

# Criminal Justice Masters Program

Survey Analysis

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# Purpose of study

Master's program availability at Utah Valley University. Is there a purpose in Utah Valley University providing a graduate program from the Criminal Justice and Emergency Responses fields? Would current declared majors take advantage of this program?



# Abstract

So many graduates from Utah Valley University move on to other schools to pursue further education in master's degree programs. This research project is intended to discover the need and viability of adding a master's degree program within the criminal justice arena at Utah Valley University. This research will include a survey submitted via email to current and graduated Utah Valley University students. The survey will also collect demographic data and show what opportunities Utah Valley University has lost out on due to students not attending based on the lack of a graduate program. We expect to see a need for a master's degree program in the criminal justice field at the university.

One of the main reasons we are interested in this study is that we all, student researchers, are nearing the end of our degrees and are faced with either ending our school experience or choosing to attend a different university. We have all enjoyed our time at the university and believe it would be a smoother transition to make if the university offered a graduate program as opposed to having to apply and go through the whole process of admittance with a new university.

# Methods of research

We will be administering a survey through Qualtrics. This survey will include demographic questions as well as filter questions that will lead the participants through questions regarding their experience at Utah Valley University and how this would be different if the university offered a graduate program. This survey will pinpoint lost opportunities for the school by students attending different universities based off of a lack of graduate studies and/or lost opportunity with the students who have to leave the university for another one in order to continue their education. The survey will also bring about the general feeling the students have about their experiences at the university and show their want to fulfill their educational needs within the university.

# Subjects of study

The subjects of this research study will be past Utah Valley University students who have graduated with a bachelors degree in criminal justice, aviation or fire science. Current, declared major students who fall within the same majors will also be included within the study as they have more of an immediate need and perspective on the situation. The list of graduated students as well as current CJ/ES majors will be provided by UVU/IRI. The list will only contain email addresses and will not reveal the persons name or any personal identifiers.



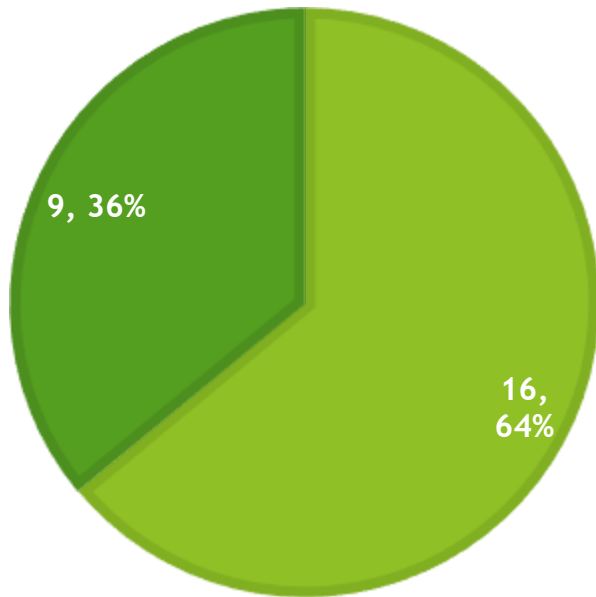
# Participants

- ▶ Survey sent to 500 email addresses of current Criminal Justice students as well as past Criminal Justice graduates
- ▶ 36 responses received
- ▶ 7% participation rate overall
- ▶ 150 of the emails were opened
- ▶ 24% participation rate of those opened
- ▶ Graduates did not respond to survey
- ▶ Only current declared majors responded to survey

