San Francisco State University
Senior Exit Survey Results
January 1st, 2022 – December 31st, 2022

Total Responses: 1468
Items: 41
Survey Feedback
1. Overall San Francisco State Experience
82% of students would **probably** or **definitely** recommend SF State to their friends. This is down 2%.

Item: Would you recommend SF State to your friends?

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80% of students reported that they **will** have graduated in the time expected. This is up 7%.

Item: Will you have graduated in the time expected?

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60% of students reported having a mentor.

This is down 3%.

Item: Is there at least one member of the SF State faculty or staff that you consider your mentor?
If you did not graduate in the time expected, what is the main reason why not?

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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Availability</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial pressure or need to work</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Major/Indecision about a Major</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Took One or More Semesters Off</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Responsibilities</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
31% 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. Advising/Support and Issues Choosing Classes

2. COVID-19 Response Disruption

3. Health/Mental Health and Personal Issues

4. Struggles Related to Online Courses

5. Difficulty in Classes
1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

Advising/Support:
“When meeting with councilors they often had me take classes that I did not need to take.”

COVID-19 Response:
“The pandemic.”
“Covid19.”

Health/Mental Health:
“Burnout and covid related mental health issues.”
“Surgery.”

Difficulty in Classes:
“Had to make up for past classes failed.”

Online Course Struggle:
“I wasn’t sure how online was going to go so took fewer courses.”
Of Note: Reasons for Not Graduating on Time

• Course availability has seen the largest improvement in reason cited for not graduating. From 35% in 2017 to 19% in 2022.

• Financial pressure saw the largest 1-year decrease, from 20% to 13%.
  • Speculative Reasons:
    • emergency COVID-19 relief funds
    • transportation costs down (online courses)

• Students continue to cite COVID-19 as a major disruptor to graduating on time.
If changes were made, what would have improved your overall SF State experience the most?

1. Overall San Francisco State Experience

- **Course Availability**
  - 2018: 30%
  - 2019: 30%
  - 2020: 27%
  - 2021: 24%
  - 2022: 24%

- **Advising**
  - 2018: 18%
  - 2019: 16%
  - 2020: 17%
  - 2021: 19%
  - 2022: 17%

- **Financial Concerns/ Cost of Attendance**
  - 2018: 12%
  - 2019: 12%
  - 2020: 14%
  - 2021: 15%
  - 2022: 15%

- **Parking and Transportation**
  - 2018: 11%
  - 2019: 14%
  - 2020: 13%
  - 2021: 11%
  - 2022: 9%

- **Campus Life**
  - 2018: 9%
  - 2019: 9%
  - 2020: 10%
  - 2021: 11%
  - 2022: 14%

- **Instruction/Teaching**
  - 2018: 6%
  - 2019: 7%
  - 2020: 6%
  - 2021: 7%
  - 2022: 7%

- **Degree Requirements**
  - 2018: 6%
  - 2019: 5%
  - 2020: 6%
  - 2021: 6%
  - 2022: 6%

- **Campus Facilities**
  - 2018: 4%
  - 2019: 4%
  - 2020: 4%
  - 2021: 3%
  - 2022: 3%
2. Satisfaction with the Major Program
Students expressed that they were **satisfied** or **very satisfied** with the following aspects of their major program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Teaching</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility of Faculty</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Interest in Success</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Rigor</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Advising</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Courses in Major</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Satisfaction with the Major Program – 5 Year Trend

- Students expressed **satisfied** or **very satisfied** with the following in major program:

  - **Quality of teaching**: 83% 81% 83% 81% 82%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
  - **Accessibility of faculty**: 79% 78% 79% 75% 75%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
  - **Faculty interest in academic success**: 77% 77% 78% 78% 74%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
  - **Academic rigor of classes**: 78% 76% 78% 77% 74%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
  - **Quality of academic advising**: 70% 70% 70% 69% 67%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
  - **Online courses in the major**: 70% 71% 69% 62% 71%
    - 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022
2. Satisfaction with the Major Program – 5 Year Trend

• Students who participated in at least one online course in their major:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Online Course Participation Rates</th>
<th>Satisfaction with Online Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Satisfaction with online courses recovered in 2022, after a steep drop in 2021 during the initial switch to fully online coursework.
Of Note: Major Program Satisfaction

- All five satisfaction items saw an overall 5 year decrease. The largest were in Academic Rigor and Faculty Accessibility, both dropping 4% from 2018 to 2022.

