

Survey of Undergraduate Alumni Spring 2016

Sociology



Southeastern Louisiana University

Institutional Research

B.A. Sociology

Satisfaction with Degree Program

Number of Respondents: 19					
	Very Dissatisfied - 1	2	3	4	Very Satisfied - 5
Overall quality of your department					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	21.1% (4)	78.9% (15)
Overall quality of your degree program					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.3% (5)	73.7% (14)
Clarity of the degree requirements as outlined in the catalogue and/or curriculum sheets					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.3% (5)	68.4% (13)
Usefulness of the academic advice you received from your advisor					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	5.3% (1)	10.5% (2)	78.9% (15)
Opportunities to interact with faculty outside of class					
BA Sociology	5.3% (1)	0.0%	5.3% (1)	15.8% (3)	73.7% (14)
Effectiveness of the faculty as teachers					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	31.6% (6)	68.4% (13)
Friendliness and helpfulness of the office staff					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	15.8% (3)	84.2% (16)
Interest shown by faculty in your academic development					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	0.0%	10.5% (2)	84.2% (16)
Effectiveness of beginning courses in preparing you for advanced courses					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	10.5% (2)	15.8% (3)	73.7% (14)
Quality of instruction in advanced courses					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.3% (5)	73.7% (14)
Faculty treatment of students both inside and outside of the classroom					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	21.1% (4)	78.9% (15)
Professional activities, associations, or clubs associated with your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	21.1% (4)	26.3% (5)	47.4% (9)
Opportunity for meaningful interaction with faculty in research or other scholarly activity					
BA Sociology	5.3% (1)	0.0%	15.8% (3)	15.8% (3)	63.2% (12)
Availability of the required courses in your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	5.3% (1)	31.6% (6)	63.2% (12)
Availability of elective courses you wanted to take in your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	42.1% (8)	57.9% (11)
Quality of instruction regarding standards and ethics in your major field					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.3% (5)	73.7% (14)
Opportunities for you to collaborate with other students on class projects					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	31.6% (6)	68.4% (13)
Satisfaction with Degree Program					

Number of Respondents: 19					
	Very Dissatisfied - 1	2	3	4	Very Satisfied - 5
Library resources related to your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	10.5% (2)	15.8% (3)	68.4% (13)
Use of appropriate technology in the classroom					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	31.6% (6)	68.4% (13)
Facilities and equipment (including computer resources) for courses in your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	10.5% (2)	15.8% (3)	73.7% (14)
Help you received from faculty in your department with regard to further educational opportunities					
BA Sociology	5.3% (1)	0.0%	5.3% (1)	15.8% (3)	73.7% (14)
The size of classes in your major					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	5.3% (1)	10.5% (2)	84.2% (16)
Help you received from faculty in your department with regard to finding employment in your field					
BA Sociology	21.1% (4)	15.8% (3)	0.0%	21.1% (4)	42.1% (8)
The global perspectives of courses					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	15.8% (3)	84.2% (16)
The relevancy of courses					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	21.1% (4)	78.9% (15)
"Real-world" experiences, exposure, examples, etc. in or out of the classroom					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	15.8% (3)	5.3% (1)	73.7% (14)
Your advisor's knowledge of requirements					
BA Sociology	0.0%	5.3% (1)	0.0%	10.5% (2)	84.2% (16)
The accessibility of your advisor					
BA Sociology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.3% (5)	73.7% (14)
Your advisor's concern with your academic goals					
BA Sociology	0.0%	10.5% (2)	0.0%	10.5% (2)	78.9% (15)
Opportunity to acquire marketable skills					
BA Sociology	5.3% (1)	10.5% (2)	10.5% (2)	15.8% (3)	57.9% (11)

Table 31 continued		
Satisfaction with Degree Program		
	No	Yes
2. Would you recommend Southeastern to someone interested in what you majored in?		
BA Sociology	0.0%	100.0% (19)
3. If you had it to do over again, would you choose the same major?		
BA Sociology	31.6% (6)	68.4% (13)
4. Did you participate in an internship, a practicum, a clinical experience, or student teaching as part of your degree requirements?		
BA Sociology	73.7% (14)	26.3% (5)
6. Should a hands-on course be required in your program?		
BA Sociology	21.1% (4)	68.4% (13)

When asked what benefits they received from hands-on experience, Sociology graduates had the following to say:

- I received a wealth of experience and developed skills in writing a thesis, data processing, collection, and management. I was able to use the statistics training that I received from quality instructors. I also shared awareness with my instructors about how visually impaired people operate in a research setting and I believe that I have made it easier for the next visually impaired students in my department.
- Gave confidence when talking to people
- It helped me be better prepared for real life work related tasks I received once I graduated.

Perceptions of Southeastern

Three (15.8%) of the Sociology graduates participated in the study-abroad/student exchange program and two (66.7%) were very satisfied with the experience. Two (10.5%) of the respondents had participated in the honors program. One (50.0%) was Very Satisfied with the experience and one (50.0%) was Somewhat Satisfied. Four (21.1%) of the respondents conducted research under faculty supervision. Three (75.0%) were Very Satisfied with the experience and one (25.0%) was Somewhat Satisfied.