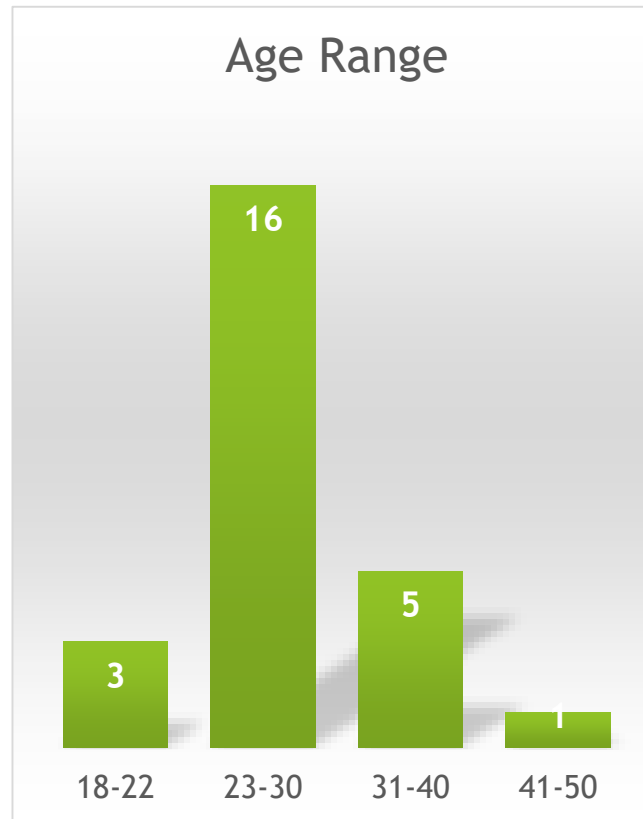
# Demographic

## GENDER

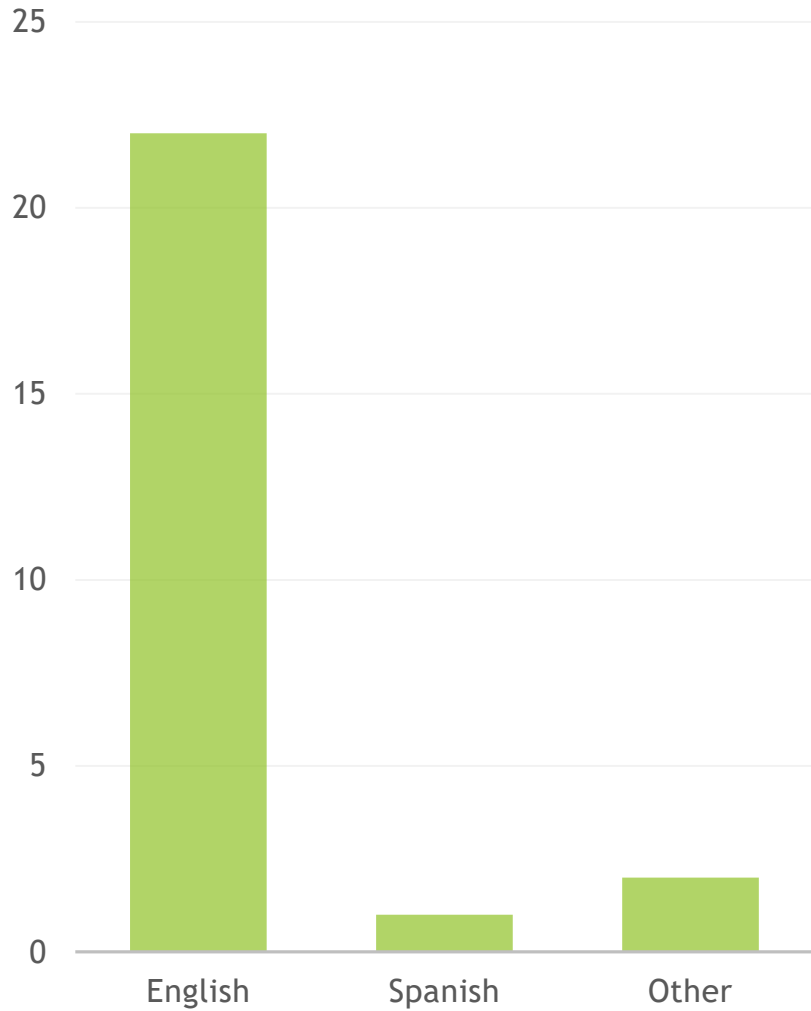
■ Male ■ Female



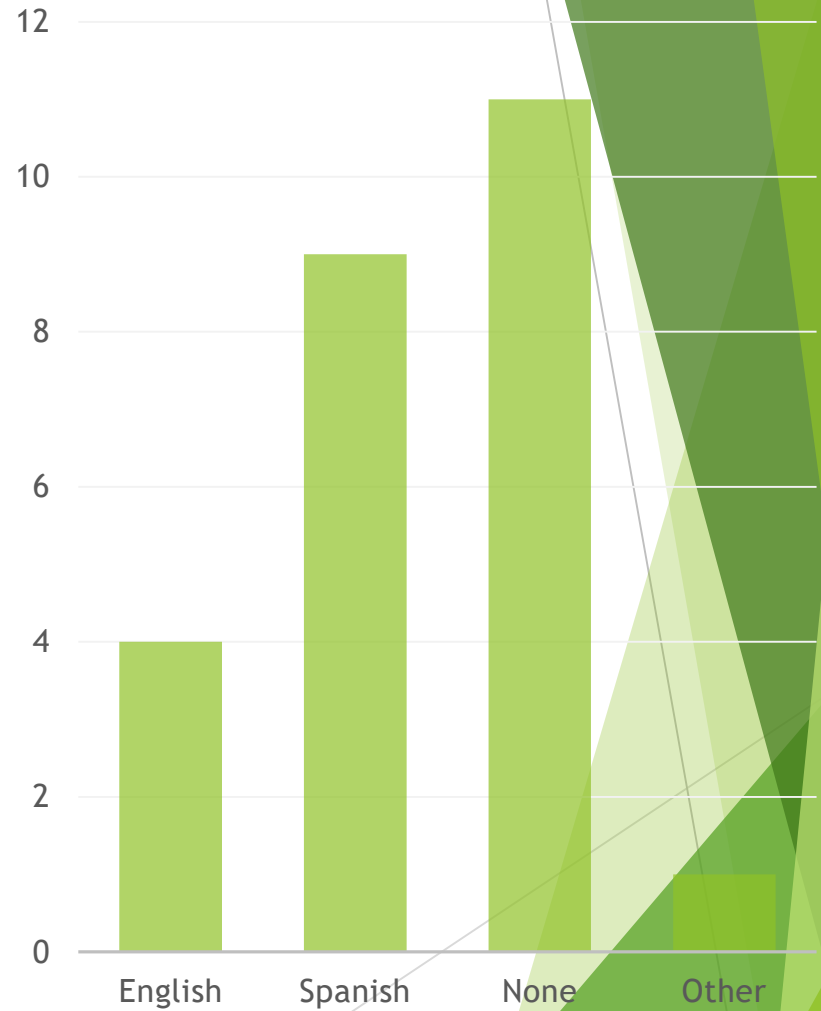
## Age Range



## Primary Language

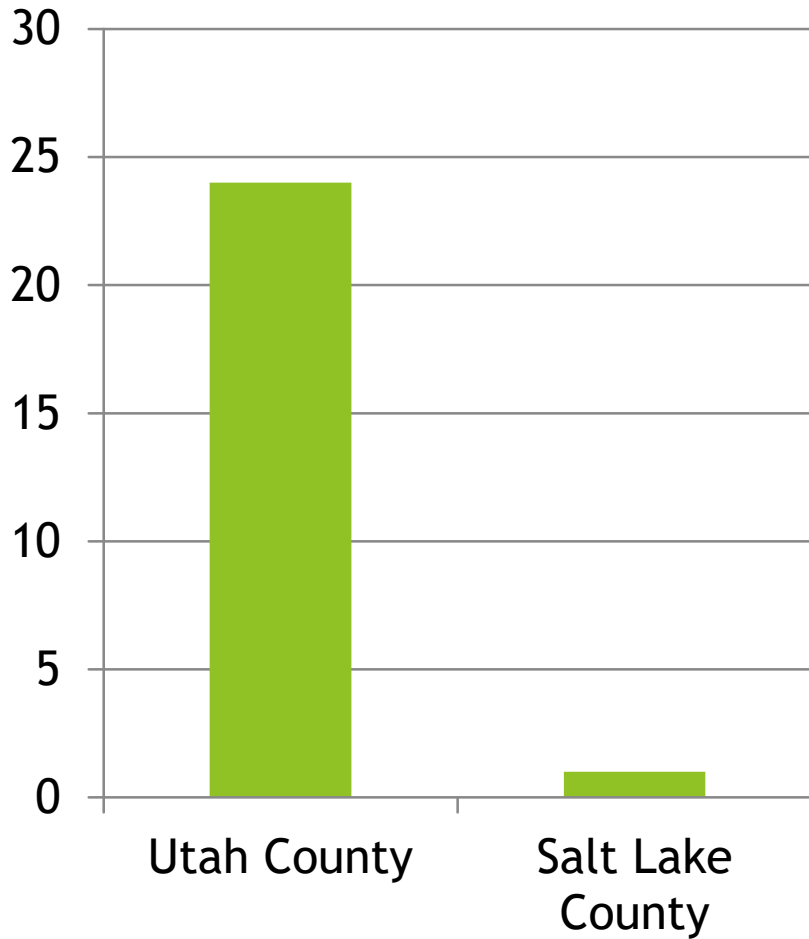


## Secondary Language

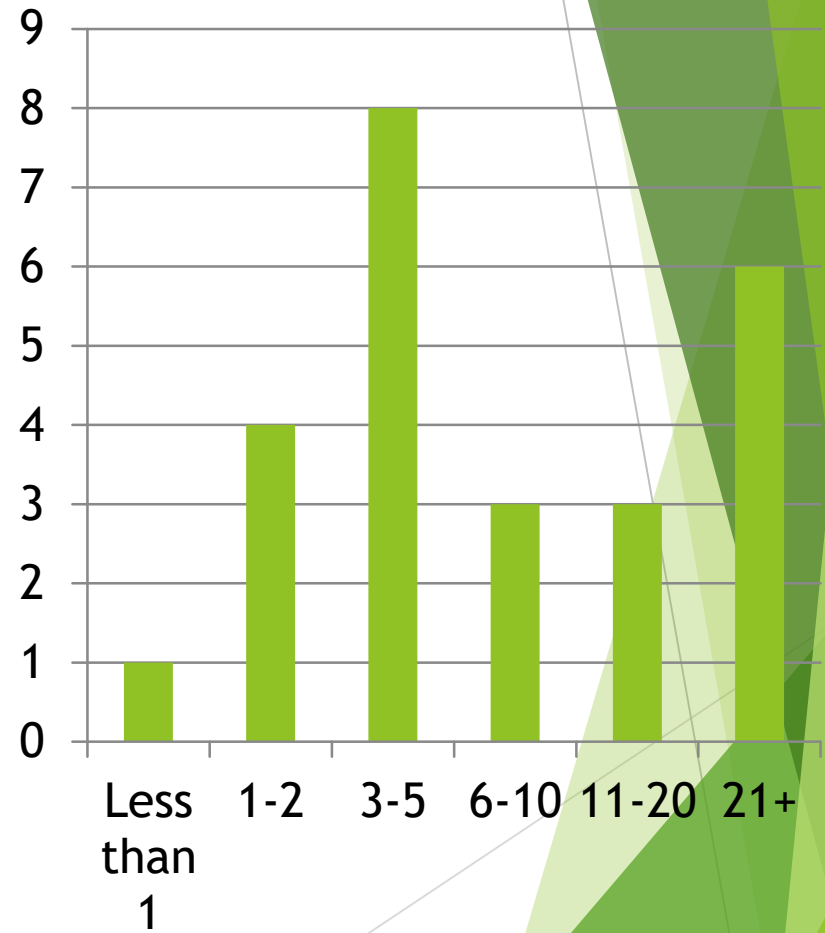




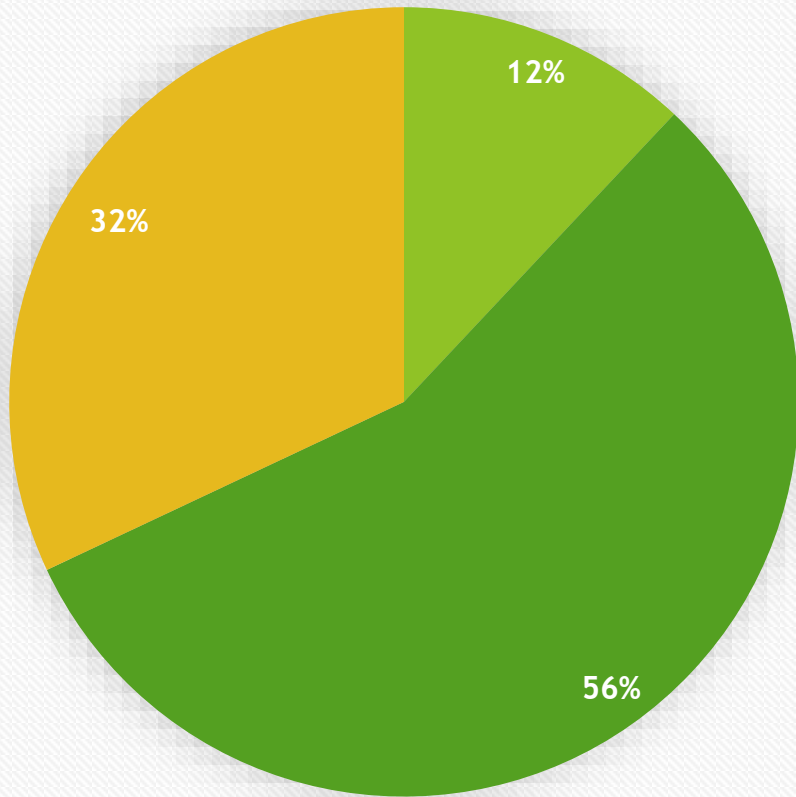
## Current county of residence



## Number of years within current county

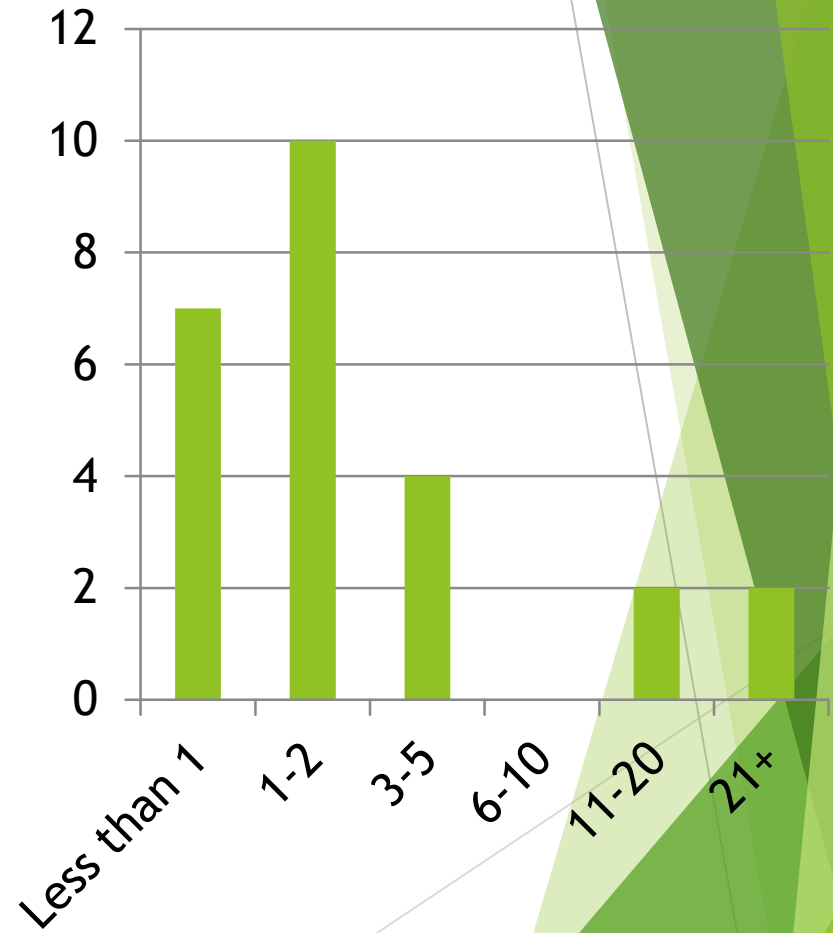


## Current living situation

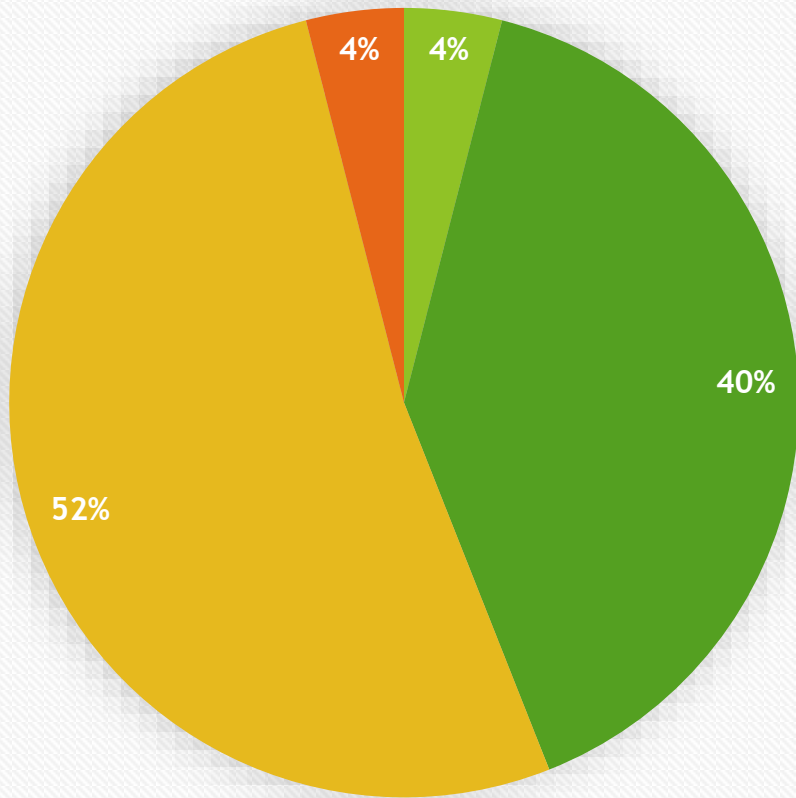


Own/Buying Renting Live With Family

## Years at current residence

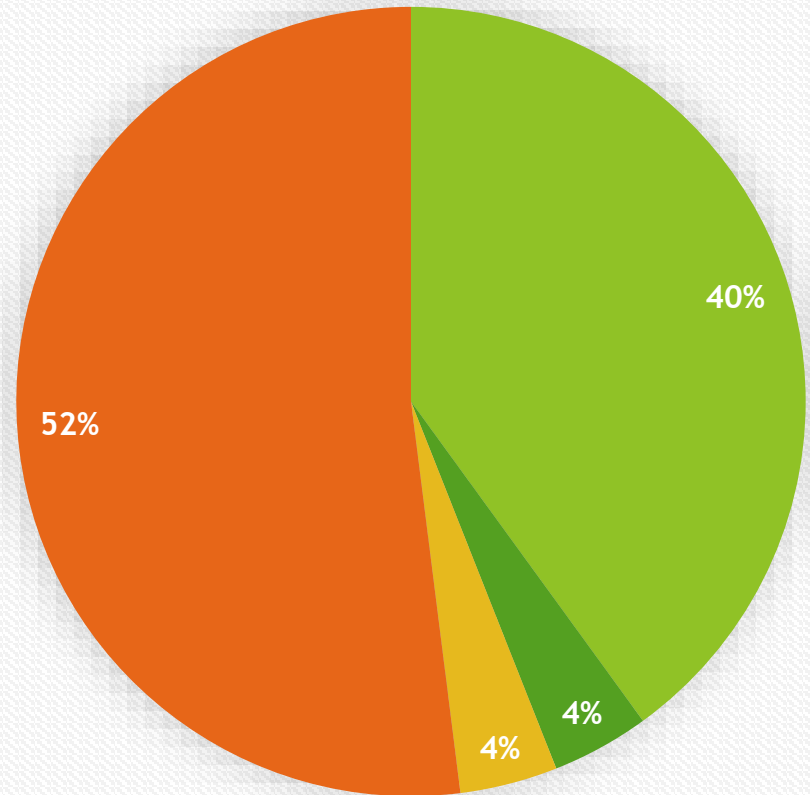


## Highest level of education completed



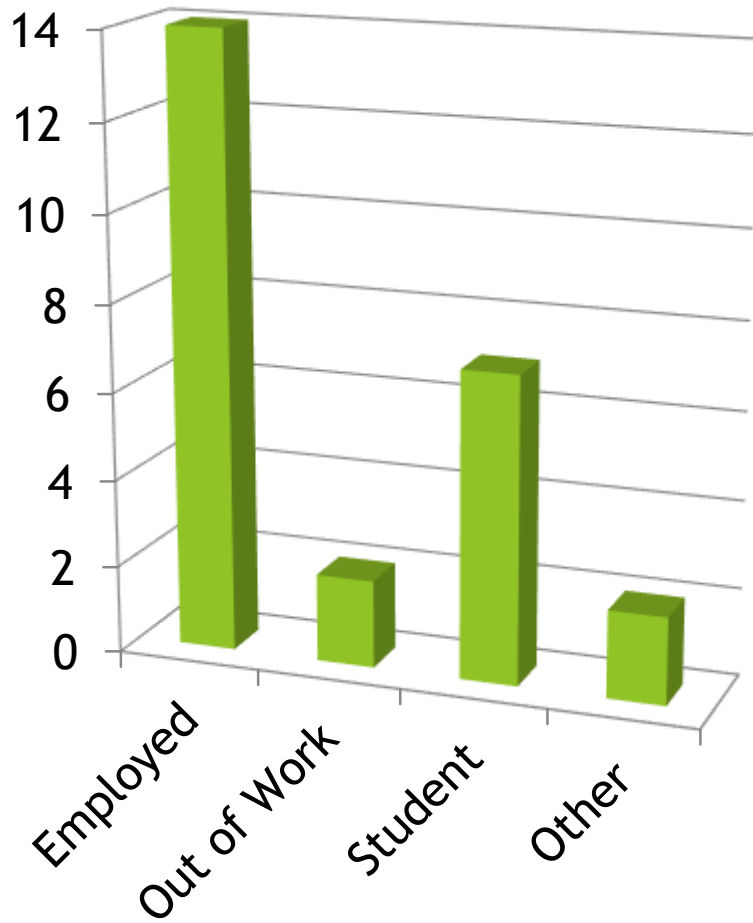
■ High School Diploma ■ Some College  
■ Associate's Degree ■ Bachelor's Degree

