

Assessing the learning experience: student or alumni survey templates

Developed by the Teaching Support Centre, the following questions are intended as examples for your department to consider when developing a survey **for in-course students or alumni of your undergraduate program**. The end-goal is to create and deliver a survey that covers questions most relevant to your students, faculty, and staff. **Please modify and adapt the questions provided here in order to best fit your program's context.**

Sample questions sections include:

- Demographic questions.
- Open-ended response questions.
- Program satisfaction questions.
- Questions assessing the achievement of the:
 - Western Degree Outcomes (WeDOs);
 - Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (UDLEs) for current undergraduate students; and
 - Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (UDLEs) for alumni.

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1. Demographic Questions for Current Undergraduate Students

1) What gender do you most identify with? _____

2) How old are you? _____

3) In which year of your academic program are you currently registered?

Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 or more

4) What is your current enrolment status?

- Full Time (i.e., 3.5 full course equivalents or more)
 Part Time (i.e., 3.0 full course equivalents or fewer)

5) In which Faculty are you currently registered?

- Arts and Humanities
 Don Wright Faculty of Music
 Engineering
 Health Sciences (Health Sciences, Kinesiology, Nursing)
 Information and Media Studies (Media, Information and Technoculture, Media Theory and Production)
 Richard Ivey School of Business
 Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
 Science
 Social Science (including Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies)
 Other (please specify) _____

6) Of the following, in which modules of the [program name] program are you currently registered?

- [module a]
 [module b]
 [module x]

7) Do you currently have a job?

Yes No |

If you answered "no" to question 7, please skip to question 9.

8) How many hours per week, on average, do you work?

9) Are you currently involved in extra-curricular, co-curricular, or volunteer activities (not including part-time or full-time work)?

Yes No |

If you answered “no” to question 9, please skip to question 11.

10) Please indicate the types of extra-curricular, co-curricular, or volunteer activities in which you are involved in the space below.

2. Open-ended Response Questions for Current Undergraduate Students

- 1) What do you believe are the strengths of the [program name] program?
- 2) What suggestions can you provide that will help improve the [program name] program?
- 3) What skills and areas of knowledge learned the [program name] program do you use most frequently in your current position or daily life?
- 4) What other comments do you have about the [program name] program?

3. Sample Program Satisfaction Questions for Current Undergraduate Students

The following questions were adapted from a survey created by the Psychology Graduate Program in the process of program review.

Please rate your level of agreement with the statements below concerning the [program name] program using the following scale.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree			
1	2	3	4	5			
a) There is adequate study space.			1	2	3	4	5
b) I have access to the appropriate library resources.			1	2	3	4	5
c) I am satisfied with the overall quality of the [program name] program’s facilities and resources.			1	2	3	4	5
d) I am satisfied with the quality of the [program name] programs course offerings.			1	2	3	4	5
e) I am satisfied with the number of courses [program name] offered.			1	2	3	4	5
f) I am satisfied with the variety of courses [program name] offered.			1	2	3	4	5
g) I am satisfied with the number of courses or course-load required for the degree.			1	2	3	4	5
h) I am satisfied with the content of the courses required for the degree.			1	2	3	4	5

i) I am satisfied with the availability of inter- or cross-disciplinary course opportunities.	1	2	3	4	5
j) I am satisfied with the mode of delivery (e.g., face-to-face lectures, online) of courses.	1	2	3	4	5
k) I am satisfied with the quality of the courses.	1	2	3	4	5
l) Information on the program and its requirements are easily accessible.	1	2	3	4	5
n) There is appropriate staff support for the program.	1	2	3	4	5
o) I am kept well informed about program-related issues.	1	2	3	4	5
p) I have opportunities to receive information on career-related issues and professional development.	1	2	3	4	5
q) Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of interactions I had with faculty members in the [program name] program.	1	2	3	4	5
r) I feel like I belonged to a community in the [program name] program.	1	2	3	4	5
s) Overall the quality of the academic experience in the [program name] program is very good.	1	2	3	4	5

4. Demographic Questions for Alumni

1) What gender do you most identify with? _____

2) How old are you? _____

3) In which year did you complete your undergraduate program with [program name]? _____

4) In your last year of study in the undergraduate program in [program name], in which Faculty were you registered?

- Arts and Humanities
- Don Wright Faculty of Music
- Engineering
- Health Sciences (Health Sciences, Kinesiology, Nursing)
- Information and Media Studies (Media, Information and Technoculture, Media Theory and Production)
- Richard Ivey School of Business
- Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
- Science
- Social Science (including Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies)
- Other (please specify) _____

5) Of the following, in which modules of the [program name] program were you registered?

- [module a]
- [module b]
- [module x]

6) Are you currently employed?

