



# UAA GRADUATE EXIT SURVEY RESULTS

Fall 2023

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## Fall 2023 Graduate Exit Survey

While only the first iteration of this new survey, the data indicate several key findings. First, this graduating cohort are reporting that they feel well prepared to apply each of the core learning competencies in their life as a UAA graduate. Second, this cohort also responded that they felt both welcomed and included while studying at UAA. Also of note, the overall data show that students feel both welcomed and included in roughly equal measure. Finally, the volume and breadth of positive comments from students demonstrate that students recognize and appreciate UAA's commitment to their success.

With respect to learning support services, the responding students indicated a variety of responses relating to awareness of the selected student services. This issue is discussed in greater detail under next steps at

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Each respondent was randomly asked about their sense of preparation in a single core competency. The primary purpose of this question was to both numerically score their feelings about preparation as well as to solicit qualitative feedback from those who felt “very well” or “extremely well” about what UAA did well to help them prepare for that particular competency. For those individuals who responded, “not well at all” or “slightly well,

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Student support was designed as a cascading question about four selected student support services; tutoring through the learning commons, disability support

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While the volume of responses is not indicative of a trend or theme, the content of those comments clearly indicates that students have high praise for and satisfaction with their UAA experience. As with many open-ended response items, there were some inflammatory remarks, with 5 of the 32 negative comments received focused on topics unrelated to the survey. While a full thematic analysis was not performed on the comments, the general tone and overwhelming volume of positive comments (272 in total) indicates that UAA provides students with numerous academic and programmatic opportunities to broaden their exposure and engagement with varying cultural perspectives, that creative and critical thinking is integrated into coursework on many levels, and that faculty were individually and as a group identified as providing opportunities to demonstrate skills learned. There is some minor noted indication for additional real-world examples or interaction. Faculty interaction was noted as providing supportive efforts in helping students grow personally, professionally, and in their communities.

While the sense of engagement area received the majority of comments relating to how UAA could improve, two issues seemed to arise within those “improvement” narratives. The first being frustration with the university not being “great” for commuter students. The other being issues with changes in advising. The vast majority and overall tone of the positive comments show that policies, programs, clubs, and support services all help make students feel welcome. Feelings of inclusion were also generally very positive with students highlighting the following as contributing to a sense of inclusion: communication with faculty, teacher feedback, Seawolf Tracks, faculty mentoring, student clubs, and catering to numerous cultures.

Student support services also received high praise in the positive comments. With 18% of the total comments received relating directly to student support services, the library, tutoring services, access to services for students learning off-campus, and ease of use for resources in disability support services all had several examples of high satisfaction, sense of support, and generally positive feedback within the narrative responses.

Finally, the feedback from students regarding what UAA did well to help them with their next steps aided in understanding the full breadth of support services that students found beneficial. For example, faculty preparation for class and in the materials provided, helping students prepare for the “real world” through academic coursework, the variety of academic offerings, instructors of upper-division courses, advisors, career preparation support, and others at UAA were all called out as key points and individuals in the positive response group. For improvement, there is an emergent trend in students wanting more real-world experiences alongside their academic preparation.







