

Survey on Academic Self-concept, Reflected Appraisals, and College Major

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WELCOME MESSAGE

Thank you for your interest in this survey. The goal of this survey is to explore WVU students' feelings about their college major.

To be eligible to complete this survey you must be currently enrolled in classes at West Virginia University at least part-time, have declared a major, and be considered an undergraduate student.

Your responses to this survey are anonymous. This survey will not record any identifiable information such as your name, WVU ID number, or email. Please do not provide such identifiable information in any open-ended response questions. Though your answers are anonymous, please answer each question truthfully and to the best of your ability.

This survey is comprised of multiple-choice questions to which there is no wrong or right answer. Completion of this survey is estimated to take between 10 to 20 minutes.

There is no penalty for failure to complete this survey and you may stop at any time. Use the arrows on the bottom left and right of the page to navigate through the survey. You must answer every question on each page before you are able to proceed to the next page.

At the end of the survey, you will be redirected to another page to enter a drawing for an Amazon gift card. In order to be eligible to win the drawing, you will be asked to submit your name and WVU affiliated email address. Your submissions for the drawing will not be connected to the answers you provide in this survey as they are part of a separate form to maintain anonymity.

Should you have any questions, please contact Cheyenne Jackson at caj0023@mix.wvu.edu.

If you are ready and willing to begin the survey, please click the arrow on the bottom right.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

Are you at least 18 years old or older?

- Yes, I am at least 18 years old.
- No.

If “no” is selected, the survey ends immediately.

Do each of the following statements describe you?

I am currently enrolled in classes at WVU at least part-time.

I have declared a college major at this time. (This means you are not currently an undecided or undeclared major.)

I am an undergraduate student at WVU.

- Yes, I am currently enrolled in classes at least part time, I have declared a major, and I am an undergraduate student.
- No, one or more of those statements do not describe me.

If “No, at least one of those statements do not describe me” is selected, participant is navigated to an end of survey page informing them they are not eligible to complete the survey.

BLOCK 1

Q1. Of the following, which area of study reflects your current major or discipline at WVU? (You may select multiple if you have more than one major)

- Agriculture
- Biological/life sciences (biology, biochemistry, botany, zoology, etc.)
- Business (accounting, business administration, marketing, management, etc.)
- Communication (speech, journalism, television/radio, etc.)
- Computer and information sciences
- Education
- Engineering
- Ethnic, cultural studies, and area studies
- Foreign languages and literature (French, Spanish, etc.)
- Health-related fields (nursing, physical therapy, health technology, etc.)
- History
- Humanities (English, literature, philosophy, religion, etc.)
- Liberal/general studies
- Mathematics
- Multi/interdisciplinary studies
- Parks, recreation, leisure studies, sports management
- Physical sciences (physics, chemistry, astronomy, earth sciences, etc.)
- Pre-professional (pre-dental, pre-medical, pre-veterinary)
- Public administration
- Social sciences (anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, etc.)
- Visual and performing arts (art, music, theater, etc.)
- Other [Please specify] _____

Q2. Which of the following best describes your student classification?

- Freshmen
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior/Super Senior
- Other [Please specify] _____

Q3. What is your mother's level of education?

- Did not finish high school
- Graduated from high school or equivalent (GED)
- Some college but did not complete
- Graduated from a two-year school (such as a vocational or technical school, junior college, or a community college)
- Bachelor's degree
- Advanced degree (Master's, PhD, MD, or other advanced degrees)
- Not Applicable (NA)

Q4. What is your father's level of education?

- Did not finish high school
- Graduated from high school or equivalent (GED)
- Some college but did not complete
- Graduated from a two-year school (such as a vocational or technical school, junior college, or a community college)
- Bachelor's degree
- Advanced degree (Master's, PhD, MD, or other advanced degrees)
- Not Applicable (NA)

Q5. Are you a transfer student?

- Yes
- No

Q6. Are you an international student?

- Yes
- No

Q7. Are you an honor's student?

- Yes
- No

BLOCK 2

Q8. Have you ever changed your major?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

If "No" is selected, the following question is skipped.