Yes No

If answered “no” to question 6, skip to question 10.

7) Would you characterize your employment as full- or part-time?

Full-time Part-time

8) Of the following, which best characterizes the field in which you are employed?

- Management occupations
- Business, finance, and administrative occupations
- Natural and applied sciences and related occupations
- Health occupations
- Occupations in social science, education, government service, and religion
- Occupations in art, culture, recreation, and sport
- Sales and service occupations
- Trades, transport, and equipment operators and related occupations

9) Are you working in your preferred field?

Yes No

10) After you completed your undergraduate program in [program name], did you pursue further formal education?

Yes No

If answered “no” to question 10, skip to question 12.

11) Which of the following best characterizes your educational pursuits after you completed your undergraduate program?

- College courses (but not a diploma or degree)
- A College diploma or degree
- University courses (but not a degree)
- Another undergraduate degree
- A professional degree
- A graduate degree (e.g., Masters, PhD)
- Other (please specify) _____

5. Open-ended Response Questions for Alumni

1) What do you believe are the strengths of the [program name] program?

2) What suggestions can you provide that will help improve the [program name] program?

7. Questions Assessing the Achievement of the Western Degree Outcomes (WeDOs)

We provide a number of items that represent each of the seven WeDOs. In developing your survey, you can consider reducing (or expanding) the number of questions for each WeDO depending on your interest in evaluating the program. The items have been designed so that current in-program students or alumni can use the same instrument.

[Square brackets] are used as a placeholder for text that you will need to replace. There can also be multiple [choices, options] listed in a square bracket. You will want to choose one appropriate selection based on the nature of the work in your discipline.

Using the following scale, please indicate how strongly you AGREE or DISAGREE with the following statements about the knowledge and skills you developed as a result of your learning experiences in [program name].

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

1. Knowledge

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) Engage in a learning experience because I value and enjoy the process of learning itself. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) Ask questions that help me make connections between [phenomena, ideas] in my area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) Explain the differences and similarities between theories I've learned. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) Explain the differences and similarities between research methods I've learned. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| e) Explain the differences and similarities between core ideas I've learned. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| f) Analyze problems according to accepted approaches in my area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| g) Solve problems according to accepted methods in my area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| h) [imagine, create, produce] [new, novel] [solutions, works, performances] in my area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

2. Literacies & Interdisciplinarity

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) Use [disciplinary literacy (e.g. numerical, information, visual)] to reason through basic problems. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) Use [disciplinary literacy (e.g. numerical, information, visual)] to reason through complex problems. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) Use the research methods I've learned in my area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) Identify the appropriate [oral, print, graphic, numerical, scientific, digital] sources to help answer a question being investigated. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| e) Access the appropriate [oral, print, graphic, numerical, scientific, digital] information to help answer a question being investigated. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| f) Evaluate [oral, print, graphic, numerical, scientific, digital] information to help answer a question being investigated. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| g) Explore complex problems from a variety of perspectives. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| h) Recognize bias in the [sources, methods] I use. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

i) Identify underrepresented perspectives in my area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
j) Describe the limitations of the sources I use [when proposing solutions, when exploring ideas].	1	2	3	4	5
k) Describe the limitations of the [methods, approaches] I use [when proposing solutions, when exploring ideas].	1	2	3	4	5
l) Work under conditions of uncertainty when answering questions in my area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
m) Answer questions using research methods that are relevant to my area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
n) Propose solutions to problems from a range of contexts.	1	2	3	4	5

3. Communication

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

a) Effectively work with individuals.	1	2	3	4	5
b) Effectively work with groups.	1	2	3	4	5
c) Effectively [produce, create works] with individuals.	1	2	3	4	5
d) Effectively [produce, create works] with groups.	1	2	3	4	5
e) Use the appropriate level of language for the group with which I'm communicating.	1	2	3	4	5
f) Use the appropriate reasoning level for the group with which I'm communicating.	1	2	3	4	5
g) [Present, perform] work in a way that is clear to a variety of audiences.	1	2	3	4	5
h) Communicate in a responsible manner.	1	2	3	4	5
i) Communicate in a respectful manner.	1	2	3	4	5

4. Resilience and life-long learning

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

a) Adapt to personal challenges.	1	2	3	4	5
b) Adapt to professional challenges.	1	2	3	4	5
c) Reflect in order to identify ways to adapt to change.	1	2	3	4	5
d) Articulate my strengths as a learner.	1	2	3	4	5
e) Articulate my weaknesses as a learner.	1	2	3	4	5
f) Articulate my personal values.	1	2	3	4	5
g) Articulate my personal goals.	1	2	3	4	5
h) Articulate the limits of my knowledge.	1	2	3	4	5
i) Step outside of my comfort zone to enhance my skills.	1	2	3	4	5