## Current marital status

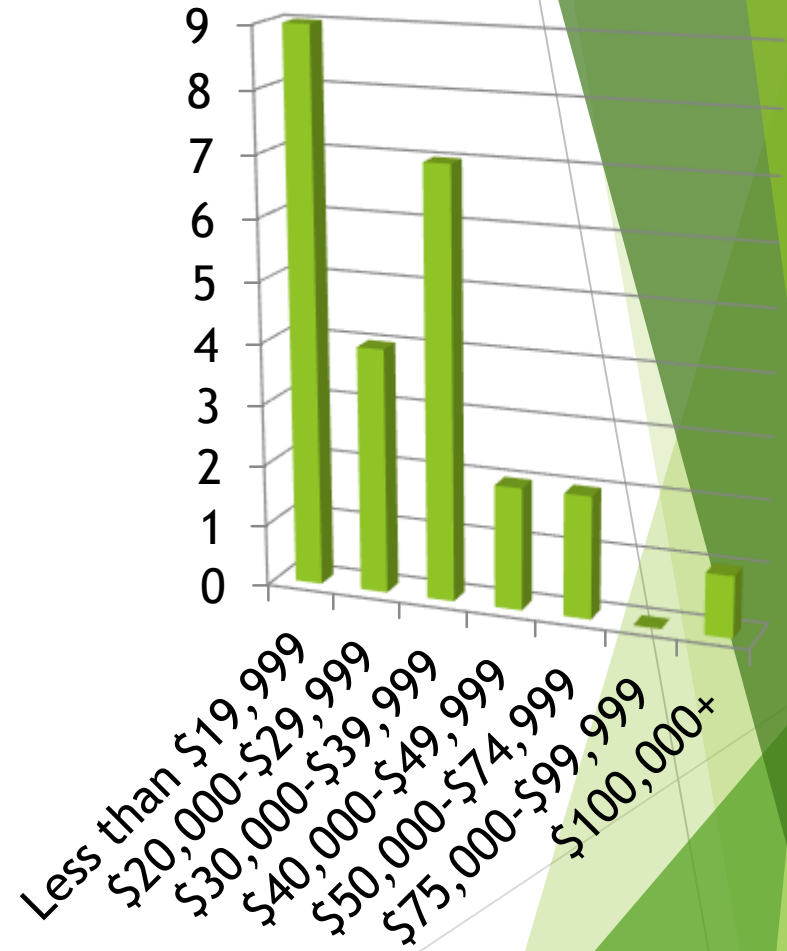


■ Single/Never Married ■ Domestic Partnership  
■ Divorced ■ Married

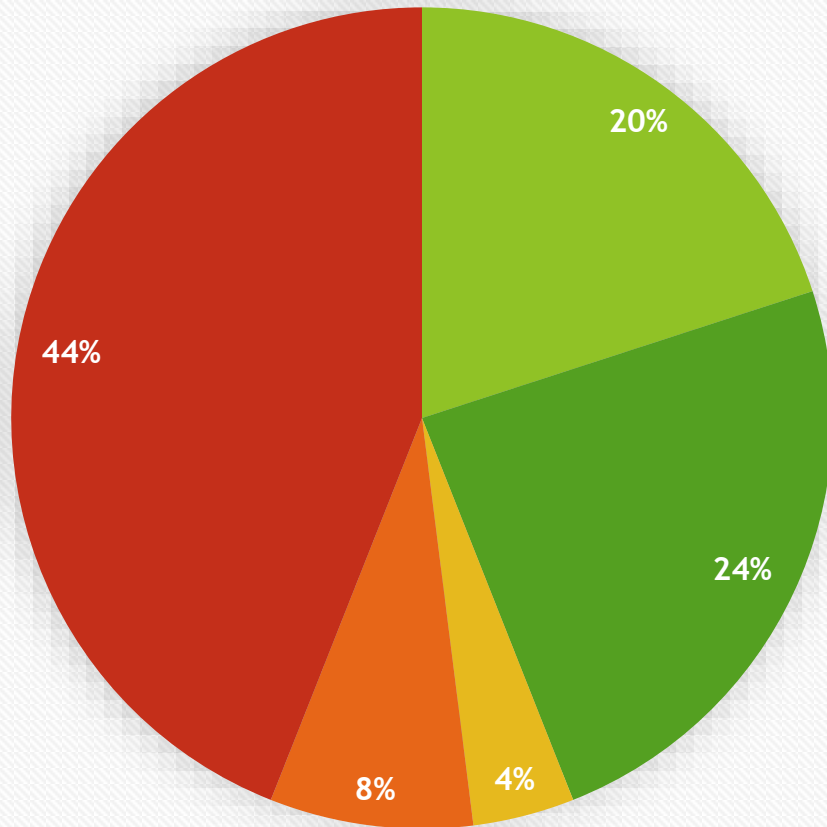
## Current work status



## Household Income



# Number of dependents

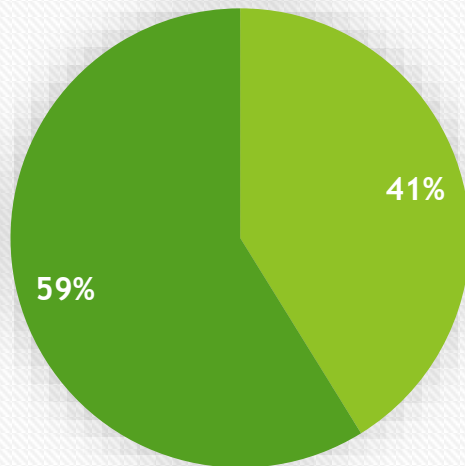


■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4+ ■ None



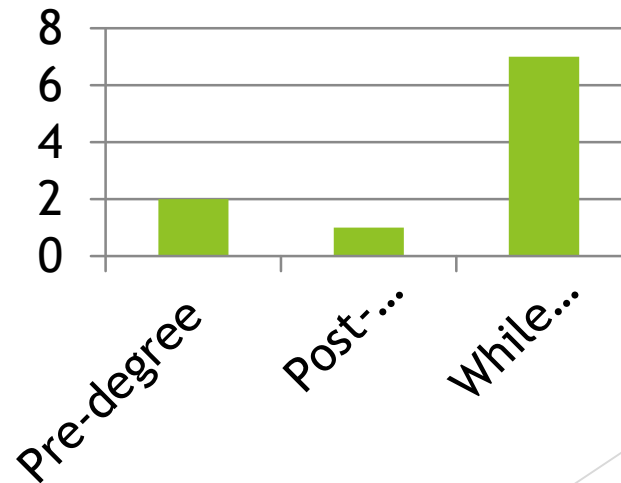
# Current Employment

Currently working  
in the field of  
study

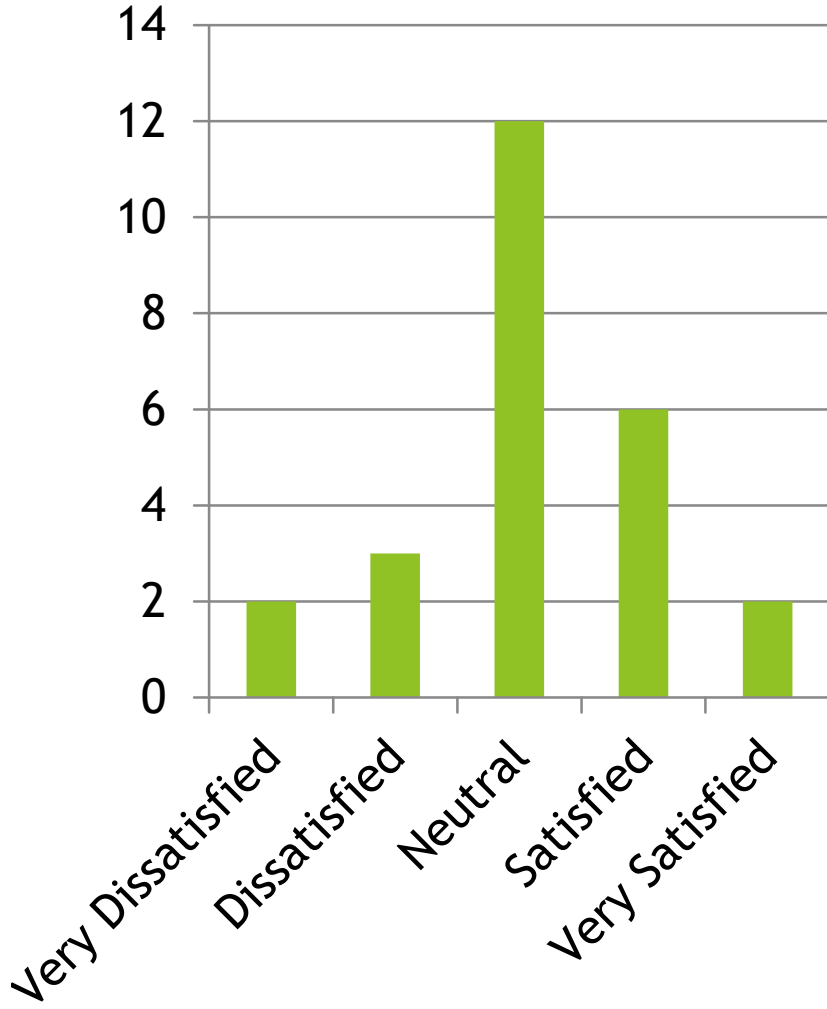


■ Yes ■ No

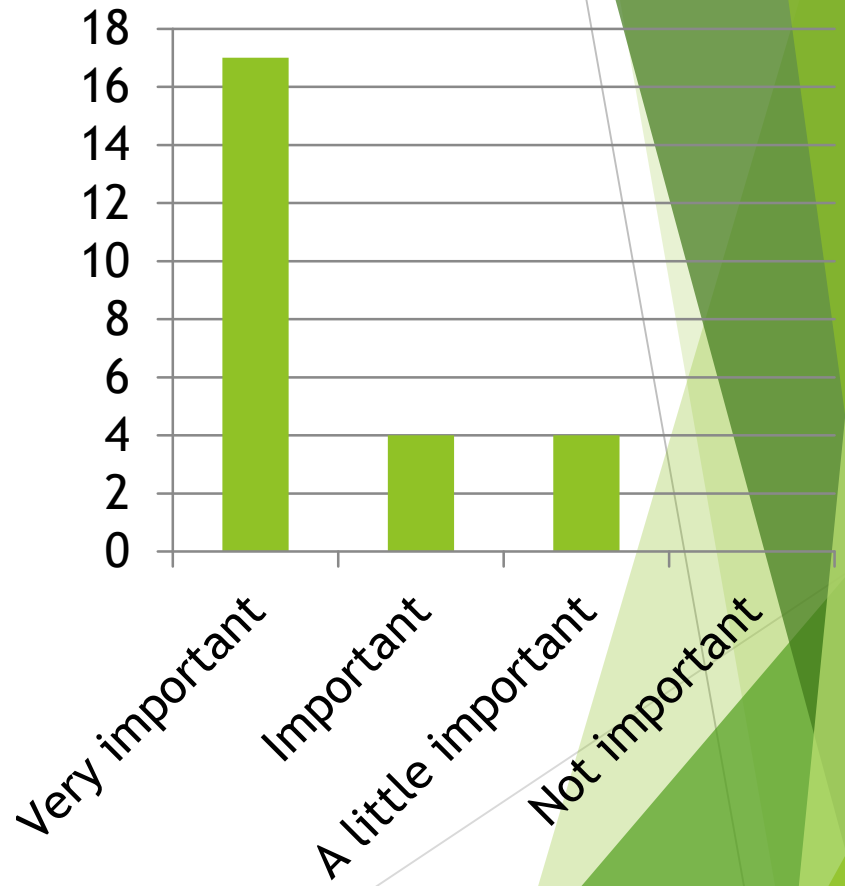
When did you  
begin working  
within the field of  
study



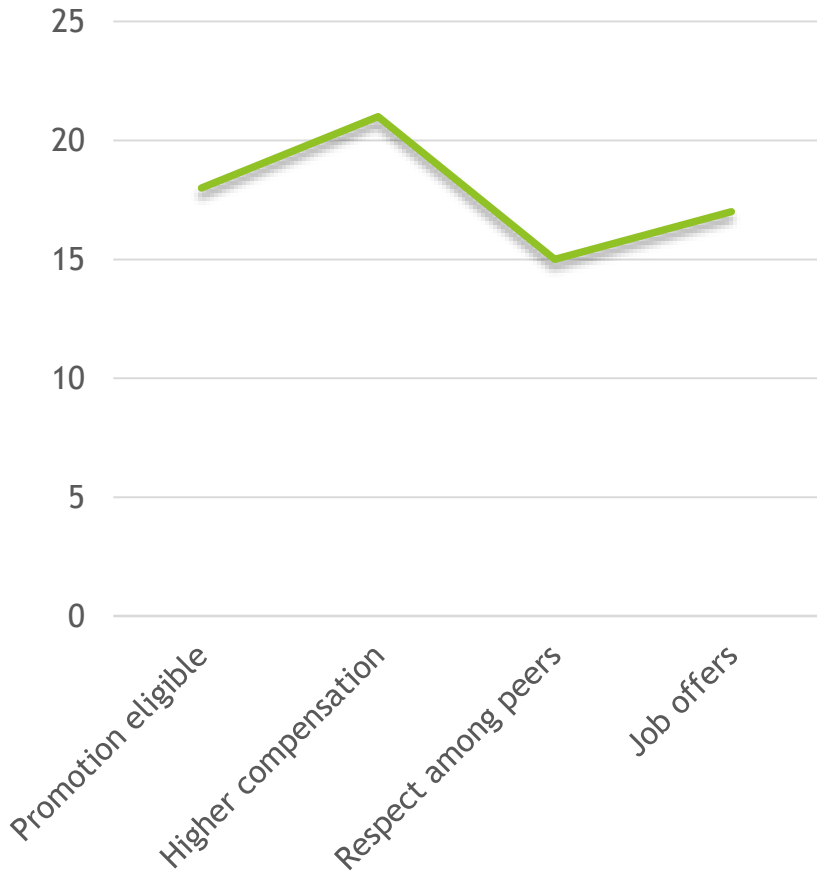
## Current job satisfaction



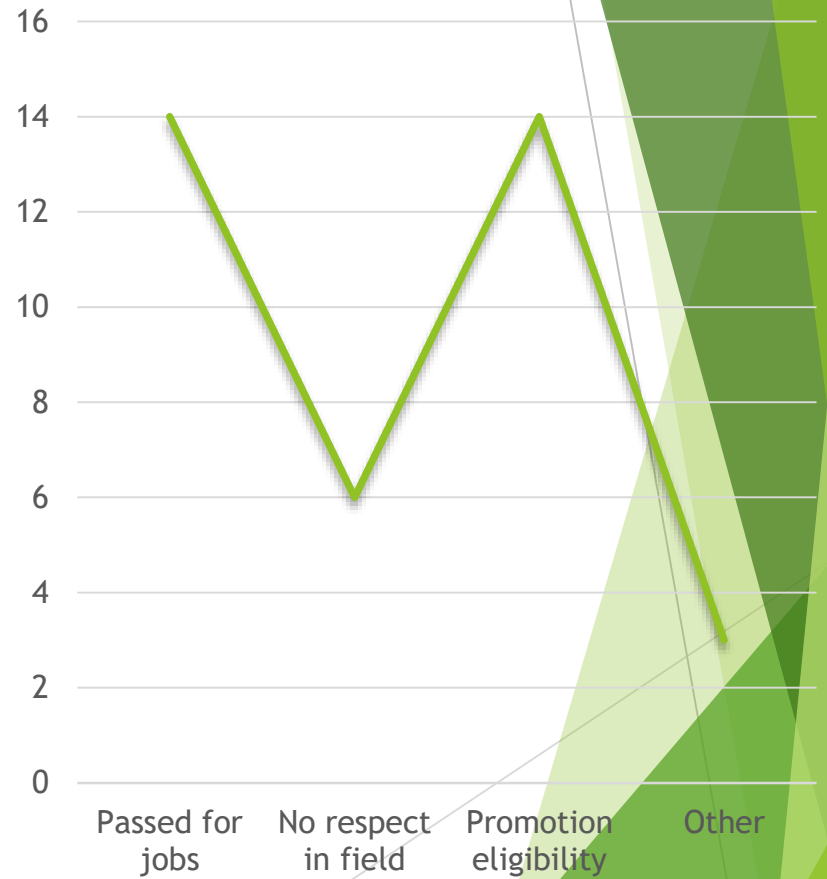
## How important is a bachelor's degree in your field?