Graduate/Professional Education

Three (15.8%) of the respondents are currently enrolled in a graduate/professional degree program and two (10.5%) have completed a degree. One (15.3%) has taken courses, but not enrolled in a degree program. Nine (47.4%) of the respondents are likely to enroll in the future, and two (10.5%) have no plans for further education. Of those respondents with plans for further education, seven (46.7%) plan on eventually obtaining a doctorate, six (40.0%) plan on obtaining a master's, and one (6.7%) plans on obtaining a professional degree.

Of the five individuals with graduate school experience, four (80.0%) indicated that Southeastern prepared them "Effectively" for further graduate/professional study and one (20.0%) indicated they were "Very Effectively" prepared. One (20.0%) indicated that Southeastern prepared him/her "Better than Most" other students and four (80.0%) indicated that Southeastern prepared them "About the Same as Most". Furthermore, all (100%) indicated

their graduate degree program is “Very Closely Related” to their bachelor’s degree from Southeastern.

Employment

Eight (42.1%) of the respondents has not been employed full-time since graduating from Southeastern, while nine (47.4%) have been employed full-time. Of those who have been employed full-time, one (11.1%) had a job before graduating, three (33.3%) accepted a position upon graduation, three (33.3%) took 1-6 months to find a job, and two (22.2%) took 7-12 months.

The five respondents who did not have a job upon graduation faced a variety of problems in obtaining employment. Table 2 presents what were considered major problems, minor problems, or no problem.

Table 2			
Please indicate whether each of the following was a major problem, minor problem, or not a problem in obtaining employment after graduating from Southeastern with your Bachelors.			
	Major Problem	Minor Problem	Not A Problem
Limited to only one geographic area	20.0% (1)	0.0%	80.0% (4)
Not knowing what I wanted to do	40.0% (2)	40.0% (2)	20.0% (1)
Tight job market	20.0% (1)	0.0%	80.0% (4)
Lack of marketable skills	20.0% (1)	20.0% (1)	60.0% (3)
Lack of educational qualifications	20.0% (1)	0.0%	80.0% (4)
Reputation of Southeastern	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% (5)
Lack of experience	40.0% (2)	40.0% (2)	20.0% (1)
Lack of job search skills	20.0% (1)	20.0% (1)	60.0% (3)
Poor GPA	20.0% (1)	0.0%	80.0% (4)
Racial discrimination	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% (5)
Gender discrimination	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% (5)
Age discrimination	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% (5)

Four (44.4%) of those who have been employed full-time indicated their education was “Very Effective” in preparing them for employment or improving their job performance, four (44.4%) indicated it was “Effective”, and one (11.1%) indicated it was “Very Ineffective”. In regards to sources for learning about their first full-time job, two (22.2%) indicated faculty at Southeastern, one (11.1%) indicated a parent or relative, two (22.2%) from a newspaper/trade publication, one (11.1%) from a professional organization, two (22.2%) from another student/friend, and one (11.1%) already had the job.

Nine (47.4%) are currently employed full-time, three (15.87%) are employed part-time and looking for full-time employment, two (10.5%) have a graduate assistantship, and three (15.8%) are unemployed but seeking employment. Of those who are currently employed full-time, eight (88.9%) are employed in the state of Louisiana. One (11.1%) is employed in industry, one (11.1%) in a nonprofit organization, one (11.1%) in higher education, one (11.1%) is self-employed, two (22.2%) are employed by the government, two (22.2%) in K-12, and one (11.1%) in business. When asked “If underemployment is defined as a condition in which your job

requires lower levels of skill and training than those you acquired in college would you say that you are currently underemployed”, two (22.2%) of the respondents indicated they are underemployed. Six (66.7%) of the respondents are well satisfied with their employment and would not consider leaving and three (33.3%) are satisfied with their employment but would consider other employment. Three (33.3%) of the respondents are employed in an the area of their Southeastern major, two (22.2%) in a related area, and four (44.4%) in an unrelated area. Of the four, one (25.0%) developed a new career interest, one (25.0%) could not find a job they wanted in their field, and two (50.0%) have not obtained the necessary licensure or certification. One (11.1%) respondents indicated a salary range of \$10,000-\$15,000, one (11.1%) a range of \$15,001-\$20,000, one (11.1%) a range of \$20,001-\$30,000, two (22.2%) a range of \$30,001-\$40,000, three (33.3%) \$40,001-\$50,000 and one (11.1%) indicated a salary over \$50,000.

Professional Activities

Two (10.5%) of the respondents indicated they currently hold a license, and five (26.3%) indicated it is not available in their field. Currently held licenses include:

- PL-1 Certification (teaching)
- Practitioner's Teaching License

Of the ten without licensure, six (60.0%) plan obtaining it within the next twelve months, including:

- ABA certification
- Teaching license
- PHR

Five (26.3%) of the respondents are members of a professional organization, and four (21.1%) have attended a professional meeting in the past year.