# Student Survey on General Education

## 1. Which college at MSU provides your major?
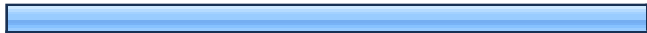
| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS (Ex. Communication, Media, Art, English, Modern and Classical Languages, Music, Theater) | | 19.1% | 226 |
| COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (Ex. Accounting, Computer Information Systems, Finance, Management, Marketing, Technology and Construction Management) | | 19.4% | 230 |
| COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (Ex. Childhood and Family Development, Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle School, Secondary, Special Education) | | 14.1% | 167 |
| **COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Ex. Biomedical Sciences, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing, Public Health, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Psychology, Social Work, Sports Medicine and Athletic Training)** | | **20.9%** | **247** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (Ex. Economics, Criminology, defense and Strategic Studies, History, Military Science, Philosophy, Political Science, Religious Studies) | | 10.3% | 122 |
| COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES (Ex. Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Biology, Hospitality and Restaurant Administration, Geography Geology and Planning, Mathematics, Cooperative Engineering, Computer Sciences) | | 13.4% | 159 |
| UNDECIDED | | 2.8% | 33 |
| | | answered question | 1,184 |
| | | skipped question | 0 |
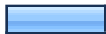
## 2. Of the choices below, which best describes you?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| First year student (freshman) | | 20.9% | 246 |
| Second year student (sophomore) | | 18.7% | 220 |
| Third year student (junior) | | 20.4% | 240 |
| **Fourth year student or beyond (senior)** | | **25.7%** | **303** |
| Post baccalaureate student | | 1.6% | 19 |
| Graduate student | | 10.2% | 120 |
| Other | | 2.5% | 30 |
| | If "Other," please specify | | 32 |

| | answered question | 1,178 |
|---|---|---|
| | **skipped question** | **6** |
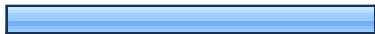
### 3. How many higher education institutions have you attended other than MSU?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **0** | **55.9%** | **661** |
| 1 | 29.0% | 343 |
| 2 | 10.3% | 122 |
| 3 | 3.0% | 36 |
| 4 or more | 1.7% | 20 |
| answered question | | 1,182 |
| skipped question | | 2 |

## 4. Approximately how many general education courses have you taken at MSU?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | | 8.3% | 98 |
| 1-3 | | 9.7% | 114 |
| 4-6 | | 17.6% | 207 |
| 7-9 | | 19.9% | 235 |
| 10-12 | | 20.9% | 246 |
| **13 or more** | | **23.7%** | **279** |
| | | **answered question** | **1,179** |
| | | **skipped question** | **5** |

## 5. Approximately how many general education courses did you complete or do you plan to complete at another institution?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| **0** | | **32.1%** | **378** |
| 1-3 | | 27.6% | 325 |
| 4-6 | | 15.1% | 178 |
| 7-9 | | 6.4% | 75 |
| 10-12 | | 6.3% | 74 |
| 13 or more | | 12.6% | 149 |
| | | **answered question** | **1,179** |
| | | **skipped question** | **5** |

**6. Below is a list of possible general education program goals. Keeping in mind the needs of our students, use the scale provided to rate the importance of each goal.**

