasionally	Often	Very often	Don't know
in academic discipline (i.e. graduate programs)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in race or ethnicity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in nationality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in sexual orientation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in religious beliefs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in political beliefs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in economic backgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 74. What is your impression of the Penn community?

	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Very	Don't know
Safe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Welcoming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Competitive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diverse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 75. Indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
I feel free to express my political beliefs on campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel free to express my religious beliefs on campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Students are respected here regardless of economic or social class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Students are respected here regardless of race or ethnicity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Students are respected here regardless of sexual orientation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Students are respected here regardless of gender	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>