## How would a Master's program help you in your career



## What disadvantages do you face without a Master's Degree

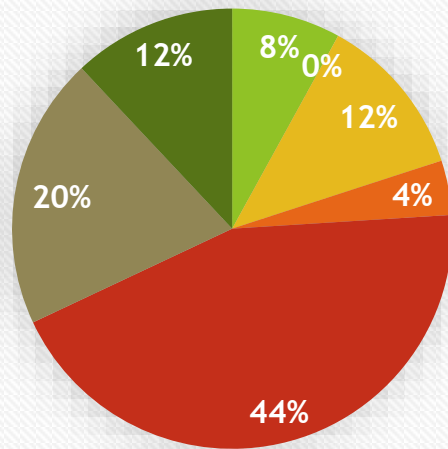




# While in attendance at UVU

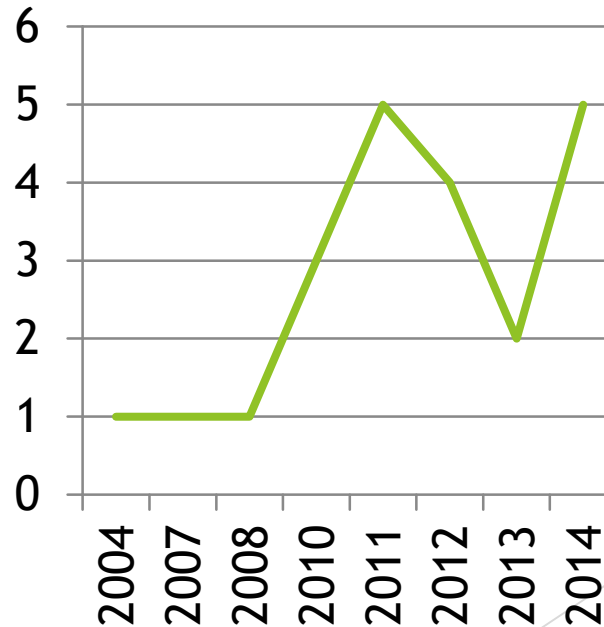
*100% of participants are Criminal Justice Majors*

## Key factors when choosing a school

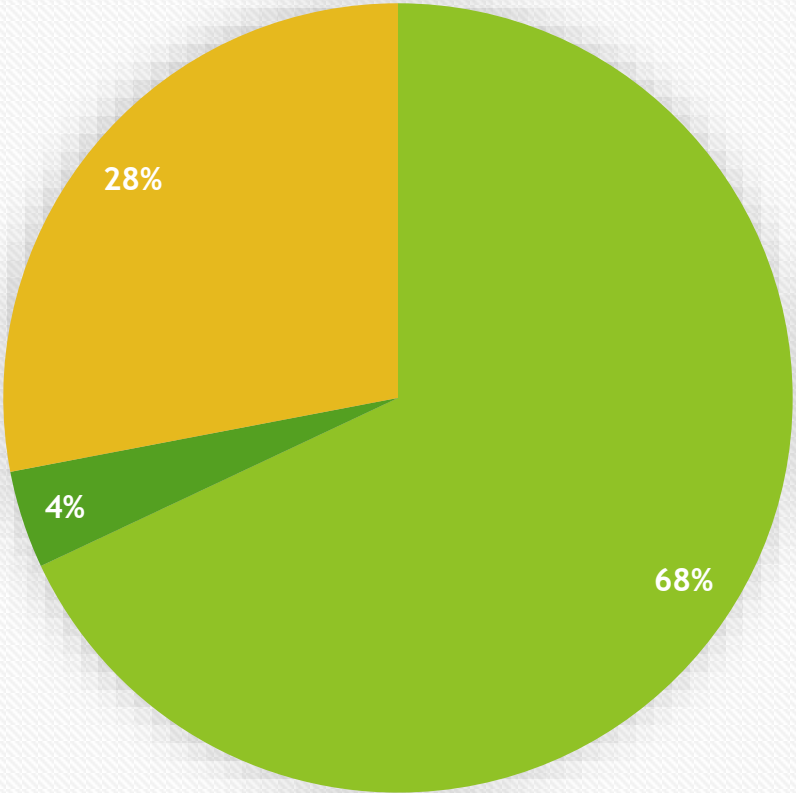


- Evening classes
- Day classes
- Cost of attendance
- Online classes
- Location of school
- Reputation of program
- Other

## When did you first enroll at UVU

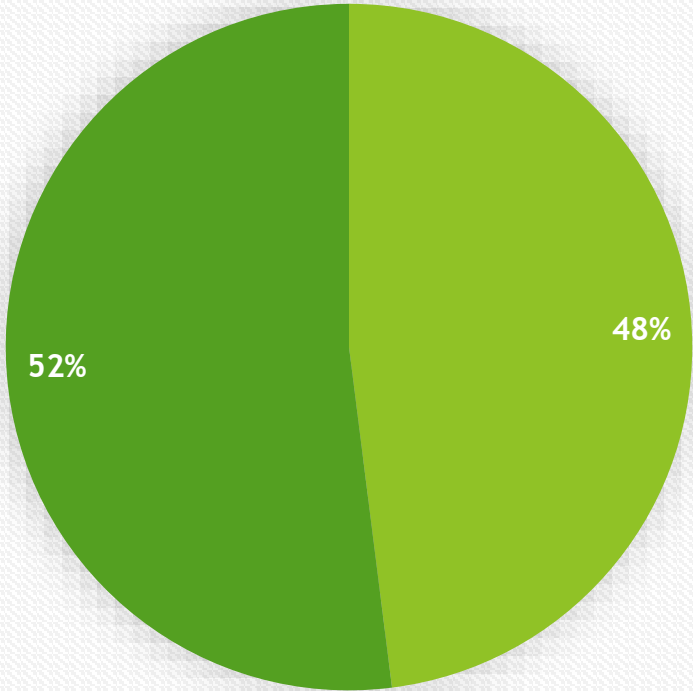


### While enrolled were you primarily:



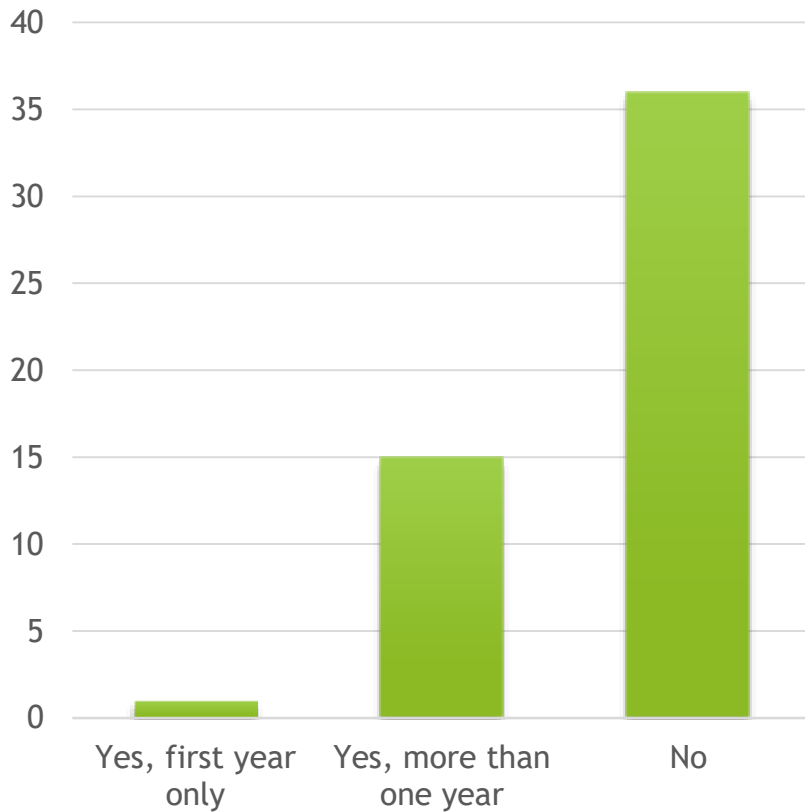
■ Full-time ■ Part-time ■ Both

### Requirements of the program were presented in a clear, written form

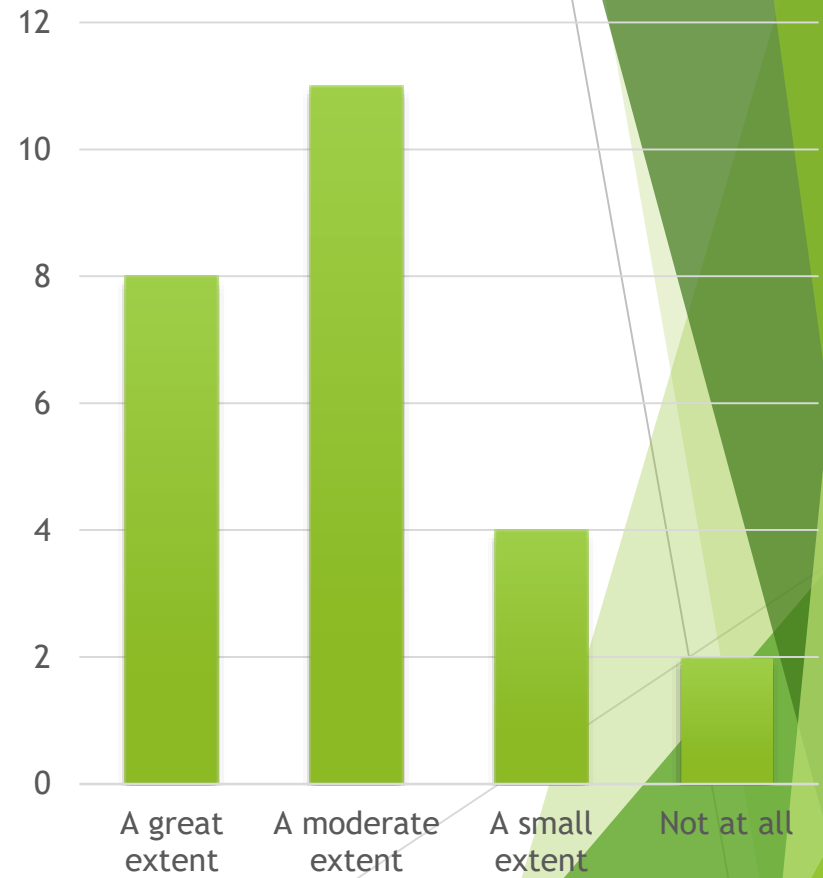


■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree

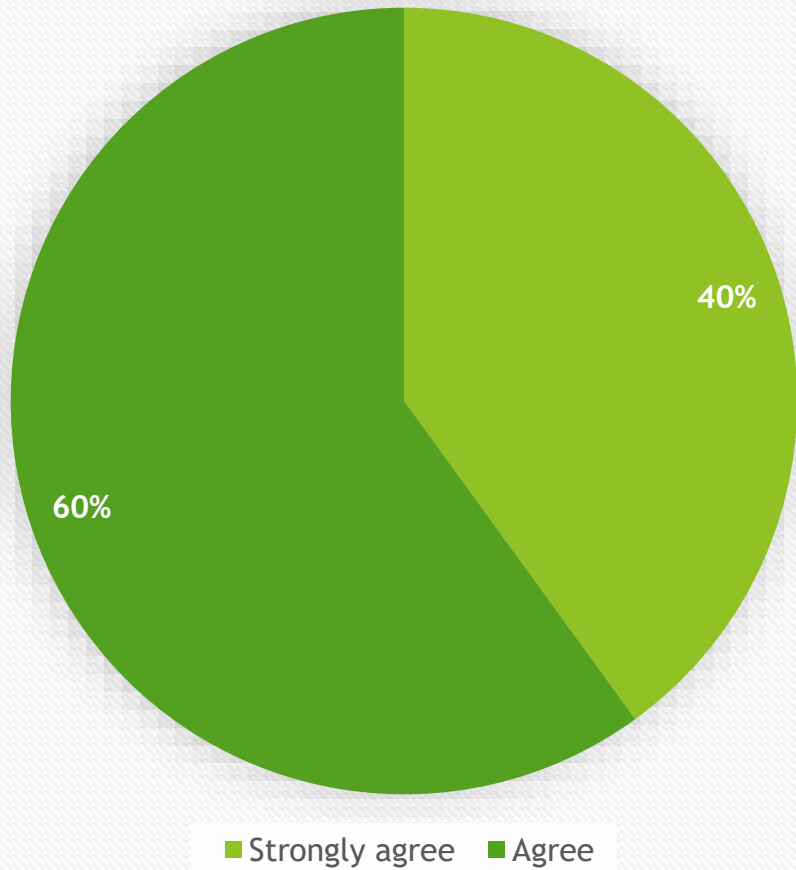
## Were you guaranteed financial support at the time you were admitted to UVU?



