



Ph.D. Exit Survey, 2014-15

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 doctoral education at the University of Pennsylvania are very important to us.

In which Graduate Group were you enrolled?

Select department

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

Term	Year

When will you receive your doctoral degree?

Term	Year

Support: Academic

When you first enrolled as a doctoral student, did your program provide a formal orientation to explain the process of completing your doctoral degree?

- Yes, and I attended
- Yes, but I did not attend
- No
- I don't remember

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
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did your doctoral program provide you with a written set of expectations about academic requirements and expected progress?

- Yes
- No

Was there an early formal academic assessment or exam to review your overall academic progress? If so, when?

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year or beyond
- There was no early formal review, to my knowledge

In what year of study did you complete your required course work for the Ph.D.?

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year or beyond

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

Course Title

Instructor

Graduate Group

In what year of study did you complete the Candidacy Exam (formerly known as the Proposal Defense)?

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year or beyond
- I did not take a Candidacy Exam

Was the Candidacy Exam a beneficial educational experience?

Not beneficial



Somewhat beneficial



Beneficial



Very beneficial



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

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

After being assigned a Dissertation Advisor, did you meet with this individual at least twice each year, to establish expectations and review your progress?

- Yes
- No

While working on your dissertation, did you prepare an Annual Dissertation Report summarizing your progress?

- Yes
- No

After being assigned a Dissertation Committee, did you meet with the body at least once annually?

- Yes
- No

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

Please explain how the Candidacy Exam should be modified.

To what extent were the following factors obstacles to your academic progress:

	Not an obstacle	A minor obstacle	A major obstacle	Not applicable
Financial commitments	<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"/>
Availability of faculty	<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"/>
Course scheduling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Immigration laws and regulations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, (please identify)				<input type="radio"/>
<input type="text"/>				

Other than your advisor, is there a faculty member OUTSIDE your Graduate Group whom you consider to be a mentor?

- Yes
 No

Please think about the MENTOR you have identified OUTSIDE your Graduate Group. Have you received assistance or support from your MENTOR on each of the following? If so, how timely and helpful was the assistance or support?

	Have you received assistance or support		If Yes, please rate timeliness				If Yes, please rate helpfulness			
	Yes	No	Not at all timely	Not very timely	Somewhat timely	Very timely	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
Selection of a dissertation topic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search for employment or training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Support: Financial

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

In which years of doctoral study did you borrow? Please mark all that apply.

- First year
 Second year
 Third year
 Fourth year
 Fifth year
 Sixth year
 Seventh year
 Eighth or beyond

In which years did you receive financial support in each of the following categories. Please answer all instances that apply.

	First year	Second year	Third year	Fourth year	Fifth year	Sixth year	Seventh year	Eighth or beyond	Did not receive
Teaching Assistant (TA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research Assistant (RA) or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
University or school fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outside fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate funds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Not at all familiar	A little familiar	Quite familiar	Very familiar
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

No	Partly	Mostly	Yes
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Support: Career Services

During which year(s) of your doctoral program did you use Career Services, (i.e. meet with a career advisor, attend a Career Services event or use other resources such as the website)? Indicate all that apply.

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year
- Fifth year
- Sixth year or beyond

Consider the following offerings provided by Career Services

	How many programs did you attend?				If attended, please rate helpfulness			
	None	One or two	Three or four	Five or more	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
Programs on academic careers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs on non-academic employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Consider the following offerings provided by Career Services

	How frequently did you attend/use				If attended/used, please rate helpfulness			
	Never	Occasionally	Sometimes	Frequently	Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
Individual counseling session and email contact with counselors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic Job Search Handbook	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resources for doctoral students on Career Services website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email listservs of job/fellowship/internship announcements, event announcements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please provide any feedback to Career Services you believe would help it to better serve future students.

Support: Graduate Student Center

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

- Yes
- No

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

Experience: Teaching and Research

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

- Yes
- No

How many research or scholarly presentations (including poster presentations) did you make during your graduate studies?

	Number of presentations
On the campus (not including presentations given in class or in regularly scheduled not-for-credit lab meetings)	_____
Away from campus (regional, national or international)	_____

If you made a presentation away from campus, did you receive funds for travel from any of the following sources? Check all that apply.

