# 2012 Graduate Student Survey

T1 Educational Status
Q2 What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in this program?
O Graduate student (1)
O Volunteer or community service (2)
O Cared for a family member (3)
O Employed in a field related to that of current study (4)
O Undergraduate student (5)
O Employed in a field unrelated to that of current study (6)
O Travel (7)
O Other (please specify) (8)

# T2 Satisfaction with Program, Quality of Interactions and Course Work

# Q3 How satisfied are you with each of the following?

	Very Satisfied (1)	Somewhat Satisfied (2)	Somewhat Dissatisfied (3)	Very Dissatisfied (4)	Not Applicable (5)
The intellectual caliber of the faculty in your program (1)	•	•	•	•	•
Program's ability to keep pace with recent development in your field (2)	•	•	•	•	•
Adequacy of facilities (classrooms, labs, etc.) (3)	•	•	•	•	•
Quality of graduate level teaching by faculty (4)	•	•	•	•	•
Training in research methods (5)	•	0	0	0	•
Amount of financial support (6)	•	0	0	0	0
Teaching and TA preparation offered by your academic program (7)	•	•	•	•	0

## Q4 How satisfied are you with each of the following?

	Very Satisfied (1)	Somewhat Satisfied (2)	Somewhat Dissatisfied (3)	Very Dissatisfied (4)	Not Applicable (5)
Quality of academic advising and guidance (1)	•	•	•	•	0
Professional relationship with your faculty advisor (2)	•	•	•	•	<b>O</b>
Helpfulness of staff members in your school or program (3)	•	•	•	•	<b>o</b>
Faculty effort in helping you find employment (4)	•	•	•	•	•
The opportunity to interact across disciplines (5)	•	•	•	•	0
Overall satisfaction with your program (6)	•	•	•	0	<b>o</b>

Q42 If you have specific comments about your satisfaction with your program, interactions with faculty/staff or course work, please use the box below to provide additional details.

Q5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Disagree (3)	Strongly Disagree (4)
Students in your program are treated with respect by faculty (1)	•	•	•	•
Faculty members are willing to work with students (2)	0	•	•	0
Rapport between faculty and graduate students in your program is good (3)	•	•	•	•
Your own relationships and interactions with faculty are good (4)	•	•	•	•
There are tensions among faculty that affect students (5)	0	0	0	0
Financial support for graduate students is distributed fairly (6)	•	•	•	•
Students in your program are collegial (7)	0	•	•	0
Your relationships and interaction with other students in your graduate program are good (8)	•	•	•	•
The degree of competition among students is excessive (9)	O	O	O	O

Staff in your program are knowledgeable about rules and regulations that affect graduate students (10)	•	0	O	•
There is a sense of intellectual community in your program (11)	•	•	•	•
Program structure encourages student collaboration or teamwork (12)	•	•	•	•
Amount of coursework seems appropriate to the degree (13)	•	•	•	•
You receive ongoing, constructive feedback on progress toward your degree from your advisor (14)	•	•	•	•
You are satisfied with the amount of time spent with your advisor (15)	•	•	•	0
Your research interests are incorporated into your thesis work (16)	•	•	•	•
Your advisor has your interests in mind (17)	•	0	O	•
There is a person or office you could trust to report perceived abuse or misconduct in your program by	•	•	•	•

your advisor or committee member (18)				
Your advisor keeps track of your research progress and will help determine when you have accomplished	O	•	O	0
enough work for your degree (19)				
Overall, the climate of your program is positive (20)	O	O	O	0

Q6 How would you rate your graduate group on each of the following?

	Excellent (1)	Good (2)	Fair (3)	Poor (4)
Availability of courses needed to complete your program (1)	•	•	•	•
Quality of instruction in your courses (2)	•	•	•	•
Encouragement to take courses outside your program (3)	•	•	•	•
Overall quality of course work in your program (4)	•	•	•	•

Q7 If you have specific comments about any of the items in this section, please use the box below:

T3 Program Support

Q8 Please indicate (where applicable) your level of satisfaction in the following areas.