5. Global and Community engagement

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

a) Interact ethically with others.	1	2	3	4	5
b) Relate to others with compassion.	1	2	3	4	5

c) Understand the implications of my actions on the [built, social, natural] environment.	1	2	3	4	5
d) Understand the implications of my actions on [my local community, the global community].	1	2	3	4	5
e) Recognize the global interconnectedness of [technology, culture, economics, politics].	1	2	3	4	5
f) Describe how I could act on my local [social, political, environmental] responsibilities.	1	2	3	4	5
g) Describe how I could act on my global [social, political, environmental] responsibilities.	1	2	3	4	5

6. Critical and Creative Thinking

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

a) Critically evaluate others' arguments.	1	2	3	4	5
b) Adapt my thinking in light of new information.	1	2	3	4	5
c) Identify underlying assumptions of others' arguments.	1	2	3	4	5
d) Identify differing points of view on an issue.	1	2	3	4	5
e) Identify the intended [agenda(s), purpose(s), audience(s)] of others' arguments.	1	2	3	4	5
f) Identify the [paradigms, logical strategies, reasoning] others draw on to make their argument(s).	1	2	3	4	5
g) Evaluate provided evidence to judge the credibility of an argument.	1	2	3	4	5
h) Judge the reliability of an argument based on careful analysis.	1	2	3	4	5
i) Recognize when my work would be improved through [revision, further refinement].	1	2	3	4	5
j) Bring habits of [aesthetic engagement, artistic expression] to my scholarly pursuits.	1	2	3	4	5
k) Extend a unique [idea, question, format, product] to create new [knowledge, questions, ideas, formats, products].	1	2	3	4	5
l) Integrate contradictory or alternate perspectives to solve a problem.	1	2	3	4	5
m) Develop a logical plan to solve a problem.	1	2	3	4	5
n) Recognize the consequences of a solution.	1	2	3	4	5

7. Professionalism and Ethical Conduct

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am able to...

a) Recognize how the ways in which I behave impacts others.	1	2	3	4	5
b) Work effectively with others in my area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
c) Work ethically with others in my area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
d) Work effectively with others in my community.	1	2	3	4	5
e) Work ethically with others in my community.	1	2	3	4	5
f) Respect the cultural differences of those with whom I work.	1	2	3	4	5
g) Explore ideas from viewpoints other than my own.	1	2	3	4	5

h) Explore issues from viewpoints other than my own.	1	2	3	4	5
i) Responsibly apply the skills I've developed to situations I encounter.	1	2	3	4	5
j) Responsibly apply the knowledge I've developed through my undergraduate studies to situations I find around me.	1	2	3	4	5
k) Responsibly apply the [values, beliefs] I've developed through my undergraduate studies to situations I find around me.	1	2	3	4	5

8. Questions Assessing the Achievement of the Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (UDLEs) for Current Undergraduate Students

We provide a number of questions that represent each of the six UDLE categories. Because Western Degree Outcomes now replace UDLES, these questions are provided as examples to adapt.

Using the following scale, please indicate how strongly you **AGREE** or **DISAGREE** with the following statements about the knowledge and skills you developed as a result of your learning experiences in [program name].

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

1) Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) the key concepts in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
b) the major methodologies in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
c) the important theoretical approaches in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
d) the fundamental assumptions in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
e) the current advances in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
f) many of the major fields in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
g) how the major fields in the discipline intersect with fields in related disciplines.	1	2	3	4	5
h) the relationships between the major fields within the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
i) how to find disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
j) how to interpret disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
k) how to evaluate disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
l) how to compare the merits of different hypotheses.	1	2	3	4	5
m) a detailed knowledge of the research in a particular area of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
n) how to do research in an area of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
o) critical thinking skills.	1	2	3	4	5
p) how to critically analyse information.	1	2	3	4	5
q) how to apply my learning to areas outside of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5

2) Knowledge of Methodologies

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) the methods of inquiry in my primary area of study.	1	2	3	4	5
b) how to evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems within the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
c) how to formulate arguments using the approaches from the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
d) how to analyse the current research in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5

3) Application of Knowledge

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) how to evaluate qualitative information.	1	2	3	4	5
b) how to evaluate quantitative information.	1	2	3	4	5
c) how to develop lines of reasoning to make an argument.	1	2	3	4	5
d) how to make judgements consistent with the major theories of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
e) how to critically evaluate arguments.	1	2	3	4	5
f) how to produce viable solutions to problems.	1	2	3	4	5
g) how to use disciplinary forms [<i>techniques</i>] of analysis.	1	2	3	4	5
h) how to apply disciplinary concepts in a variety of contexts.	1	2	3	4	5
i) how to use my disciplinary knowledge creatively.	1	2	3	4	5
j) how to use primary research sources (e.g., journal articles, original texts).	1	2	3	4	5

