Drake Student Survey 2014

– includes both Undergraduate and Graduate responses

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment
Drake University
Drake continues to be strong in student satisfaction. The lowest area of satisfaction is in Academic Advising.
Graduate students also indicate a high level of overall satisfaction. The lowest areas of satisfaction are in Academic Advising and Career Preparation.
Graduate Students’ Obstacles to Progress

Major + Moderate Obstacle

- Financial issues
- Work commitments
- Family obligations
- Course scheduling
- Program structure or requirements
- Availability of faculty
- Immigration laws or regulations

Obstacles to progress vary by college/school. Common obstacles include financial issues and work commitments.
## Undergraduate Educational Goals – Highest Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Goal</th>
<th>% Rating “Strong or “Very Strong”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate information</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand scientific writings</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand issues related to use of information</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to read carefully</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct reasoned arguments</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to integrate skills and knowledge</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Execute mathematical operations</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand perspectives/experiences of others</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articulate a vision of my own values and ethics</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate reasoned arguments</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These items represent the educational goals that students rated highest. While the format of the educational goal question changed in 2014 to support a longitudinal panel study, students' rating of their skills for these items remains consistent with previous Drake Student Survey results.
Drake may wish to consider reviewing the ways that we engage students in these educational goals to ensure that the Drake Curriculum provides opportunities to enhance students’ skills. Part of this review should include a careful examination of these educational goal statements to examine alignment with our intended outcomes.
Highest Undergraduate Self-Reported Gains (FLA/DSS Longitudinal Study)

- Read and understand scientific writings written for an informed lay audience
- Employ evidence effectively in writing
- Evaluate the quality or reliability of information
- Understand the ethical issues related to use and misuse of information
- Evaluate reasoned arguments
- Apply understanding of ethical issues when developing solutions
- Ability to use educational experiences to analyze civic and global issues
- Construct reasoned arguments
- Ability to integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences
Cultural Perspective
Percentage of Respondents who ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘ Agree’

While there is notable fluctuation across years (see 2011), there is a consistent ranking across items. Students provided higher ratings for their ability to explain personal values, care for self in new situations, and discuss cultural differences. Students provided comparatively lower ratings for understanding the reasons and causes of conflict, being informed of current issues, and intentionally involving people from many cultural backgrounds.