| | Not At All Important | | Somewhat Important | | Very Important | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A sense of maturity and how to succeed on one's own | 1.5% (15) | 3.0% (31) | 13.6% (139) | 27.6% (283) | **54.3% (556)** | 4.30 | 1,024 |
| Time-management skills | 1.4% (14) | 3.6% (37) | 10.1% (103) | 26.7% (273) | **58.3% (596)** | 4.37 | 1,023 |
| Independent and critical thinking/reasoning skills | 0.7% (7) | 2.2% (23) | 8.1% (83) | 28.1% (287) | **60.9% (623)** | 4.46 | 1,023 |
| Consideration of long term outcomes in current actions and decisions | 0.8% (8) | 3.2% (33) | 12.0% (123) | 35.5% (363) | **48.4% (495)** | 4.28 | 1,022 |
| Strong work habits | 1.2% (12) | 3.5% (36) | 10.8% (110) | 33.1% (337) | **51.4% (523)** | 4.30 | 1,018 |
| Commitment to being involved in the community | 4.7% (48) | 13.2% (134) | **31.6% (321)** | 29.7% (301) | 20.8% (211) | 3.49 | 1,015 |
| Engaged and informed about contemporary social and civic issues | 3.1% (32) | 10.1% (103) | 24.6% (250) | **37.7% (383)** | 24.4% (248) | 3.70 | 1,016 |
| Strong writing and oral/speaking skills | 1.4% (14) | 2.8% (29) | 12.2% (124) | 40.1% (409) | **43.5% (443)** | 4.21 | 1,019 |
| Specific expertise and knowledge in one's field of focus | 2.0% (20) | 2.3% (23) | 8.0% (81) | 24.8% (252) | **63.0% (641)** | 4.45 | 1,017 |
| Competency in computer skills | 1.8% (18) | 5.3% (54) | 16.5% (168) | **41.8% (425)** | 34.6% (352) | 4.02 | 1,017 |
| Understanding of science and its relevance to other areas of study | 4.0% (41) | 14.2% (145) | **32.4% (330)** | 30.6% (312) | 18.7% (190) | 3.46 | 1,018 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Expanded knowledge of American culture and history | 3.4% (35) | 14.4% (147) | **32.8% (334)** | 30.0% (306) | 19.3% (197) | 3.47 | 1,019 |
| Expanded knowledge of cultures and societies outside the United States | 2.8% (29) | 11.5% (117) | 27.1% (276) | **31.8% (324)** | 26.7% (272) | 3.68 | 1,018 |
| Knowledge of and respect for people of other backgrounds, races, ethnicities, and lifestyles | 3.0% (31) | 5.5% (56) | 15.8% (161) | 32.0% (326) | **43.7% (446)** | 4.08 | 1,020 |
| Teamwork skills | 2.6% (26) | 6.5% (66) | 21.5% (219) | **37.4% (381)** | 32.1% (327) | 3.90 | 1,019 |
| Ability to get along with and work with people different from oneself | 2.1% (21) | 4.4% (45) | 15.4% (157) | 35.9% (365) | **42.2% (430)** | 4.12 | 1,018 |
| Sense of values, principles, and ethics | 2.4% (24) | 4.8% (49) | 13.5% (138) | 32.8% (334) | **46.5% (474)** | 4.16 | 1,019 |
| Leadership skills | 1.5% (15) | 4.9% (50) | 21.8% (223) | **38.6% (394)** | 33.2% (339) | 3.97 | 1,021 |
| Self-discipline | 1.6% (16) | 3.2% (33) | 11.8% (120) | 33.3% (339) | **50.0% (509)** | 4.27 | 1,017 |
| Statistical reasoning | 3.5% (36) | 16.2% (165) | **35.1% (358)** | 29.8% (304) | 15.4% (157) | 3.37 | 1,020 |
| Basic quantitative skills | 2.6% (26) | 9.4% (96) | 31.5% (321) | **36.2% (369)** | 20.3% (207) | 3.62 | 1,019 |
| An understanding of the self and human behavior | 2.7% (28) | 9.1% (93) | 23.8% (243) | **38.0% (388)** | 26.3% (269) | 3.76 | 1,021 |
| Exposure to the business world | 5.0% (51) | 13.5% (137) | 29.7% (302) | **32.0% (326)** | 19.8% (202) | 3.48 | 1,018 |
| Tangible business skills | 5.0% (51) | 14.1% (143) | 29.1% (296) | **32.2% (327)** | 19.7% (200) | 3.47 | 1,017 |
| Competency in personal finance | 2.7% (27) | 6.4% (64) | 19.5% (194) | 30.9% (307) | **40.4% (402)** | 4.00 | 994 |

If there is a goal not listed that you find important, please specify below.