4) Communication Skills

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) how to communicate effectively with a range of audiences.	1	2	3	4	5
b) how to express my ideas effectively in writing.	1	2	3	4	5
c) how to express my ideas effectively in oral communication.	1	2	3	4	5

5) Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) that my disciplinary knowledge has limits.	1	2	3	4	5
b) that my academic abilities have limits.	1	2	3	4	5
c) that there are limits to the knowledge in my discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
d) how the uncertain knowledge in my field might influence my personal perspective.	1	2	3	4	5

6) Professional Capacity

Because of my experiences in the [program name] program, I am learning...

a) the skills necessary to be successful in my career of interest.	1	2	3	4	5
b) how my disciplinary training benefits the broader community.	1	2	3	4	5
c) to take initiative.	1	2	3	4	5
d) to take personal responsibility for my actions.	1	2	3	4	5
e) how to be accountable to others.	1	2	3	4	5

f) how to work effectively with others.	1	2	3	4	5
g) how to make difficult decisions in complex situations.	1	2	3	4	5
h) the skills to be a lifelong learner.	1	2	3	4	5
i) what socially responsible practice involves in my field.	1	2	3	4	5
j) the ethical principles in my discipline.	1	2	3	4	5

9. Questions Assessing the Achievement of the Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (UDLEs) for Alumni

We provide a number of questions that represent each of the six UDLE categories. Because Western Degree Outcomes now replace UDLES, these questions are provided as examples to adapt.

Using the following scale, please indicate how strongly you **AGREE** or **DISAGREE** with the following statements about the knowledge and skills you developed as a result of your learning experiences in [program name].

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

1) Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

a) I developed an understanding of the key concepts in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
b) I know the major methodologies in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
c) I have learned the important theoretical approaches in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
d) I have an understanding of the fundamental assumptions in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
e) I know the current advances in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
f) I can describe many of the major fields in the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
g) I learned how the major fields in the discipline intersect with fields in related disciplines.	1	2	3	4	5
h) I understand the relationships between the major fields within the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
i) I am able to find disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
j) I can interpret disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
k) I am able to evaluate disciplinary information.	1	2	3	4	5
l) I can compare the merits of different hypotheses.	1	2	3	4	5
m) I developed a detailed knowledge of the research in a particular area of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
n) I have experience in doing research in an area of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
o) I developed critical thinking skills.	1	2	3	4	5
p) I am able to critically analyse information.	1	2	3	4	5
q) I can apply my learning to areas outside of the discipline.	1	2	3	4	5

2) Knowledge of Methodologies

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) I understand the methods of inquiry in my primary area of study. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) I can evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems within the discipline. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) I am able to formulate arguments using the approaches from the discipline. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) I can analyse the current research in the discipline. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

3) Application of Knowledge

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) I am able to evaluate qualitative information. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) I can evaluate quantitative information. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) I can develop lines of reasoning to make an argument. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) I can make judgements consistent with the major theories of the discipline. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| e) I am able to critically evaluate arguments. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| f) I can produce viable solutions to problems. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| g) I can use disciplinary forms [<i>techniques</i>] of analysis. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| h) I can apply disciplinary concepts in a variety of contexts. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| i) I can use my disciplinary knowledge creatively. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| j) I am able to use primary research sources (e.g., journal articles, original texts). | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

4) Communication Skills

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) I am able to communicate effectively with a range of audiences. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) I am good at expressing my ideas in writing. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) I am good at expressing my ideas orally. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

5) Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) I understand that my disciplinary knowledge has limits. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) I understand that my academic abilities have limits. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) I recognize that there are limits to the knowledge in my discipline. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) I learned how the uncertain knowledge in my field might influence my personal perspective. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

6) Professional Capacity

As a result of my learning experiences in the [program name] program...

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a) I have the abilities required to pursue further education (e.g., graduate school, professional programs). | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) I have the skills necessary to be successful in my career of interest. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) I have learned how my disciplinary training benefits the broader community. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

d) I take initiative.	1	2	3	4	5
e) I take personal responsibility for my actions.	1	2	3	4	5
f) I know how to be accountable to others.	1	2	3	4	5
g) I work effectively with others.	1	2	3	4	5
h) I can make difficult decisions in complex situations.	1	2	3	4	5
i) I continue to learn in my field.	1	2	3	4	5
j) I seek professional development in my field.	1	2	3	4	5
k) I am aware of what socially responsible practice involves in my field.	1	2	3	4	5
m) My professional work is guided by the ethical principles of my discipline.	1	2	3	4	5