- Online course enrollment remains high in 99% after the 2021 change due to the COVID-19 pandemic response.
3. Involvement in Academic, Campus, and Community Activities
3. Involvement in Academic, Campus, and Community Activities

Reported student participation in the following academic, campus, and community activities:

- Community service/Volunteer work* - 45%
- Student organizations* - 49%
- Athletic/Physical recreation* - 32%
- Culminating senior experience - 34%
- Research with a faculty member* - 28%
- Internship/Field experience - 25%
- Study abroad - 5%

*Note: Includes low, moderate, and high levels of participation.
Students expressed **high, moderate** or **low** participation in the following activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community service/volunteer work</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student organizations</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic/Physical Recreation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culminating senior experience</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research with a faculty member</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship/field experience</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study abroad</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of Note: Enrollment in Activities

- COVID-19 pandemic may be continuing to impact enrollment in activities.

- There was a continued 2 year decrease in community service/volunteer work, student organizations, athletics, research, and study abroad.

- Internships/field experience show a decrease of 9% over the past 5 year period, while research with a faculty member has increased by 7%.
4. Improvement in Intellectual Abilities
Over 7 in 10 students reported that SF State contributed to improvements in their critical thinking and information literacy skills to a considerable or great extent.
4. Improvement in Intellectual Abilities – 5 Year Trend

• Students reported improvements to a **considerable** or **great extent** in:

**Critical thinking**
- 79% 79% 80% 76% 76%

**Information literacy**
- 78% 78% 79% 75% 76%

**Oral communication**
- 73% 71% 72% 69% 67%

**Writing**
- 69% 67% 68% 67% 67%

**Quantitative reasoning**
- 64% 63% 63% 61% 60%
Of Note: Oral Communication

- Oral Communication has seen the largest decrease over the past 5 years.
- Total decrease of 6% during this period.
- Online course participation has increased from 70% to 99% during this time period.
5. Personal and Social Development
5. Personal and Social Development

Students reported that SF State contributed to a considerable or great extent to the following areas:

77%  Learning effectively on your own

74%  Awareness of ethical implications of your own and others actions

68%  Exposure to cultures or groups different from your own

70%  Acquiring a broad general education

64%  Commitment to social justice

59%  Development of leadership skills

58%  Commitment to civic engagement
5. Personal and Social Development – 5 Year Trend

- Students reported improvements to a **considerable** or **great extent** in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning effectively on your own</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of leadership skills</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of ethical implications of own + others actions</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exposure to cultures/groups different from own</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquiring a broad general education</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to social justice</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to civic engagement</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of leadership skills</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of Note: Personal & Social Development

- Exposure to cultures/groups different than one’s own has shown an 8% decrease from 2018 to 2022.

- The other 5 of 6 categories have decrease slightly or remained the same from 2018 to 2022.
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 plan, 46% agreed or strongly agreed that SF State has prepared them for the workplace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither Agree nor Disagree</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For students who selected “Graduate Study” as their Post-Graduation plan, 76% agreed or strongly agreed that SF State has prepared them for graduate school.
Of Note: Post Graduation Plans

- Following graduation, students are primarily seeking employment or graduate school.
- Students continue to seek employment at roughly triple the rate of graduate school.
Limitations

• Number of participants significantly decreased due to administrative change to recruiting participants.
  • 2021 – 2022: (less than 10% of graduating seniors)
  • 2020 and before: 80-90% of graduating seniors

• COVID-19 continued to impact findings, which are noticeably different than years past. Including:
  • Sudden changes in students' lives from finances to mental health and their overall experience at SFSU (enrollment, grades)
  • Engagement in student activities
  • Challenges with online courses