San Francisco State University
Senior Exit Survey Results
January 1st, 2019 – December 31st, 2019
Feedback

Total Responses: 6,833
Items: 40
1. Overall San Francisco State Experience
81% of students would **probably** or **definitely** recommend SF State to their friends

Item: Would you recommend SF State to your friends?

73% of students reported that they **will** have graduated in the time expected

Item: Will you have graduated in the time expected?

65% of students reported having a mentor

Item: Is there at least one member of the SF State faculty or staff that you consider your mentor?
Overall San Francisco State Experience

If you did not graduate in the time expected, what is the main reason why not?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Availability</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Pressure/Need to Work</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Major/Indecision about a Major</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Took One or More Semesters Off</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Responsibilities</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
21% of students indicated “Other” as the main reason they will have not graduated in the time expected. Students had the opportunity to expand upon their response through an open-ended text box. **Top themes** that emerged are shown below.
1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

Advising: “Counselor helped me create a schedule and they assigned me a class that didn’t count towards the requirement it was supposed to.”

Advising: “Advisors told me different information regarding my graduation status.”

Short of Expected Units: “I was 1 unit short and had to apply for summer graduation.”

Advising: “Not the best academic counseling on what classes to take/how to fulfill major requirements...”

Short of Expected Units: “Not enough of credits which I had to take 1 more semester.”
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1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

- Difficulty in Courses
- Articulation & Transfer Issues
- Physical/Mental Health

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1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

- Difficulty in Courses
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1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

Difficulty in Courses:
“I failed classes due to other classes interfering, particularly my major courses.”

Difficulty in Courses:
“I ended up failing a class that I needed to graduate.”

Articulation/Transfer
“Poor integration with the junior college system.”

Articulation/Transfer
“Orientation told me to retake courses because there wasn’t that exact course equivalent at SFSU…”

Physical/Mental Health
“I got sick and had to take a year off then return part-time.”
## Overall San Francisco State Experience

If changes were made, what would have improved your overall SF State experience the most?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Availability</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advising</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking and Transportation</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Concerns/ Cost of Attendance</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Life</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction/Teaching</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Requirements</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Facilities</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Satisfaction with the Major Program
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Students expressed that they were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the following aspects of their major program:

- **Quality of teaching**: 81%
- **Accessibility of faculty**: 78%
- **Faculty interest in academic success**: 77%
- **Academic rigor of classes**: 76%
- **Online courses in the major**: 71%
- **Quality of academic advising**: 70%
3. Involvement in Academic, Campus, and Community Activities
Reported student participation in the following academic, campus, and community activities:

- Community service/Volunteer work*: 60%
- Student organizations*: 54%
- Athletic/Physical recreation*: 44%
- Culminating senior experience: 40%
- Research with a faculty member*: 35%
- Internship/Field experience: 33%
- Study abroad: 7%

*Note: Includes low, moderate, and high levels of participation.
4. Improvement in Intellectual Abilities
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Over 7 in 10 students reported that SF State contributed to improvements in their critical thinking, information literacy, and oral communication skills to a considerable or great extent.
5. Personal and Social Development
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Students reported that SF State contributed to a considerable or great extent to the following areas:

- **78%** Learning effectively on your own
- **77%** Awareness of ethical implications of your own and others actions
- **75%** Exposure to cultures or groups different from your own
- **72%** Acquiring a broad general education
- **61%** Development of leadership skills
- **64%** Commitment to social justice
- **60%** Commitment to civic engagement
6. Post-Graduation Plans

The top two plans students reported upon graduation were employment and graduate study.
6. Post-Graduation Plans

For students who selected “Employment” as their Post-Graduation plans, **48%** agreed or strongly agreed that SF State has prepared them for the workplace.
6. Post-Graduation Plans

For students who selected “Graduate Study” as their Post-Graduation plans, 74% agreed or strongly agreed that SF State has prepared them for graduate school.
In general, responses were on par with the 2018 Senior Exit Survey results.

Issues with availability of courses continued to show a consistent downward trend.

New themes impacting on-time graduation: advising, short of expected units, difficulty in courses, articulation, physical & mental health.

Online course taking in the major continued to rise.

Following graduation, students are primarily seeking employment or graduate school.
Questions & Comments

• What questions do you have?

• How might you use the results of the Senior Exit Survey in each of your respective roles?

• To view the comprehensive report, please visit: ir.sfsu.edu/content/surveys
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