

Topical Module: First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

This module includes a set of items only for first-year students and a set only for seniors (based on institution-reported class level), with questions adapted from the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (with partial support from the National Endowment for the Arts), respectively. The first-year items focus on academic perseverance, help-seeking behaviors, and institutional commitment, while the senior items explore post-graduation plans, links between the academic major and future plans, and confidence in skill development.

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES

1.	Dui	ring the current school year, about how often have you done the fo	llowing?					
				Very often	Often	S	Sometimes	Never
	a.	Studied when there were other interesting things to do		0	0		0	0
	b.	Found additional information for course assignments when you didn't						
		understand the material		0	0		0	0
	с.	Participated in course discussions, even when you didn't feel like it		0	<0		0	0
	d.	Asked instructors for help when you struggled with course assignments	S	0	$\sim o$	\checkmark	0	0
	e.	Finished something you had started when you encountered challenges		0	$\langle \rangle \rangle$	\sim	0	0
	f.	Stayed positive, even when you did poorly on a test or assignment		0	$\langle \rangle \langle 0 \rangle$		0	0
				$\langle 0 \rangle$	\sum			
2.	Du	ring the current school year, how difficult have the following been f	for you?	$\wedge \vee \sim$	$>$ \sim			
			Not at all difficult	$\langle \rangle \rangle$				Very difficult
			1 //	2	3	4	5	6
	a.	Learning course material	<u>o</u>	0	0	0	0	0
	b.	Managing your time	Q	\sim o	0	0	0	0
	с.	Getting help with school work	~ `o`~~`	0	0	0	0	0
	d.	Interacting with faculty	$\langle \langle o \rangle \rangle$	0	0	0	0	0
			$\langle \ell_{\mathcal{A}} \rangle$					

3. During the current school year, about how often have you sought help with coursework from the following sources?

		Very often	Often	Sometimes	Never
a.	Faculty members	0	0	0	0
b.	Academic advisors	0	0	0	0
с.	Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	0	0	0	0
d.	Friends or other students	0	0	0	0
e.	Family members	0	0	0	0
f.	Other persons or offices	0	0	0	0

4a. During the current school year, have you seriously considered leaving this institution?

- o Yes
- o No

[Only if "Yes"]

4b. Why did you consider leaving? (Select all that apply.)

- □ Academics are too difficult
- □ Academics are too easy
- Other academic issues (major not offered, course availability, advising, credit transfer, etc.)
- □ Financial concerns (costs or financial aid)
- □ To change your career options (transfer to another school or program, military service, etc.)
- Difficulty managing demands of school and work
- Too much emphasis on partying
- Not enough opportunities to socialize and have fun
- □ Relations with faculty and staff
- Relations with other students
- □ Campus climate, location, or culture
- Unsafe or hostile environment
- D Personal reasons (family issues, physical or mental health, homesickness, stress, etc.)
- A reason not listed above, please specify:

5. How important is it to you that you graduate from this institution?

-	Not importan	t			L	/ery importan	t
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	



SENIOR TRANSITIONS

1. Do you expect to graduate this spring or summer?

- o Yes
- o No

1a. After graduation, what best describes your immediate plans?

- Full-time employment
- Part-time employment
- Graduate or professional school
- o Military service
- Service or volunteer activity (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)
- o Internship (paid or unpaid)
- o Travel or gap year
- No plans at this time
- Other, please specify: _

[Only if "Full-time employment" or "Part-time employment" are selected:]

1b. Do you already have a job for after graduation?

- o No
- Yes, I will start a new job
- o Yes, I will continue in my current job

2. To what extent have courses in your major(s) prepared you for your post-graduation plans?

- o Very much
- o Quite a bit
- o Some
- o Very little

3. Do you intend to work eventually in a field related to your major(s)?

- o Yes
- o No
- o Unsure

4. Do you plan to be self-employed, an independent contractor, or a freelance worker someday?

- o Yes
- o No
- o Unsure

5. Do you plan to start your own business (nonprofit or for-profit) someday?

- o Yes
- o No
- o Unsure

6. How much confidence do you have in your ability to complete tasks requiring the following skills and abilities?

		Very much	Quite a bit	Some	Very little
a.	Critical thinking and analysis of arguments and information	0	0	0	0
b.	Creative thinking and problem solving	0	0	0	0
с.	Research skills	0	0	0	0
d.	Clear writing	0	0	0	0
e.	Persuasive speaking	0	0	0	0
f.	Technological skills	0	0	0	0
g.	Financial and business management skills	0	0	0	0
h.	Entrepreneurial skills	0	0	0	0
i.	Leadership skills	0	0	0	0
j.	Networking and relationship building	0	0	0	0



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7.	To what extent has your coursework in your major(s) emphasized the following?						
			Very much	Quite a bit	Some	Very little	
	a.	Generating new ideas or brainstorming	0	0	0	0	
	b.	Taking risks in your coursework without fear of penalty	0	0	0	0	
	c.	Evaluating multiple approaches to a problem	0	0	0	0	
	d.	Inventing new methods to arrive at unconventional solutions	0	0	0	0	

8. Is there anything your institution could have done better to prepare you for your career or further education? Please describe. (5,000 character limit)

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