- Your program
- A research grant
- GAPSAs
- Other institutional funds

Based on research conducted while you were a doctoral student, how many scholarly articles, books, or book chapters have you authored or co-authored that...

	Number published/under review
Have been published or accepted for publication	<input type="text"/>
Are currently under review	<input type="text"/>

Were you a Teaching Assistant (TA) at any time during your doctoral studies?

- Yes
- No

How helpful was this experience with respect to your professional development and training?

Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How many semesters did you...

	Number of semesters
Teach as a Teaching Assistant (TA)	<input type="text"/>
Teach as a lecturer (with primary responsibility for the class)	<input type="text"/>

As a Teaching Assistant (TA), were you provided with any teaching preparation training?

- Yes
- No

What types of teaching preparation was provided? Please mark all that apply.

- Department level teaching workshop or orientation
- School level teaching workshop or orientation
- Other, please specify:

How helpful was the DEPARTMENT level training?

Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How helpful was the SCHOOL level training?

Not at all helpful	Not very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following teaching experiences have you had while a doctoral student at Penn? Check all that apply

- I was a grader for a course but had little or no student contact
- I was a grader for a course and also met with students during office hours
- I led review sessions for groups of students
- I led semester-long labs
- I led semester-long discussion sections
- I taught a section of a course as a teaching assistant
- I taught or co-taught an independent seminar as a teaching assistant
- I co-taught a course
- I held office hours, meeting with students individually

Were you a Research Assistant (RA) at any time during your graduate studies?

- Yes
- No

How helpful was this experience with respect to your professional development and training?

Not at all helpful



Not very helpful



Somewhat helpful



Very helpful



How many semesters were you...

	Number of semesters
A Research Assistant (RA)	<input type="text"/>

Future

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: _____

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 sure yet
- 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:

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:

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

- I am not sure yet
- 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:

Is your position in the field of your academic training?

- Yes
- No

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

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

What is the name of your employer?

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:

Where is your employer located?

- Within the United States
- Outside the United States

Name the state or country where your employer is located.

Thinking about the future, which best describes the position that is your ultimate career goal? For non-academic positions, please provide further detail in the text box provided.

- Tenure track faculty
- Non-tenure track faculty
- Researcher at center/lab/institute
- Administrative academic position, please specify:
- Other academic position, please specify:
- Non-academic position, please specify:

Thinking about your ultimate career goal? 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:

Satisfaction

Please rate your overall satisfaction with each of the following:

	Very dissatisfied	Generally dissatisfied	Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied	Generally satisfied	Very satisfied
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"/>
The opportunities to collaborate across disciplines	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preparation for candidacy/comprehensive examinations (coursework, seminars, labs, reading courses, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please rate the adequacy of support you were provided during your doctoral education and dissertation research in the following areas:

	Very dissatisfied	Generally dissatisfied	Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied	Generally satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
Financial support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer resources/Information Technology (IT)	<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 research resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory, clinical or studio or other physical facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you have any other comments concerning your Graduate Group?

What was your most valuable academic experience during your doctoral studies at Penn?

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

If you were to start your graduate career again, would you...

	Definitely not	Probably not	Maybe	Probably yes	Definitely yes
Pursue a Ph.D. again?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pursue a Ph.D. at Penn again?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recommend Penn to someone considering your field of study?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

This decision is based primarily upon:

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

Penn Community

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.

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"/>

Indicate how strongly do 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 views 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"/>

What is your impression of the Penn Community?

	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Very
Safe	<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"/>
Competitive	<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"/>

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
Students in my program are treated with respect by faculty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The intellectual climate of my program is positive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The social climate of my program is positive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Students in my program are collegial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Demographics

The following questions are **OPTIONAL** but your answers are very important to Penn as we seek to foster a welcoming and diverse community. We again assure you that your individual responses will be kept strictly confidential, only aggregate information will be reported. If you find a question that you don't want to answer, please just skip it and move on.

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Other

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

- Yes
- No

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

- Yes
- No

Does your spouse/partner work outside the home?

- Yes
- No

Is your partner also a graduate student?

- Yes
- No

Do you have any children?

- Yes
- No

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"/>

What is your present citizenship status?

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

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

Are you a Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

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):

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 feel free to share anything else that you feel is important for Penn to know about your doctoral program experience.