46

| | answered question | 1,024 |
|---|---|---|
| | skipped question | 160 |

**7. Using the scale provided below, please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements. Note: If you have no experience with an item below or if you simply do not have a response, you may leave the item blank.**

| | Strongly Disagree | | | | Strongly Agree | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Students have enriching experiences in the majority of their general education courses at MSU. | 9.4% (85) | 26.9% (243) | **36.4% (329)** | 21.7% (196) | 5.6% (51) | 2.87 | 904 |
| The general education program at MSU is relevant to the current issues facing students today. | 8.5% (77) | 26.1% (235) | **33.9% (306)** | 26.3% (237) | 5.2% (47) | 2.94 | 902 |
| The general education program is essential to the purposes of education at MSU. | 9.9% (90) | 22.9% (209) | 26.5% (241) | **27.8% (253)** | 13.0% (118) | 3.11 | 911 |
| The current general education program at MSU is designed to meet the educational needs of graduates in 2015 and beyond. | 11.1% (95) | 26.6% (227) | **32.9% (281)** | 23.0% (196) | 6.3% (54) | 2.87 | 853 |
| Co-curricular/supplemental experiences should be an important part of a general education program at MSU. | 6.8% (59) | 13.8% (120) | 28.0% (243) | **33.4% (290)** | 18.1% (157) | 3.42 | 869 |
| Cultural competence is represented in MSU's general education program. | 6.3% (56) | 16.1% (143) | **33.6% (298)** | 31.9% (283) | 12.1% (107) | 3.27 | 887 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ethical leadership is represented in MSU's general education program. | 6.0% (53) | 18.9% (166) | **34.8% (306)** | 30.6% (269) | 9.8% (86) | 3.19 | 880 |
| Community engagement is represented in MSU's general education program. | 8.0% (70) | 22.1% (194) | **32.3% (283)** | 28.4% (249) | 9.1% (80) | 3.09 | 876 |
| I understand the goals of the general education program at MSU. | 7.8% (71) | 13.6% (124) | 22.0% (200) | **36.9% (336)** | 19.7% (179) | 3.47 | 910 |
| The goals for general education at MSU are being accomplished within the current general education program. | 9.1% (79) | 20.9% (181) | **39.3% (341)** | 23.4% (203) | 7.4% (64) | 2.99 | 868 |
| MSU's general education program aligns with the University's mission and values. | 5.3% (46) | 11.1% (96) | **37.6% (324)** | 35.7% (307) | 10.2% (88) | 3.34 | 861 |
| | | | | | **answered question** | **940** |
| | | | | | **skipped question** | **244** |

## 8. What are the strengths of the current general education program at MSU?

| | Response Count |
|---|---|
| | 529 |
| **answered question** | **529** |
| **skipped question** | **655** |

### 9. What are the weaknesses of the current general education program at MSU?

| | Response Count |
|---|---|
| | 576 |
| answered question | **576** |
| skipped question | **608** |

### 10. What could we do to improve the general education program at MSU?

| | Response Count |
|---|---|
| | 535 |
| answered question | **535** |
| skipped question | **649** |

## 11. Would you be willing to participate in a follow-up group discussion about general education at MSU?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | | 32.0% | 297 |
| **No** | | **68.0%** | **632** |
| | | answered question | 929 |
| | | skipped question | 255 |

## 12. If you answered yes, you may be invited by a member of the General Education Task Force to participate in a focus group. Please provide the information requested below. Your personal information will not be used for any purpose other than to contact you regarding a follow-up group discussion. Your personal information will be permanently separated from the rest of your responses.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Name:** | | **100.0%** | **271** |
| **Email Address:** | | **100.0%** | **271** |
| | | answered question | 271 |
| | | skipped question | 913 |