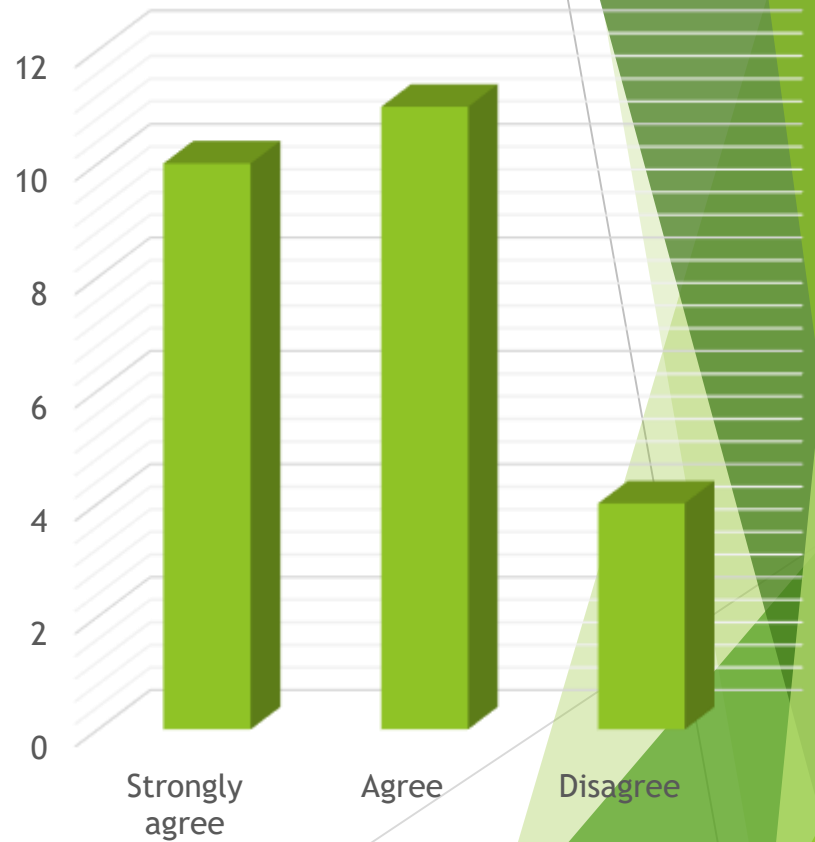
## To what extent was financing your educational challenge?



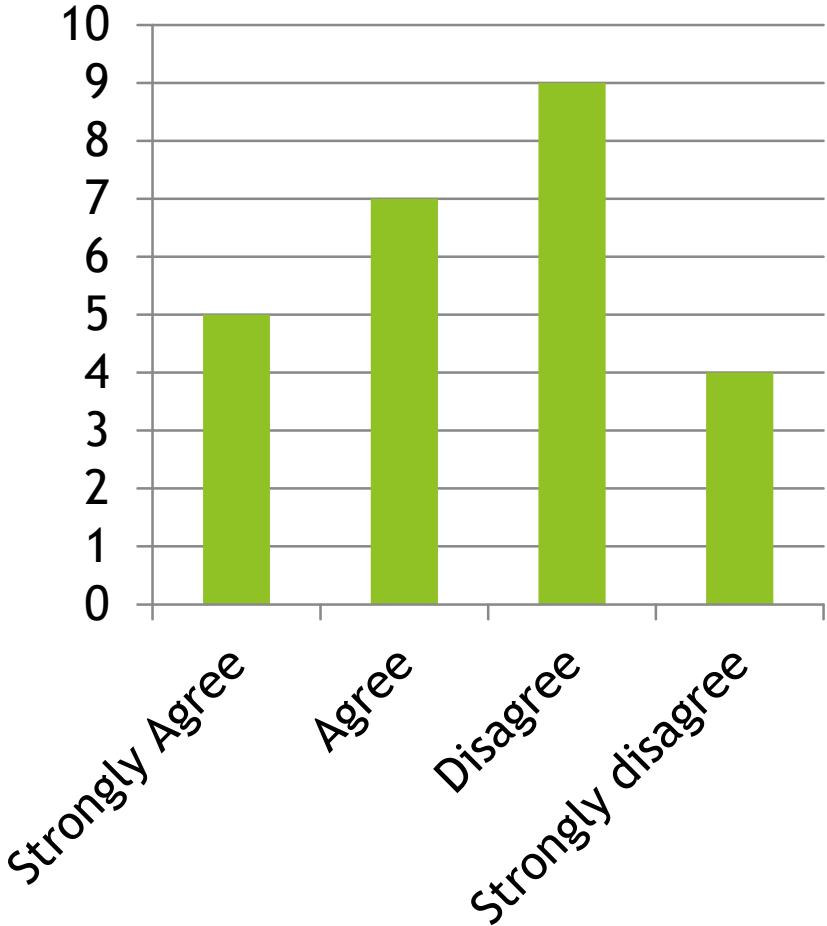
## The faculty were helpful and interested in the students



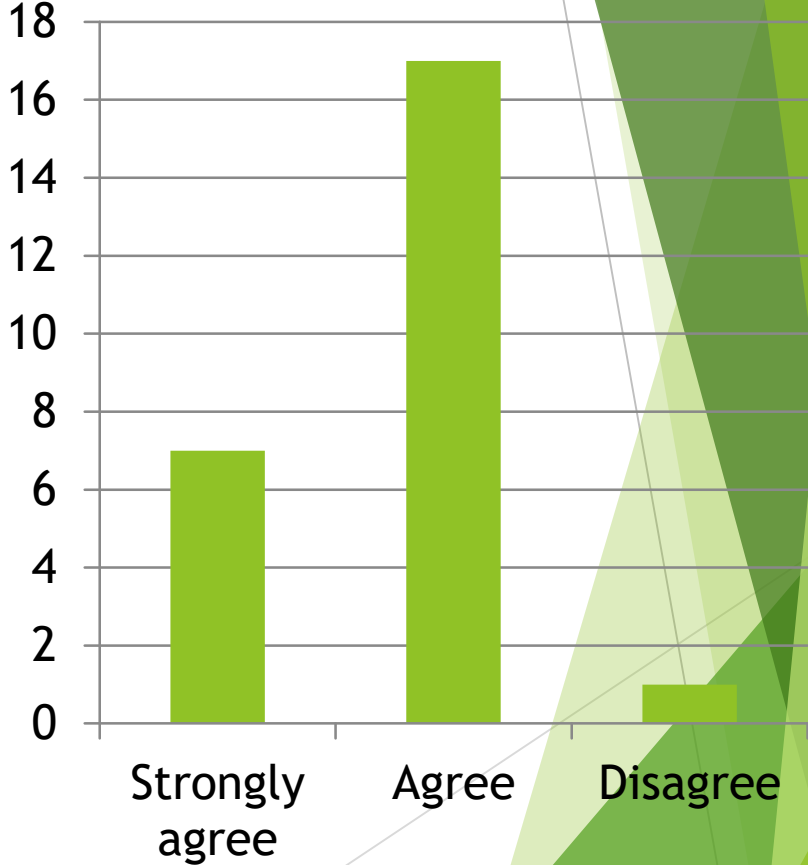
## Academic milestones and timelines were clearly outlined



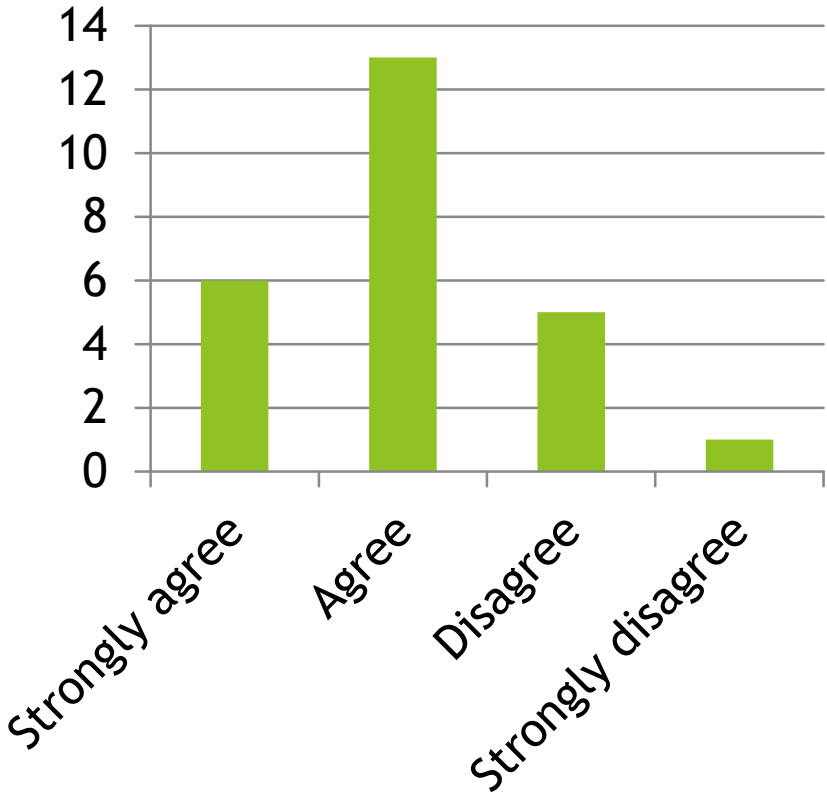
### Courses were available when I needed them



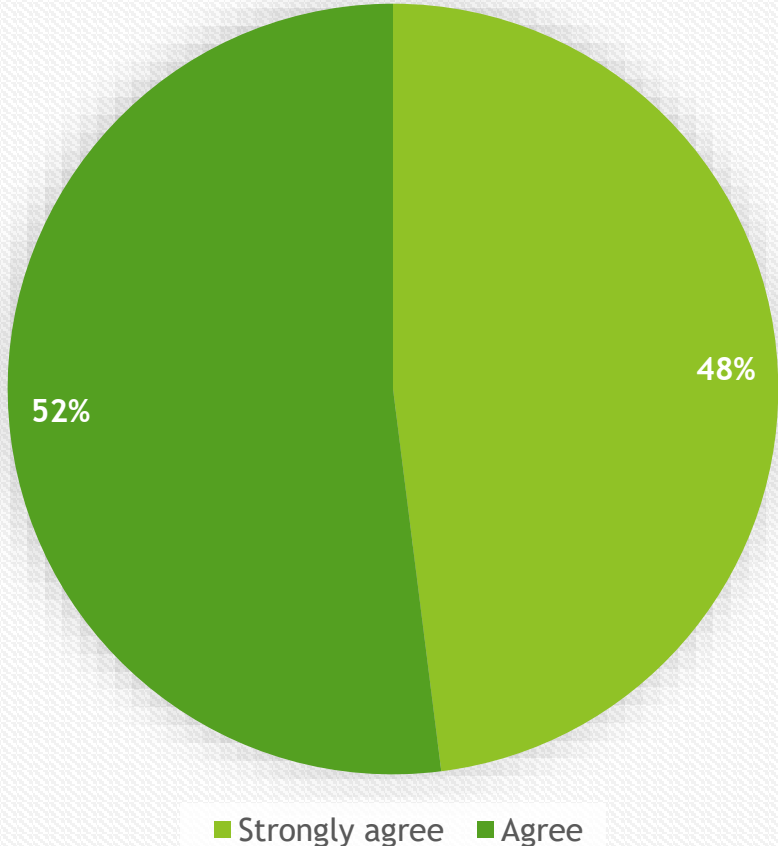
### Overall, the courses provided useful information



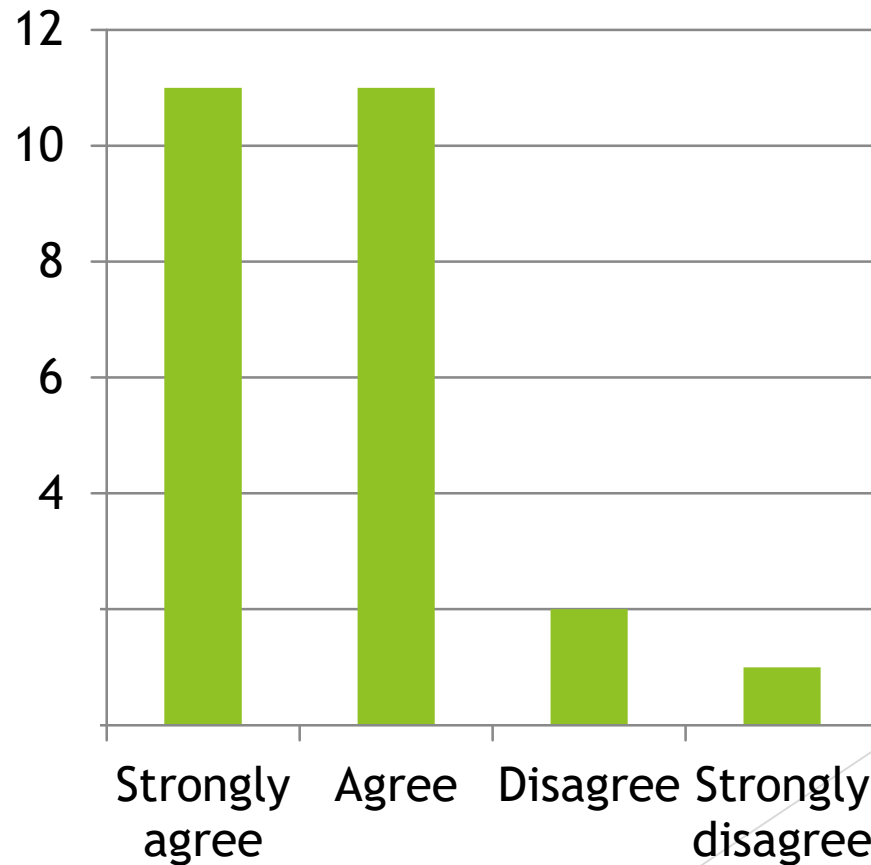
# Some courses or components of the program were a waste of time



# The faculty was generally supportive and available

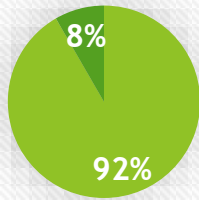


## The quality of teaching was better than other programs



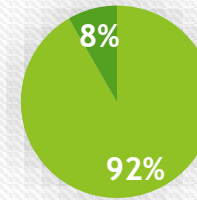
While enrolled, did you receive any formal or informal instruction, practice, or professional development in any of the following:

### Oral communication and presenting skills



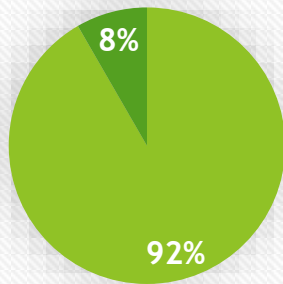
■ Yes ■ No

### Writing clearly for different audiences



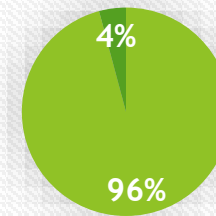
■ Yes ■ No

### Research methods



■ Yes ■ No

### Working in collaborative groups



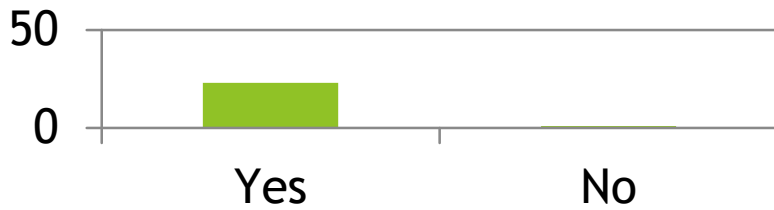
■ Yes ■ No



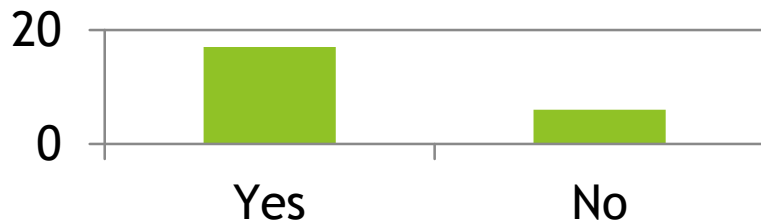
### Conducting independent research



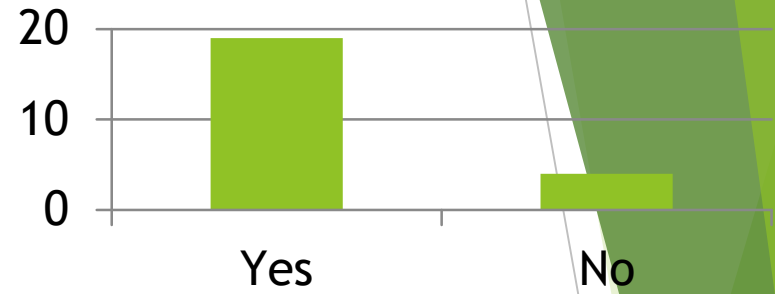
### Research/professional ethics



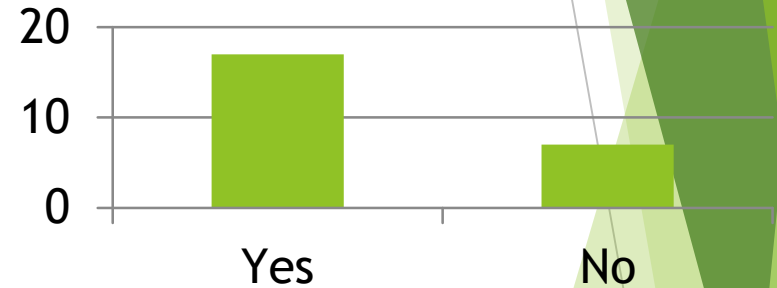
### Preparation for job interviews



### Project management



### Teaching skills

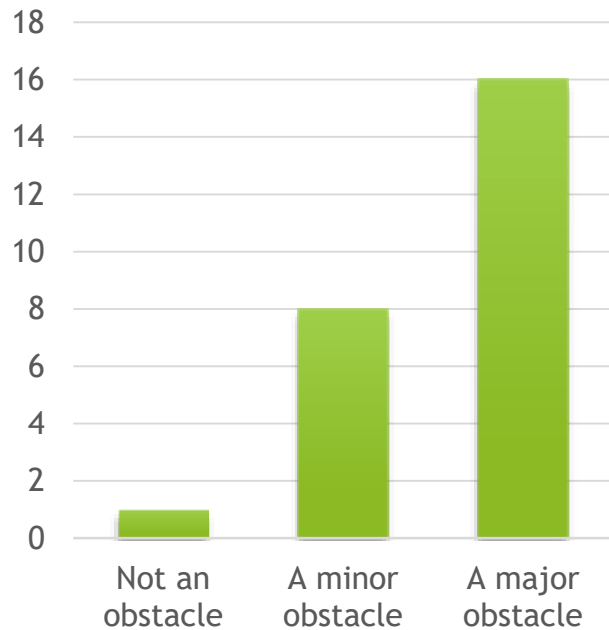


### Preparation for non-academic careers

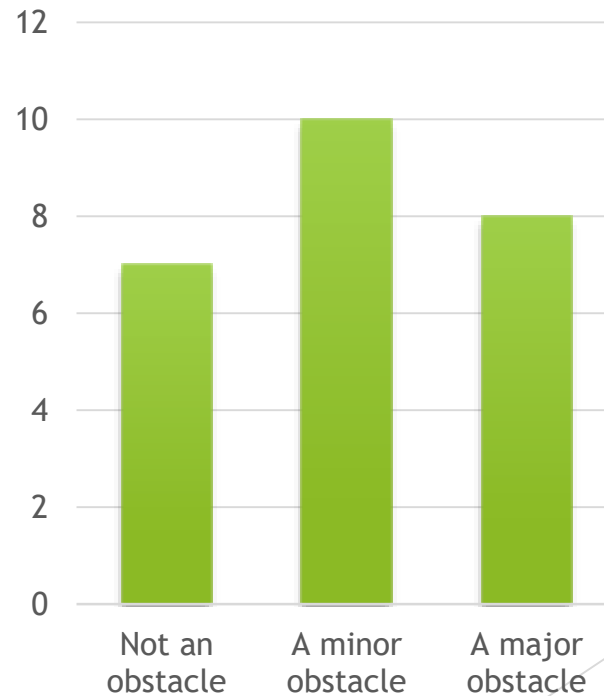


# Rate to what extent the following factors are/were an obstacle to your academic progress

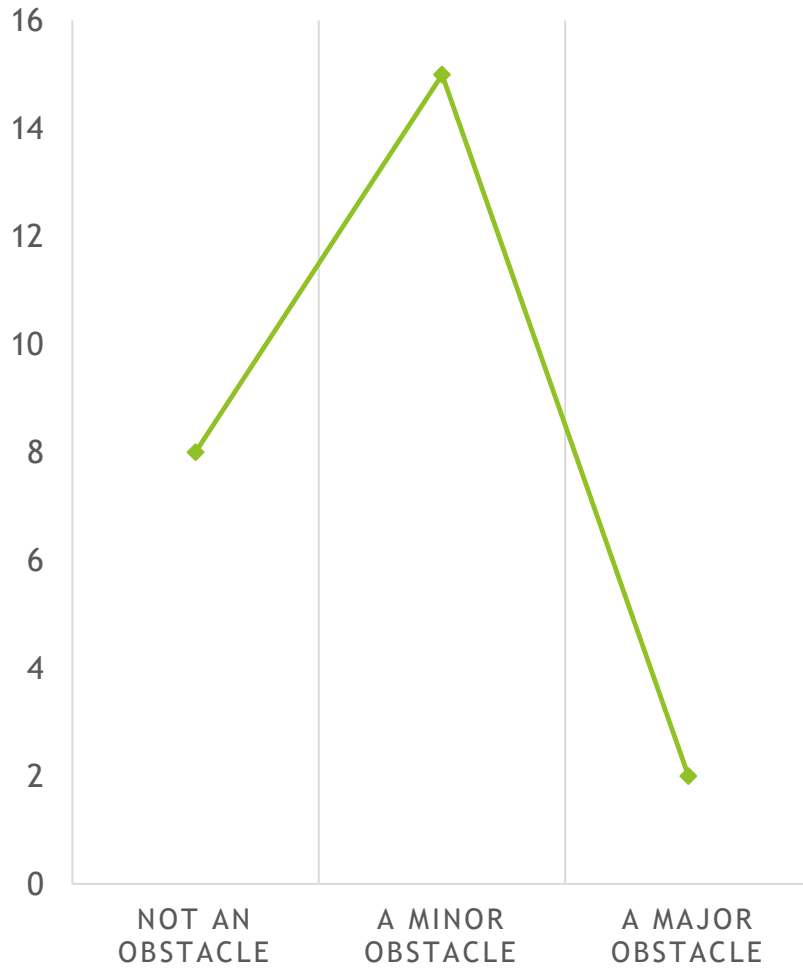
## Work/financial commitments



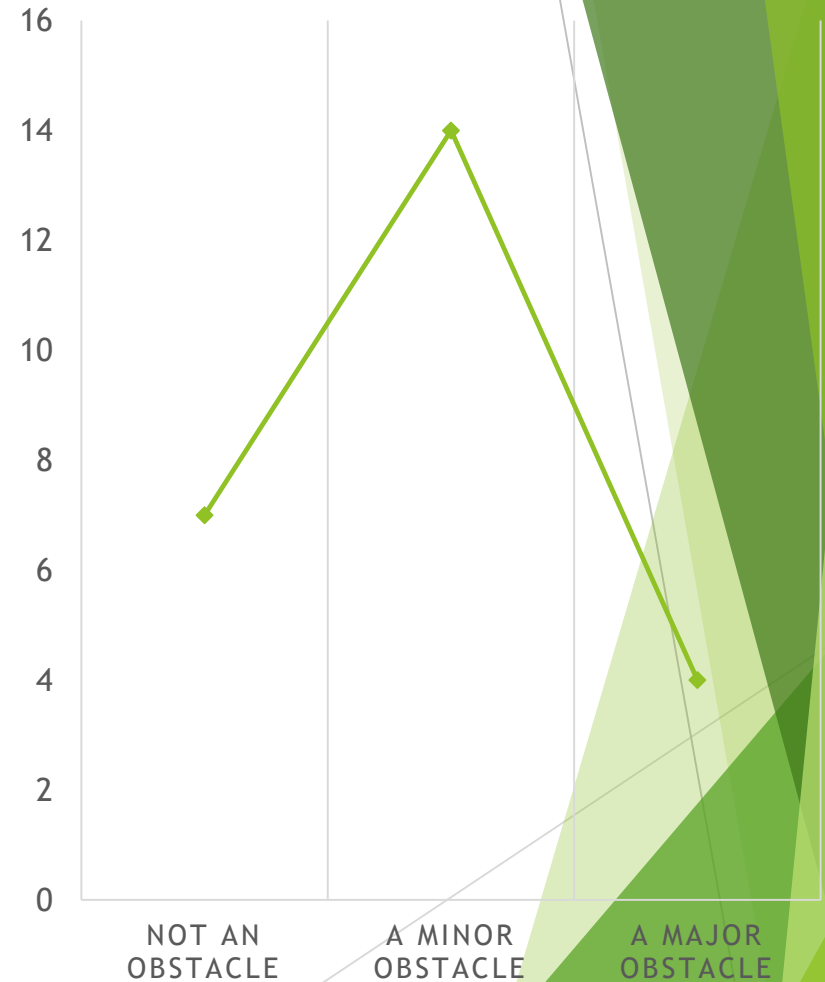
## Family obligations



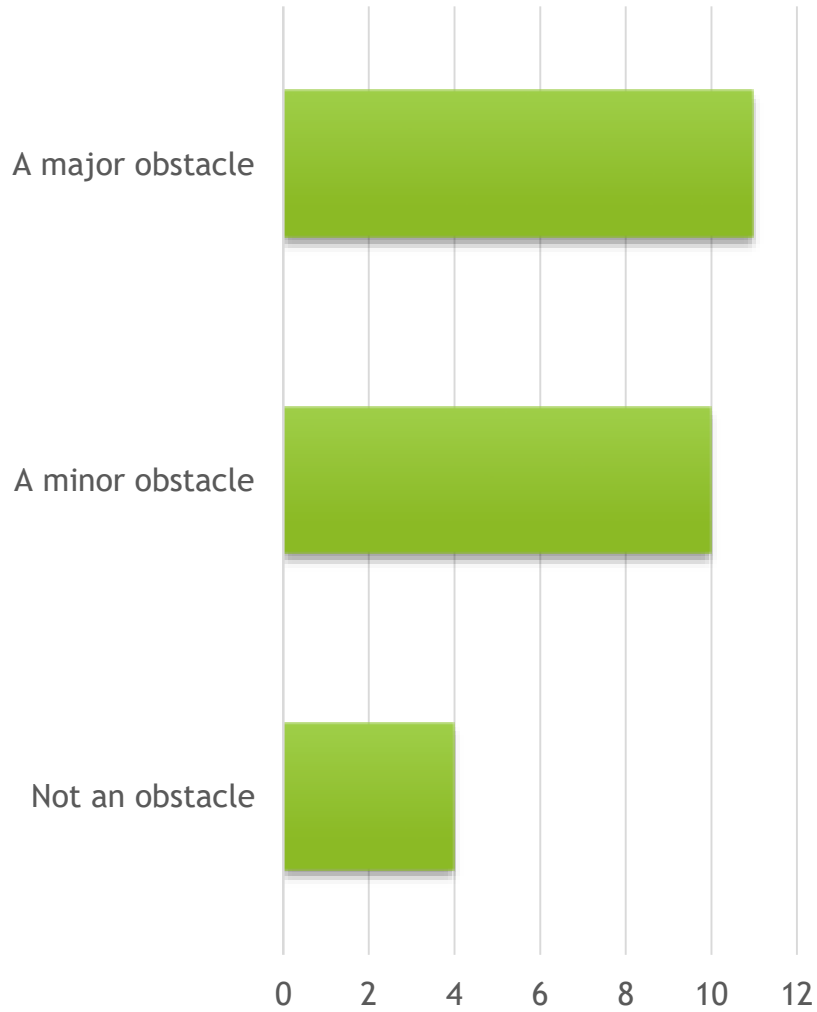
## AVAILABILITY OF FACULTY



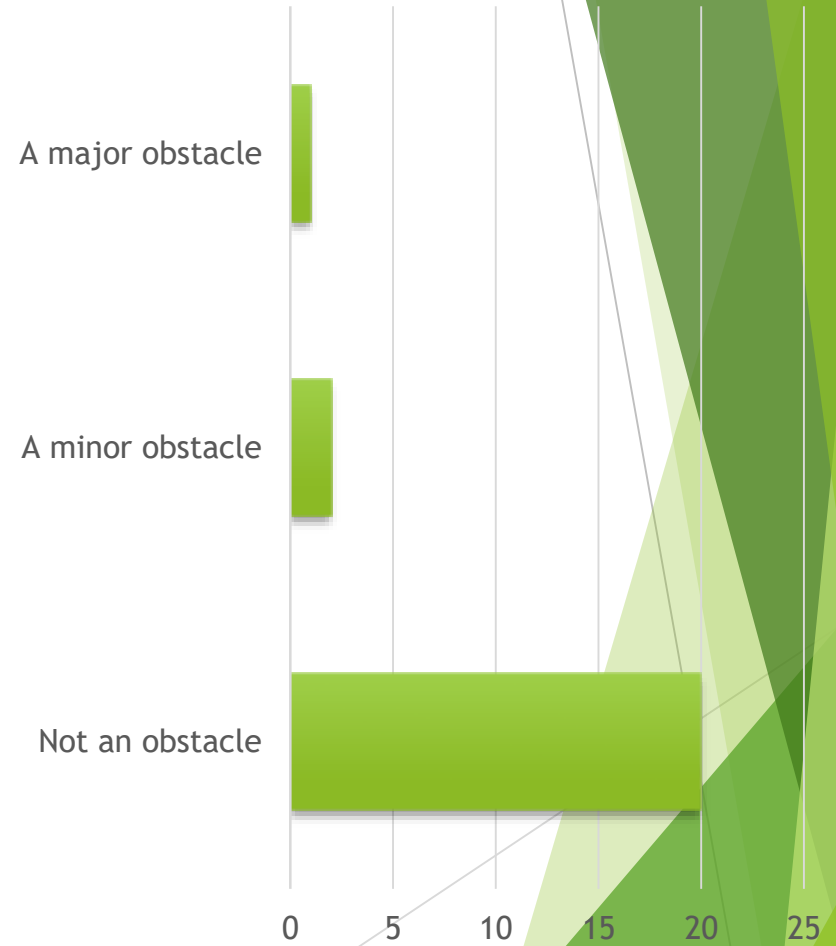
## PROGRAM STRUCTURE OR REQUIREMENTS



## Course scheduling

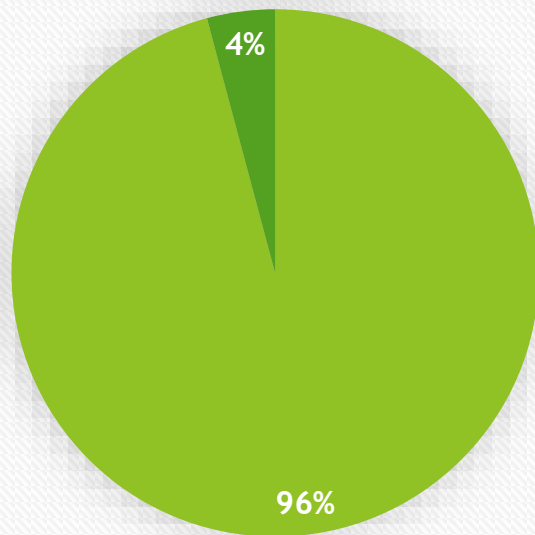


## Immigration laws or regulations



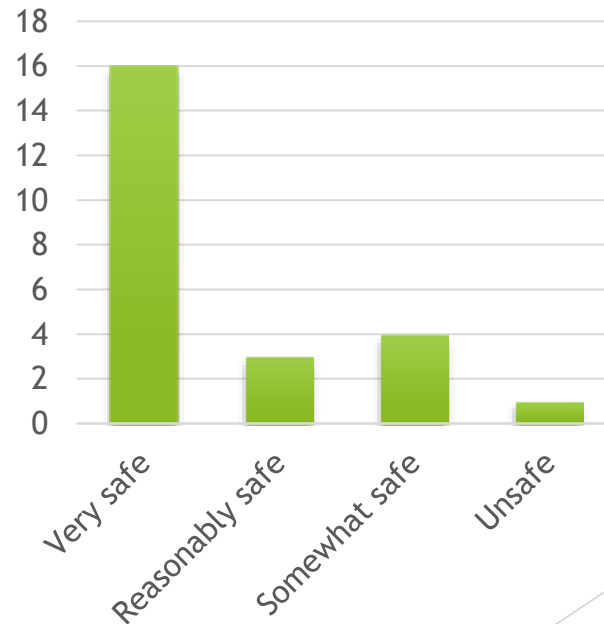
# How safe do you feel under each circumstance?