	Very Satisfied (1)	Somewhat Satisfied (2)	Somewhat Dissatisfied (3)	Very Dissatisfied (4)	Not Applicable (5)
Courses, workshops or orientations on teaching offered by your academic program (1)	•	•	•	•	•
Advice on writing grant proposals (2)	0	•	•	•	•
Advice on publishing your work (3)	0	0	0	0	•
Assistance in developing professional contacts outside your program (4)	•	•	•	•	0
Advice on career options within academia (5)	0	0	0	0	0
Advice or career options outside academia (6)	0	0	0	0	0
Advice about research positions (7)	•	0	•	•	•
Advice on degree requirements (8)	•	•	•	•	•
Advice on preparing for examinations (9)	•	•	•	•	•
Advice on developing	•	•	•	•	•

your thesis or dissertation proposal (10)					
Advice on the process required to select a thesis advisor (11)	•	•	•	•	•
Feedback on your research (12)	•	•	0	•	•
Advice on the standards for academic writing in your field (13)	0	•	0	0	0
Advice on how to avoid plagiarism and other violations of the standards of academic integrity (14)	•	•	•	•	•

T4 University Resources and Student Life

Q9 Please indicate how frequently you used the following services during your most recent year \$439;s experience in graduate school at UC Merced.

	Frequently (1)	Occasionally (2)	Never (3)
Library facilities (1)	0	•	O
On-campus computer facilities (2)	0	0	O
Web-based campus computer services (e.g., for registration) (3)	•	•	•
Graduate Division (4)	•	•	O
Student Health Center (5)	0	0	0
Health Insurance (GSHIP) (6)	0	0	0
Financial Aid Office (7)	•	•	O
Career Services Center (8)	0	0	0
Student Counseling Services (9)	0	0	0
Child Care Referral Services (10)	O	0	0
Disability Services (11)	•	•	<b>O</b>
Learning Assistance Center (12)	0	0	0
Billing and Payment Services (13)	0	0	0
University Police (14)	0	•	O
Housing (15)	<b>O</b>	•	O
Office of the Registrar (16)	0	•	•
Parking for students (17)	0	0	0
Campus shuttle bus service (Cat Tracks) (18)	0	0	0
Dining Services (19)	0	0	O
Bookstore (20)	•	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
Center for Research on Teaching Excellence (CRTE) (21)	O	O	O

# Q10 Please rate the quality of your experience.

	Excellent (1)	Good (2)	Fair (3)	Poor (4)	Not Applicable (5)
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Library facilities - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Library facilities - Occasionally Is Selected Library	•	•	•	•	•
facilities (1)  If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser On-campus computer facilities - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser On-campus computer facilities - Occasionally Is Selected On-campus computer facilities (2)	•	•	•	•	•

If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Web-based campus computer					
services (e.g., for registration) - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you					
used the following ser Web-based campus computer services (e.g., for	0	•	•	•	•
registration) - Occasionally Is Selected Web-based campus computer services (e.g., for registration) (3)					
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Graduate Division -					
Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser	0	•	•	•	•

			I	I	I
Graduate					
Division -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Graduate					
Division (4)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Student Health					
Center -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate	•	0	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
how	•				
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Student Health					
Center -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Student Health					
Center (5)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Health					
Insurance					
(GSHIP) -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate	•	•	•	•	•
how	•				
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Health					
Insurance					
(GSHIP) -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Health					

Insurance (GSHIP) (6)					
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Financial Aid Office - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Financial Aid Office - Occasionally Is Selected Financial Aid Office (7)	•	0	0	•	•
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Career Services Center - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Career Services Center - Occasionally Is Selected Career Services Center (8)	•	•	•	•	•
If Please	0	•	O	O	O

indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Student					
Counseling					
Services -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Student					
Counseling					
Services -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Student					
Counseling					
Services (9)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Child Care					
Referral					
Services -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how	O .	O	O .	O	O
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Child Care					
Referral					
Services -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Child Care					
Referral					
Services (10)					
If Please					
indicate how	O	O	O .	O	O
illuicate IIUW					

frequently you used the following ser Disability Services - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Disability Services - Occasionally Is Selected Disability					
Services (11)  If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Learning Assistance Center - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you	O	•	•	•	•
used the following ser Learning Assistance Center - Occasionally Is Selected Learning Assistance Center (12) If Please					
indicate how frequently you used the following ser Billing and	O	•	•	•	•

