

Senior Exit Survey, Spring 2005 Summary

(Data based on 40 completed surveys from population of 139 graduates or 29% response rate.)

What best describes your plans for the year immediately after graduation?

- 6 (15.0%) begin graduate school for Marriage and Family Therapy
- 0 (0.0%) begin graduate school for School Counseling
- 3 (7.5%) begin doctoral training in clinical psychology at a professional school
- 1 (2.5%) begin doctoral training in clinical or counseling psychology at a university
- 1 (2.5%) begin graduate work in a non-clinical psychology area (e.g., social, developmental)
- 0 (0.0%) begin graduate work in non-psychology discipline (education, law, medicine, education)
- 0 (0.0%) begin a teaching certificate program
- 2 (5.0%) begin certificate work in a specialized area (massage therapy, psych tech)
- 3 (7.5%) full-time employment in psychology-related field (counselor – social rehab center, country probation, peace corp)
- 6 (15.0%) full-time employment in unrelated field (clothing retail, own athletic goods store, law enforcement, insurance, business, work abroad in New Zealand)
- 3 (7.5%) work part time in a capacity *related* to my career plans
- 0 (0.0%) work part-time in a capacity *unrelated* to my career plans
- 1 (2.5%) take some time off work and school
- 6 (15.0%) unsure at the moment
- 8 (20.0%) other (MSc Behavioral analysis, take classes, year or semester off and then graduate school, internship, semester off than MFT, finish biofeedback)

What best describes your long-range plans beyond your B.A. in psychology?

- 20 (50%) go on eventually to a graduate program in psychology
- 2 (5%) go on eventually to graduate work in another field
- 8 (20%) full-time employment in field of psychology
- 1 (2.5%) full-time employment in a field other than psychology
- 2 (5%) other (MFT at SSU, maybe medical school)
- 7 (17.5%) unsure at the present time

To what extent do you feel your education in psychology at SSU developed the following abilities? (1 – not at all to 7 – greatly).

ACADEMIC SKILLS

	MEAN	STD
to understand and apply humanistic psychology	6.28	0.64
to think critically.	6.03	0.83
to research psychological issues.	5.85	1.23
to use informational resources (e.g., web)	5.85	1.23
to understand and apply transpersonal psychology	5.80	1.11
to communicate effectively.	5.68	1.00
to read critically.	5.65	1.05
to understand and apply psychoanalytic psychology	5.60	0.84

to give and receive constructive criticism.	5.41	1.16
to write well.	5.38	1.10
to understand human systems (from individual to global).	5.35	1.10
to understand and apply behavioral psychology	5.29	0.96
to speak well.	5.18	1.30
to present research results	5.05	1.34
to evaluate peer reviewed research reports	4.75	1.60
to use computers.	4.26	1.55

PERSONAL SKILLS

	MEAN	STD
to reflect on your own experience and find meaning in it.	6.38	0.81
to express thoughts and feelings appropriately.	6.05	0.85
to deal sensitively and effectively with a variety of people.	6.00	1.11
to develop your creative potential.	5.90	1.03
to facilitate the development of human potential.	5.78	1.05
to create a healthy lifestyle.	5.75	1.08
to get motivated.	5.70	1.04
to collaborate as a team or community member.	5.55	1.13
to help others adopt health promoting behaviors.	5.25	1.37
to manage your time effectively.	5.23	1.53
to become involved in community or political activities.	4.93	1.49

How frequently over the course of your attendance at SSU did you talk with a psychology faculty advisor?

- 18 (45%) More than once each semester
- 12 (30%) At least once each semester
- 10 (25%) Once or twice during my time here
- 0 (0%) Never

Overall, how did you find the faculty advisor(s)?

- 14 (35%) Very helpful and informed
- 18 (45%) Helpful and informed
- 8 (20%) Not very helpful or informed
- 0 (0%) Very unhelpful and uninformed

What would you have liked to see in your advising? *(Respondents could choose more than one option.)*

- 19 More direction in choosing courses
- 21 More discussion of graduate school training options in psychology
- 18 More discussion of career options in psychology
- 8 More discussion of counseling related career options
- 16 More discussion of specific graduate school programs

8 Other comments: more availability (4), precise information about graduation, no mistakes, help with internship placements.

27 (67.5%) completed an internship.

13 (33.3%) took a service learning course.

19 (47.5%) took a research methods course.

30 (75%) took a personality course.

30 (75%) took a counseling psychology course.

37 (93%) took a developmental course.

6 (15%) took a biological psychology or neuroscience course.

The largest class size (on average) was 68.

The smallest class size (on average) was 17.

The average class size was 35.

The longest single written assignment (on average) was 16.5 pages.

Demographic details

17 (45%) I enrolled at Sonoma State as a first-year student, straight from high school.

18 (41%) I transferred to Sonoma State from a community college.

4 (10.3%) I transferred to Sonoma State from another four year university.

2 (5.1%) I am a reentry student.

Sample includes 6 men and 33 women, 30 listed a majority ethnic background, 10 were the first in their family to attend college, average age was 27.5 (SD=7.43). Respondents reported working 14.6 hours a week (SD=11.80), studying 3 hours for one hour of psychology class and 2 hours for non-psychology class, a psychology GPA between 3.50 and 3.74, an overall GPA between 3.25 and 3.49.