

1-Year Undergraduate Alumni Survey 2011 Results

76 respondents out of 335 invites (22.7% response rate)

Survey Questions and Results

Q1 Based on what you know now, how well do you think your undergraduate education at UC Merced prepared you to:

| | Percentage | | | | |
|---|----------------|------|------|------|---------------|
| | 1 - Not at all | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very well |
| Write effectively | 0.0 | 1.3 | 23.7 | 47.4 | 27.6 |
| Acquire new skills and knowledge on your own | 1.3 | 1.3 | 13.2 | 48.7 | 35.5 |
| Communicate well orally | 1.3 | 3.9 | 23.7 | 47.4 | 23.7 |
| Use information technology in intellectual and/or professional pursuits | 1.3 | 5.3 | 14.5 | 36.8 | 42.1 |
| Think analytically and logically | 0.0 | 1.3 | 18.7 | 40.0 | 40.0 |
| Understand and apply quantitative principles and methods | 1.3 | 8.0 | 26.7 | 40.0 | 24.0 |
| Judge the value of information, ideas, actions and conclusions based on the soundness of sources, methods and reasoning | 1.3 | 3.9 | 17.1 | 38.2 | 39.5 |
| Understand international perspectives on economic, political, social and cultural issues | 7.9 | 18.4 | 21.1 | 28.9 | 23.7 |
| Use the knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from your major field | 1.3 | 9.3 | 17.3 | 40.0 | 32.0 |

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Q2 How well did your undergraduate education at UC Merced prepare you for personal and professional situations that require:

| | Percentage | | | | |
|--|----------------|------|------|------|---------------|
| | 1 - Not at all | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very well |
| Awareness of contemporary issues in society, technology, and the natural world, and appreciation of their complexity of cause and consequences | 5.3 | 5.3 | 23.7 | 44.7 | 21.1 |
| Understanding of and appreciation for the arts | 7.9 | 15.8 | 35.5 | 17.1 | 23.7 |
| Ability to evaluate and choose between alternative courses of action | 3.9 | 6.6 | 28.9 | 36.8 | 23.7 |
| Ability to get along with people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives | 3.9 | 5.3 | 15.8 | 26.3 | 48.7 |
| Ability to work as a member of a team or group | 1.3 | 5.3 | 18.4 | 30.3 | 44.7 |

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Q3 Have you enrolled/been admitted in a degree program since graduating from UC Merced?

Yes = 39.5%, No = 52.6%, (7.9% did not answer this question)

Q3a What is the name of the school in which you are enrolled?

- Alliant International University
- Brandman University-Chapman, Modesto Campus
- CSU Chico
- CSU Northridge
- California Western School of Law
- Columbia University
- Dow International Medical College
- New York Medical College
- Ohlone College
- Pepperdine University
- San Francisco State University (2)
- Southern Methodist University
- SSHA (perhaps this is meant to mean SSHA at UC Merced)
- University of TX Health Science Center at Houston
- UC Davis (3)
- UC Merced (3)
- UC San Diego
- UC San Diego School of Law

Q4 What type(s) of degree program(s) did you enroll in?

| | Number |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Second bachelor's degree | 1 |
| Master's of Arts of Science | 10 |
| Master's of Business | 0 |
| Master's of Education | 0 |
| Master's of Engineering | 0 |
| Master's of Social Work | 0 |
| Law | 3 |
| Medicine | 1 |
| Health Care | 1 |
| Dentistry | 0 |
| Veterinary | 0 |
| Doctorate | 8 |

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Other:

- Master of Public Health (2)
- Respiratory Therapy (AS)
- Teacher Credential (3)

Q5 How well do you think UC Merced prepared you for graduate or professional school when you compare yourself with others in your graduate/professional degree program(s)?

| | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| I was very well prepared | 16.7 |
| I was generally well prepared | 66.7 |
| I was adequately prepared | 13.3 |
| I was inadequately prepared | 1.3 |
| Not relevant | 0.0 |

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Q6 What is the highest degree you ultimately plan to earn?

| | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Graduate certificate | 2.6 |
| Master's | 39.5 |
| First Professional | 26.3 |
| Doctoral | 22.4 |
| No plans to pursue a higher degree | 9.2 |

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Q7 To what extent did your overall undergraduate experience influence your plans for graduate or professional studies?

| | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------|
| Very positively | 46.7 |
| Generally positively | 43.3 |
| Ambivalent | 10.0 |
| Generally negatively | 0.0 |
| Very negatively | 0.0 |

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Q8 While at UC Merced, did you participate in any of the following? (Mark all that apply)

| | Number |
|---|--------|
| Field experience | 19 |
| Internship | 33 |
| Service learning | 11 |
| Community service or volunteer work | 35 |
| Work with faculty on a research project | 33 |
| Public performance | 16 |
| Formal research presentation | 22 |

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Q9 Are you currently employed?

| | Percentage |
|---|------------|
| Yes, full-time | 44.7 |
| Yes, part-time | 27.6 |
| No, but am actively looking for a job | 15.8 |
| No, and am not actively looking for a job | 11.8 |

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Q10 Which job search methods did you use to find a full-time job? (Mark all that apply)

| | Number |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Printed ad | 3 |
| CATlink | 4 |
| Online job boards | 12 |
| Direct employer contact | 7 |
| Employer website | 16 |
| Job fair | 3 |
| Internship/Previous experience | 6 |
| Networking | 12 |
| Career counselor | 4 |

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Other:

- Craigslist
- Graduate School
- Had worked on a project with the company through a class taken at UCM (Dr. Odom-Gunn)
- Self-employed real estate broker/property management
- Went to individual businesses and asked if they were accepting resumes
- Recommended by former boss
- Started private business with father
- Teach for America
- Temp agency

Q11 When did you begin your job search?

| | Percentage |
|--|------------|
| 6 months prior to graduation | 14.5 |
| 3-6 months prior to graduation | 9.1 |
| Less than 3 months prior to graduation | 23.6 |
| After graduation | 52.7 |

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Q12 In what type of organization or sector do you work?

| | Percentage |
|---|------------|
| Private for-profit corporation/company/group practice | 50.9 |
| Self-employed, own business, or professional practice (non-group) | 5.5 |
| Government or other public institution or agency | 25.5 |
| Private, non-profit (school, college, arts/cultural organization, etc.) | 14.5 |
| Other | 3.6 |

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Other:

- Americorps
- Graduate School
- TA at UC Merced
- US Davis

Q13 What best describes your current position? (Please select one)

| | Percentage |
|---|------------|
| Management | 7.3 |
| Business & Financial/Accounting | 3.6 |
| Computer & Mathematical | 1.8 |
| Engineering | 0.0 |
| Life/Physical Sciences | 7.3 |
| Community & Social Services | 7.3 |
| Marketing & Sales | 5.5 |
| Legal | 3.6 |
| Education, Training & Library | 18.2 |
| Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media | 0.0 |
| Healthcare/Medical | 5.5 |
| Office & Administrative Support | 7.3 |
| Food Preparation & Serving Related | 1.8 |
| Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance | 0.0 |
| Personal Care & Service | 1.8 |
| Law Enforcement | 0.0 |
| Construction & Extraction | 0.0 |
| Farming, Fishing & Forestry | 0.0 |
| Transportation | 0.0 |
| Military | 0.0 |
| Homemaker | 0.0 |
| Other | 29.1 |

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Other:

- Communication

- Congress
- Education
- Food Safety/Laboratory
- Hospitality
- Housekeeping
- Human Resources
- Land Surveying
- Nanny
- Owning/running private business
- Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco
- Pharmaceutical Drug Development
- Research in medical school and hospital
- Retail (2)

Q14 If you were to do it over, would you major in the same field?

| | Percentage |
|----------------|------------|
| Definitely yes | 52.6 |
| Probably yes | 25.0 |
| Not sure | 9.2 |
| Probably no | 10.5 |
| Definitely no | 2.6 |

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Q15 How closely related is your job to your undergraduate field of study/major?

| | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------|
| Not at all related | 27.3 |
| Somewhat related | 23.6 |
| Moderately related | 25.5 |
| Highly related | 23.6 |

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Q16 Was a bachelor's degree required to obtain your current job?

Yes = 55.6%, No = 44.4%

Q17 How well do you think your undergraduate program at UC Merced prepared you for the job market?

| | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Very well | 10.9 |
| Generally well | 40.0 |
| Ambivalent | 32.7 |
| Inadequate | 10.9 |
| Very inadequate | 5.5 |

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