Payment Services - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser Billing and Payment Services - Occasionally Is Selected					
Billing and Payment Services (13)					
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser University Police - Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser	0	0	•	•	0
University Police - Occasionally Is Selected University Police (14)					
If Please indicate how frequently you used the following ser	0	0	•	•	•
Frequently Is Selected Or Please indicate how					

		I		I	I
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Housing -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Housing (15)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Office of the					
Registrar -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how	•	<b>O</b>	•	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
frequently you					
used the					
following ser Office of the					
Registrar -					
Occasionally Is Selected					
Office of the					
Registrar (16)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Parking for					
students -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate	•	0	0	0	<b>O</b>
how	•				
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Parking for					
students -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Parking for					
students (17)					

If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Campus					
shuttle bus					
service (Cat					
Tracks) -					
Frequently Is Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how					
frequently you	O	O .	O .	O .	O
used the					
following ser					
Campus					
shuttle bus					
service (Cat					
Tracks) -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Campus					
shuttle bus					
service (Cat					
Tracks) (18)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser Dining Services					
- Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how	O	O	O	O	<b>O</b>
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Dining Services					
- Occasionally					
Is Selected					
Dining Services					
(19)					
If Please					
indicate how	O	•	<b>O</b>	O	O
frequently you					

				I	I
used the					
following ser					
Bookstore -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Bookstore -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Bookstore (20)					
If Please					
indicate how					
frequently you					
used the					
following ser					
Center for					
Research on					
Teaching					
Excellence					
(CRTE) -					
Frequently Is					
Selected Or					
Please indicate					
how					
frequently you	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>	0	<b>O</b>
used the					
following ser					
Center for					
Research on					
Teaching					
Excellence					
(CRTE) -					
Occasionally Is					
Selected					
Center for					
Research on					
Teaching					
Excellence					
(CRTE) (21)					

Q11 If you have additional comments about the quality of your graduate student experience, please use the box below:	
Q31 Did you attend any library-sponsored workshops during the 2011-12 academic year?  Yes (1) No (2)	

		•	•		•	~		
Q32 Have	you since used a	any of th	e informati	ion from th	ne librar	y-sponsored work	shop(s) in you	ır owr
scholarly w	ork (research a	nd/or te	aching)?					

**O** Yes (1)

O No (2)

#### Answer If Have you since used any of the information from the libra... Yes Is Selected

Answer If Did you attend any library-sponsored workshops during the... Yes Is Selected

Q33 Please describe how you were able to use the information.

#### Answer If Have you since used any of the information from the libra... No Is Selected

Q34 Please comment on the reason(s) the session's information has not been of use to you.

Q12 How often do the following social activities occur on campus? (Frequently is defined as more than once a month and occasionally is defined as once a month or less).

	Frequently (1)	Occasionally (2)	Never (3)
Organized university- wide social activities (1)	0	0	0
Organized social activities within your school (2)	0	•	0
Organized social activities within your advisor/research group (3)	•	•	•

## Q13 How often do you attend social activities on campus?

	Frequently (1)	Occasionally (2)	Never (3)
Organized university- wide social activities (1)	0	0	0
Organized social activities within your school (2)	•	0	0
Organized social activities within your advisor/research group (3)	•	•	•

# Q14 To what extent do you agree with the following statements about organized social activities on campus?

	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Disagree (3)	Strongly Disagree (4)	Not Applicable (5)
Organized social activities allow you to meet graduate students outside your graduate group (1)	0	•	•	•	•
Organized social activities help build a UC Merced community of graduate students (2)	•	•	•	•	•

Q15 What kinds of social activities would you like to participate in?