## Walking alone by day on campus

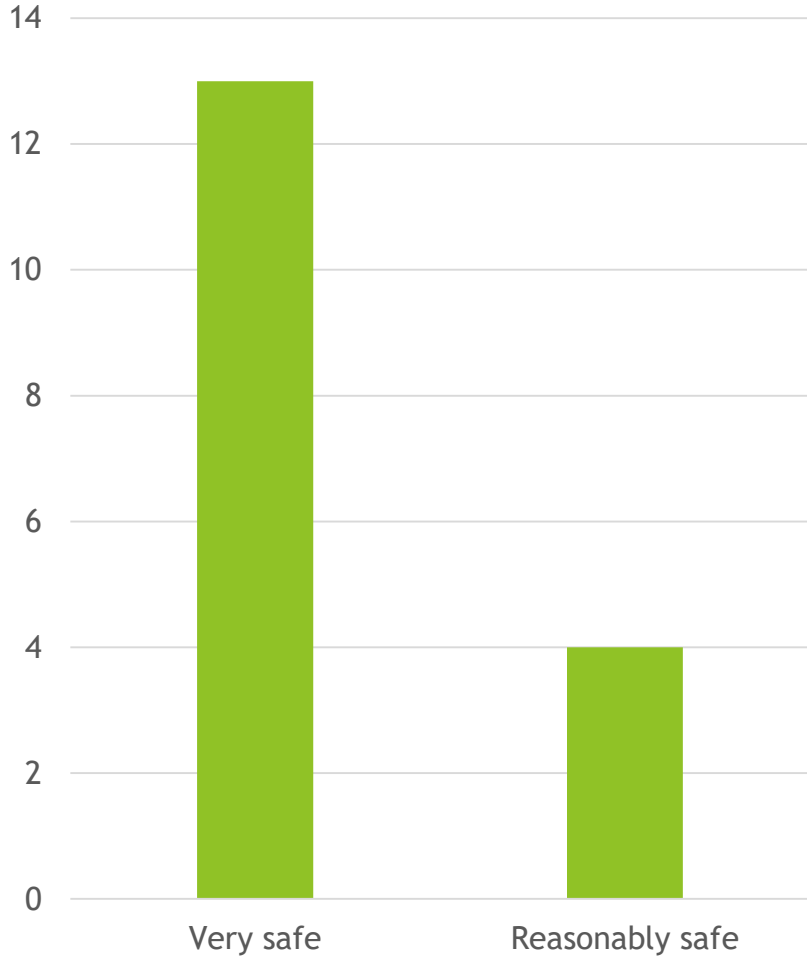


■ Very safe ■ Reasonably safe

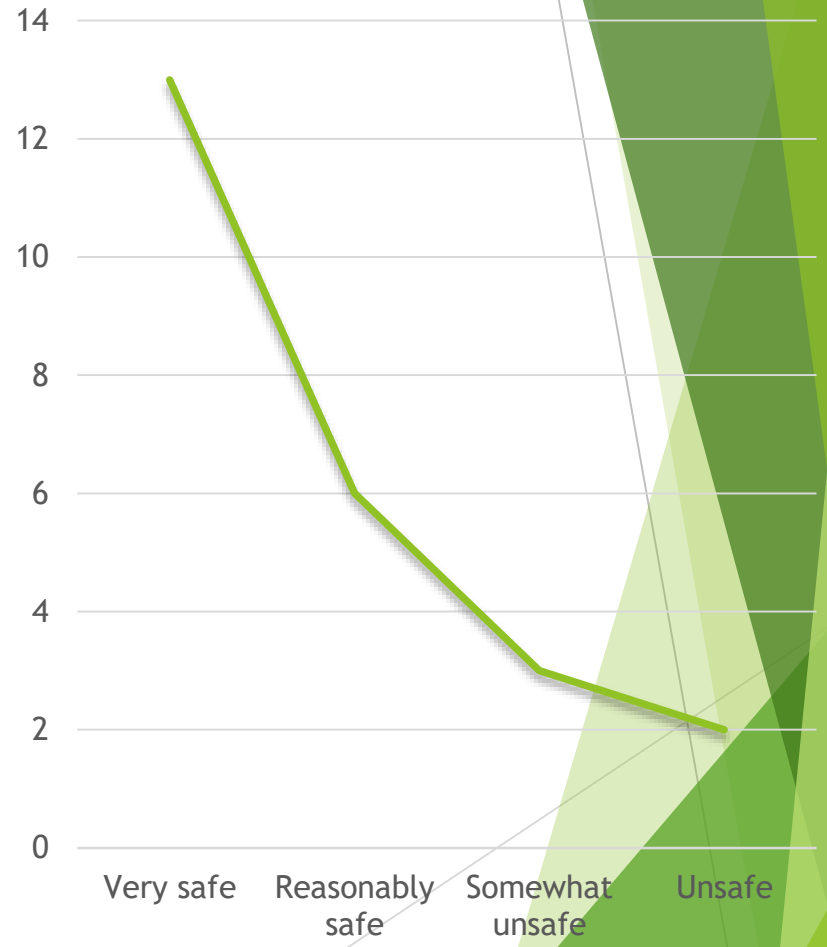
## Walking alone at night on campus



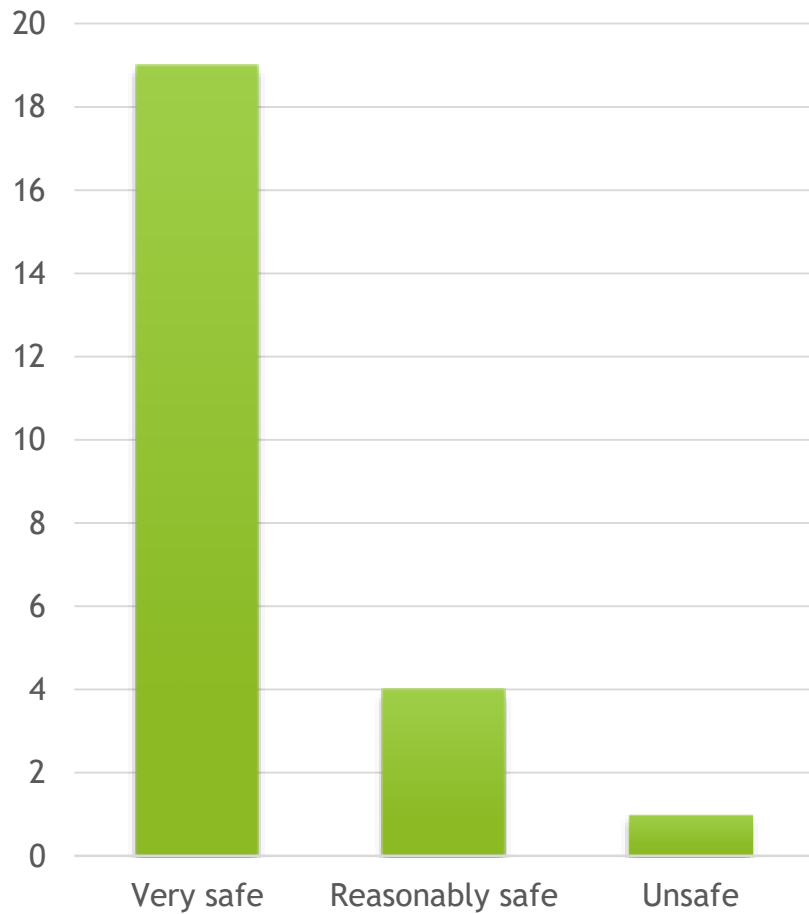
### Walking alone by day off campus



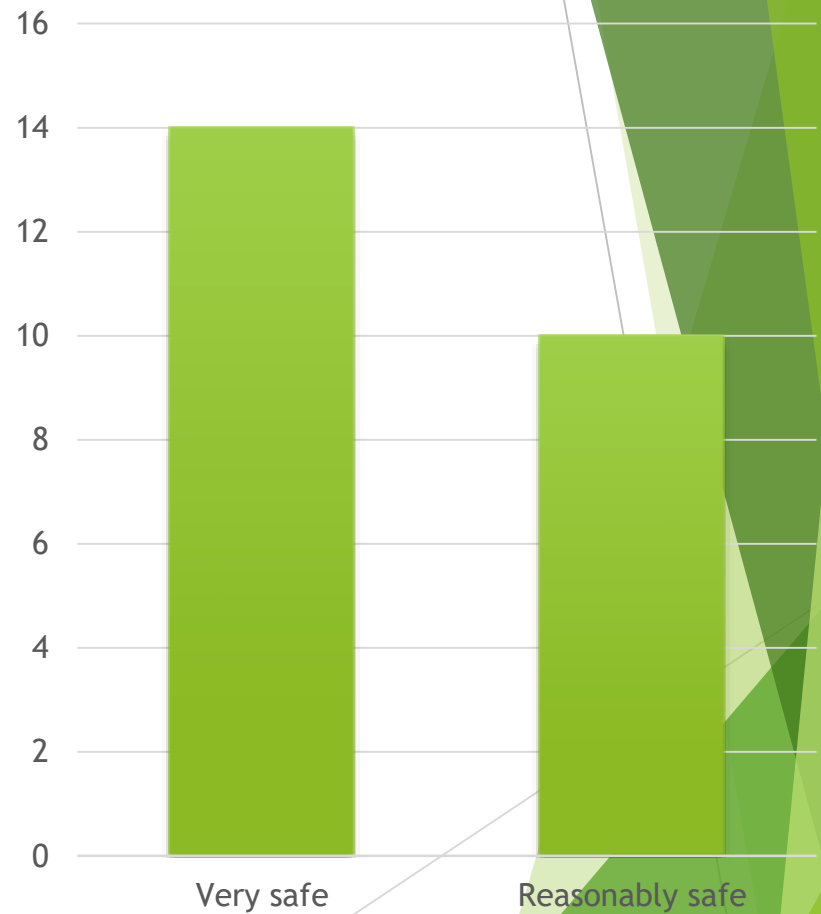
### Walking alone at night off campus



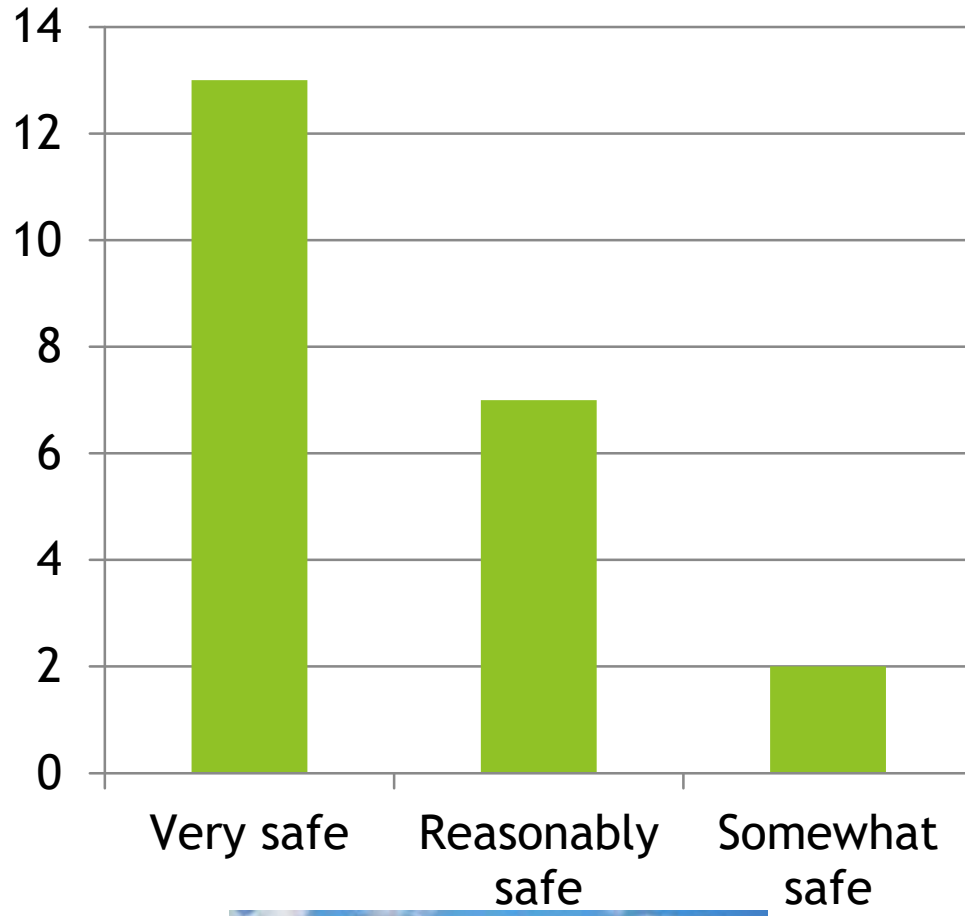
## Alone in your current residence



## Parking your car on or near campus



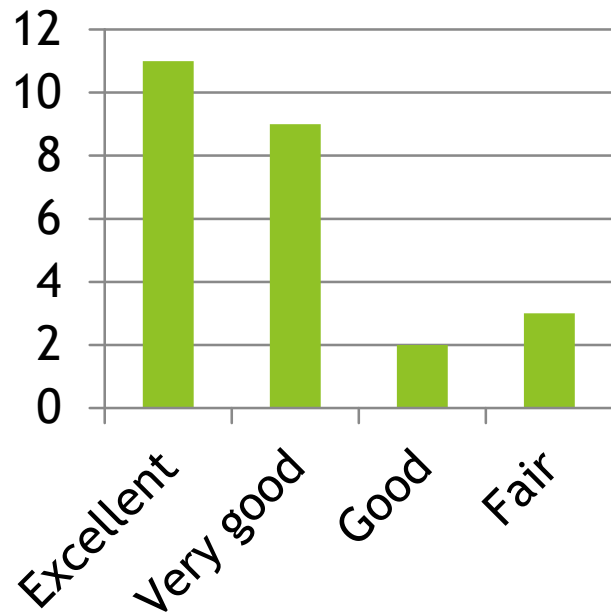
# Using public transportation to or from campus





# Overall rating of the quality at UVU

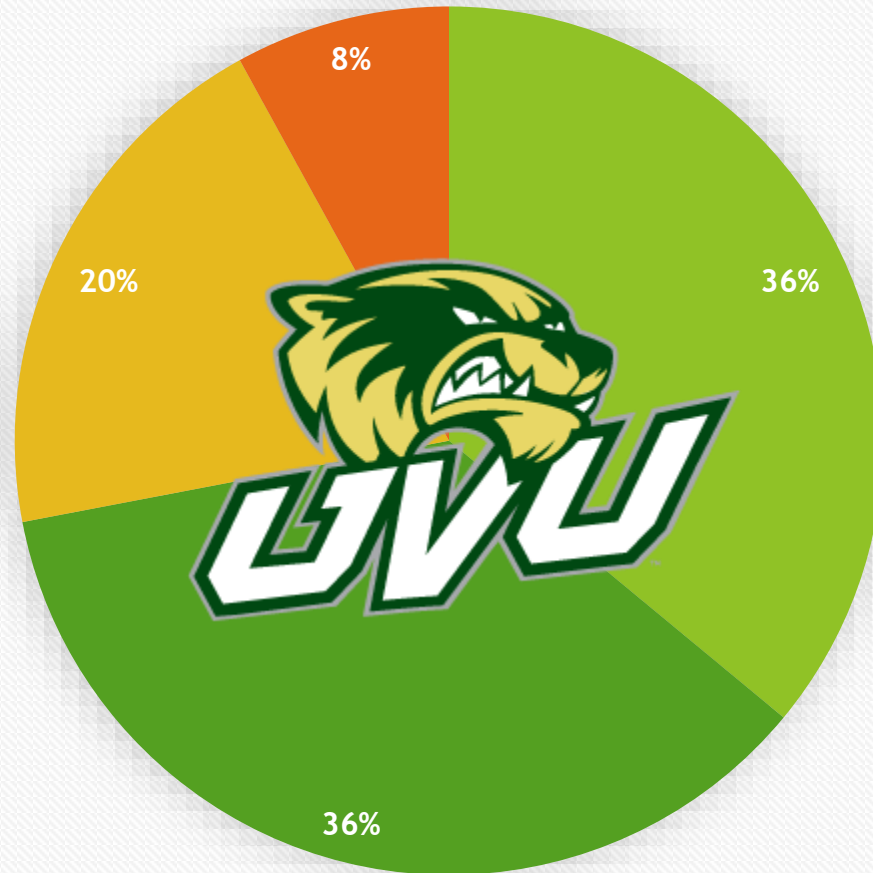
## Academic experience



## Student life experience



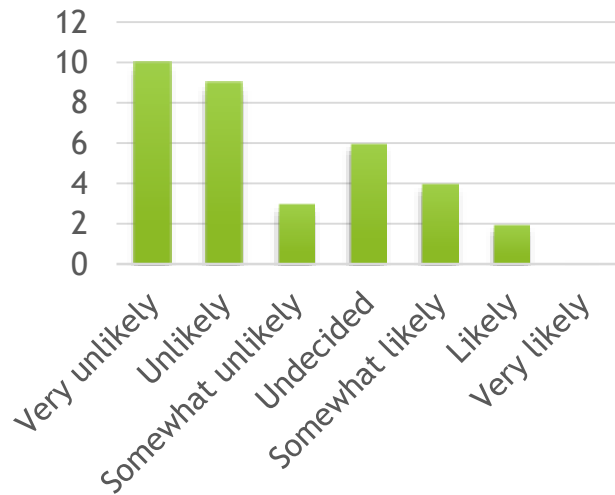
## Overall experience



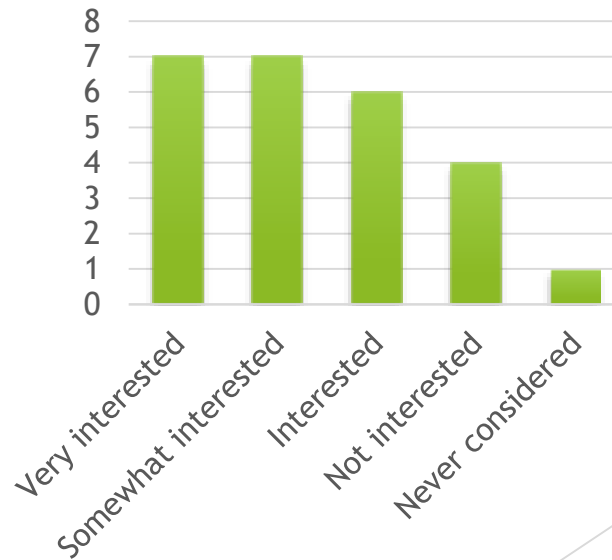
■ Excellent ■ Very good ■ Good ■ Fair

# MPA Related Questions

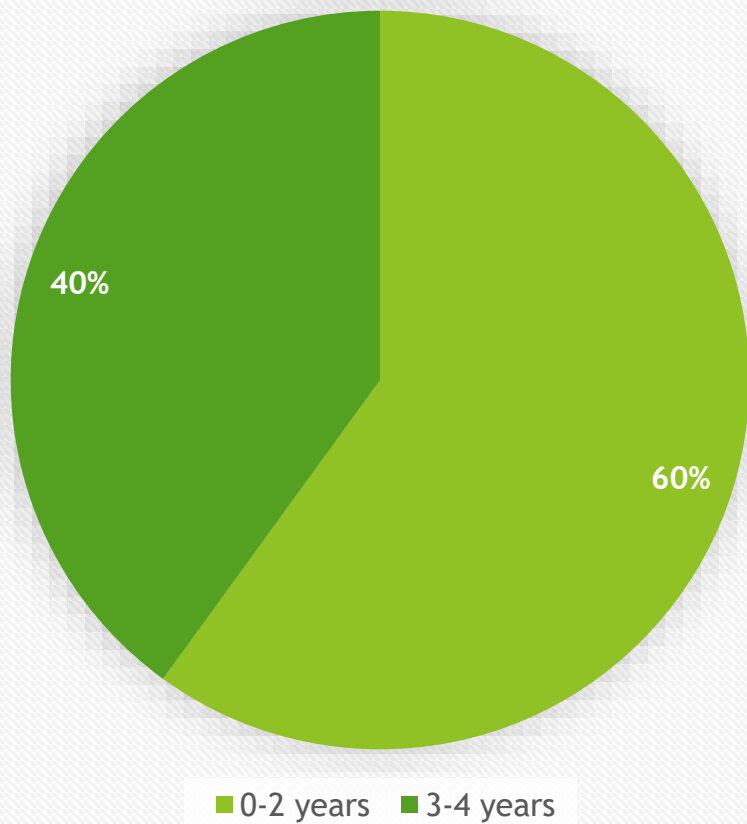
If an MPA was offered, would you have changed your major



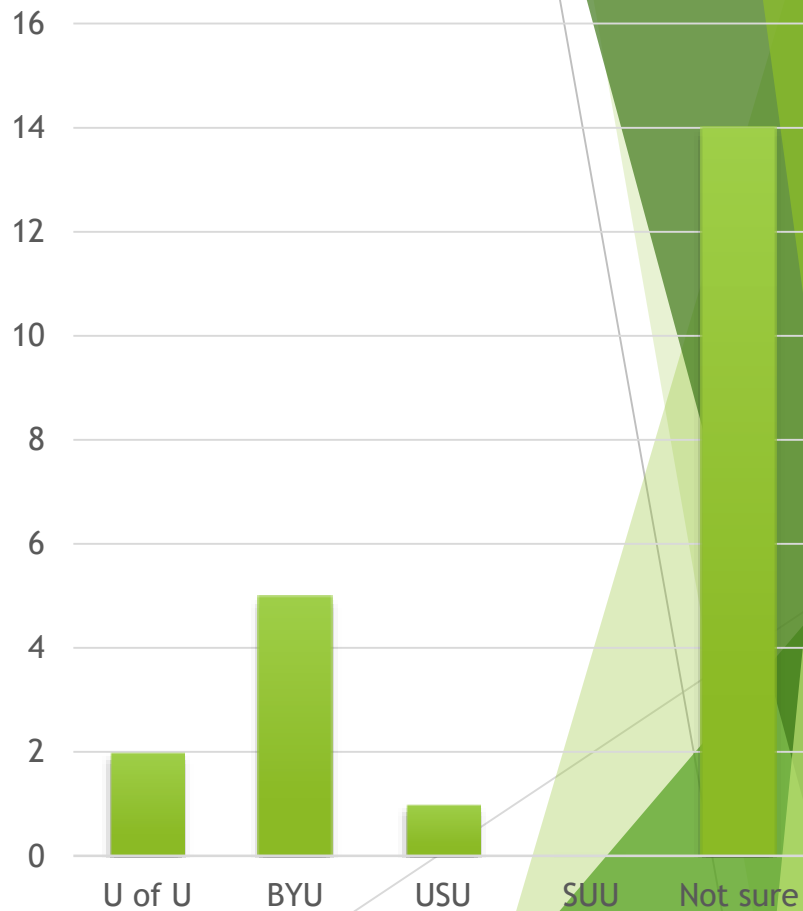
How interested are you in obtaining an MPA



If an MPA was offered, how much time would it take you to obtain



Which schools offer an MPA



# Conclusion

- ▶ The proposed viability of a Master's program at Utah Valley University for Criminal Justice and Emergency Response fields is conceivable. Although employment/unemployment, financial commitments and course availability were subsequent obstacles from current students at the University, the overall satisfaction of their current programs presented to be far-reaching in their current academic and future professional objectives. The location of the University, information presented by qualified instructors, and the skills acquired prevail as the predominant facets. A Master's program will inflate the students' oral communication, written communication, individual and collaborative research methods, and develop their career potential. The method of research will, however demand a greater response for a more convincing transformation towards its foreseeable implementation and foundation.

<http://youtu.be/FkHbC1RSjv8>