#### **T5 General Assessment**

## Q16 How would you rate the quality of:

	Excellent (1)	Good (2)	Fair (3)	Poor (4)
Your academic experience at UC Merced (1)	•	•	0	•
Your student life experience at UC Merced (2)	•	•	•	•
Your graduate program at UC Merced (3)	•	•	•	•
Your overall experience at UC Merced (4)	•	•	•	•

Q17 If you have specific comments about any of the items in this section, please use the box below:

Q18 Please rate the extent to which these factors are or have been an obstacle to your academic progress:

	A major obstacle (1)	A minor obstacle (2)	Not an obstacle (3)
Work/financial commitments (1)	0	0	0
Family obligations (2)	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>	O
Availability of faculty (3)	•	<b>O</b>	O
Program structure or requirements (4)	0	0	0
Dissertation topic/research (5)	0	0	0
Course scheduling (6)	•	<b>O</b>	O
Immigration laws or regulations (7)	0	0	0
Other (8)	0	<b>O</b>	O

Answer If Please rate the extent to which these factors are or have... Other - A major obstacle Is Selected Or Please rate the extent to which these factors are or have... Other - A minor obstacle Is Selected Or Please rate the extent to which these factors are or have... Other - Not an obstacle Is Selected

Q19 Please explain the other obstacles you have encountered:

ŲΖ	o now likely are you to stay in your program until you receive your ultimate degree objectives
O	Very likely (1)
O	Somewhat likely (2)
$\mathbf{O}$	Somewhat unlikely (3)
$\mathbf{O}$	Highly unlikely (4)
$\mathbf{C}$	Uncertain (5)

Q21 Please answer the following questions about the university and your program. If you were to do it again:

	Definitely would (1)	Probably would (2)	Probably would not (3)	Definitely would not (4)
Would you select this same university? (1)	•	•	•	•
Would you select the same field of study? (2)	•	•	•	0
Would you recommend this university to someone considering your graduate program? (3)	•	•	•	•

# Q22 Please answer the following questions about teaching and your TA preparation.

	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Disagree (3)	Strongly Disagree (4)	Not Applicable (5)
As a teaching assistant, you were appropriately prepared and trained before entering the classroom by your academic program (1)	0	•	•	0	•
As a teaching assistant, you were appropriately supervised to help improve your teaching skills (2)	•	•	•	•	•
The teaching experience available through your program is adequate preparation for an academic/teaching career (3)	•	•	•	•	•
The amount of time expected of as a TA was about right (4)	•	•	•	•	•

Q23 If you could change one thing about your experience as a graduate student at UC Merced to make it more successful or fulfilling, what would it be?

Q24 What advice would you offer to first-time graduate students at UC Merced?

Q29 Please answer the following questions about Graduate Division staff.

	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Disagree (3)	Strongly Disagree (4)	Not Applicable (5)
Staff members are courteous and helpful (1)	•	0	•	•	•
Staff understand my inquiries and are responsive (2)	0	0	0	0	0
Staff are knowledgeable about rules and regulations that affect graduate students (3)	•	•	•	•	•
Overall, staff provide exemplary quality of service (4)	•	•	•	•	•

Q30 If you could select one area that the Graduate Division could improve upon, what would that be?

#### T6 Post Graduate School Plans

	5 Which of the following best describes your expectation for professional plans immediately after mpleting your education at UC Merced?
0	Analyst (7)
	Engineering (manufacturing) (1)
	Faculty (Tenure-Track) (4)
	Faculty (Non-Tenure Track) (2)
	Information Systems (computer programmer) (3)
	Postdoctoral fellow (8)
	Psychologist, counselor (9)
	Researcher (non-faculty) (5)
	Social worker (10)
	Teacher (K-12) (6)
	Pursue another graduate degree (at UC Merced) (11)
0	Pursue another graduate degree (not at UC Merced) (12)
	6 How would you categorize the type of employer you expect to work for after you complete your al graduate degree?
0	4-year college or university (1)
	Community or junior college (2)
	Elementary, secondary or special focus school (3)
	Industry or business (4)
	Hospital or clinic (5)
	Non-profit organization or foundation (6)
0	U.S. (federal) government or your home country if not the U.S. (7)
	State or local government (8)
0	National laboratory (9)
0	Self-employed (10)
0	Unknown (11)

#### T7 Odds and Ends

Q27 Please provide any additional comments or questions you have about the graduate program at UC Merced.