Q9. Why did you change your major? [Select all that apply]

- My previous major was too difficult.
- I was not passionate about my previous major.
- I did not enjoy studying my previous major.
- It is difficult to find a job in the field of my previous major.
- My previous major was boring.
- I wanted a major that would get me a job that makes more money.
- Other [Please specify] _____

Q10. How important was having a high-paying career in choosing your current major?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important

Q11. How important was having a career you are passionate about in choosing your current major?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important

Q12. In general, how supportive is your family of your current major?

- Extremely supportive
- Very supportive
- Moderately supportive
- Slightly supportive
- Not at all supportive
- Not Applicable (NA)

Q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I struggle to understand the content in my major courses.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q14. Overall, how excited are you to take courses in your major?

- Extremely excited
- Very Excited
- Moderately excited
- Slightly excited
- Not at all excited

Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Colleges should develop students into well-rounded individuals.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Colleges should prepare students to get a good career.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree .
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
General education requirements are a waste of time.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

BLOCK 3

**Q18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Other people say my major is difficult.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Other people say my major will lead to a good career.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q20. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Students should go to college to learn the skills to get a good career.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q21. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Students should go to college is to explore topics they are passionate about.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Others would say I am a good student.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q23. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Other people tend to look down on my major.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q24. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I have a fairly clear sense of my academic goals.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q25. Compared to other students, how would you describe your academic performance?

- Excellent
- Above average
- Average
- Below average
- Poor

Q26. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In general, STEM majors are more difficult than other majors.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

BLOCK 4

Q27. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement.

I struggle to have the motivation to complete my assignments.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q28. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I felt pressured to go to college.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q29. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I have a fairly clear sense of my career goals.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q30. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I am passionate about what I learn in my major courses.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q31. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

At times, I feel like I am a failure.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q32. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
If money were not an issue, I would have chosen a different major.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q33. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Being a student is a rewarding experience.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q34. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
I feel like I fit in easily with other students in my major.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q35. How fulfilled do you feel in your major?

- Completely fulfilled
- Very fulfilled
- Moderately fulfilled
- Slightly fulfilled
- Unfulfilled
- Not sure

Q36. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following question?

My major is a reflection of my true self.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not sure

Q37. Overall, How satisfied or unsatisfied are you with your college academic experience?

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slight satisfied
- Neutral
- Slightly unsatisfied
- Moderately unsatisfied
- Extremely unsatisfied

Q38. What is most important, going to college to get a good career or to explore your passion?

- Passion is much more important than career.
- Passion is somewhat more important than career.
- They are equally important.
- Career is somewhat more important than passion.
- Career is much more important than passion.
- Not sure

BLOCK 5

Q39. Do you have plans to attend graduate school?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Might or might not
- Probably not
- Definitely not

Q40. Do you consider your major a STEM major?

- Yes
- Maybe/Unsure
- No
- I don't know what "STEM" means.

Q41. What best describes your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Other

Q42. What is your race/ethnicity? [Select all that apply]

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Other [Please specify] _____

Q43. What is your age in years? Please use the space below to enter your age in years.

Q44. What is your marital status?

- Never married
- Married
- Widowed
- Divorced
- Separated

Q45. Is English your first language?

- Yes
- No

Q46. What is your employment status?

- Employed full time
- Employed part time
- Unemployed looking for work
- Unemployed not looking for work
- Retired
- Disabled

Q47. What is your cumulative college grade point average (GPA)?

- I don't have a GPA (First-semester freshmen)
- Less than 2.0
- 2.0 - 2.499
- 2.5 - 2.999
- 3.0 - 3.499
- 3.5 - 3.749
- 3.75 - 3.999
- 4.0

Q48. What sources do you utilize for paying for college? [Select all that apply]

- College fund
- Federal student loans
- Family contributions
- Personal payment from employment or savings
- Private student loans
- Scholarship or fellowship
- Work or employer funds
- Other [Please specify] _____

Q49. Do you have any thoughts related to this survey that you would like to share? If so, please use the space below to do so.

END OF SURVEY MESSAGE

You have reached the end of this survey. As a reminder, if you have any questions please contact Cheyenne Jackson at caj0023@mix.wvu.edu.

Until you navigate from this page using the arrow on the bottom right of the screen, you are still able to go back and change your response to any question. To do so, please use the arrow on the bottom left of the page.

If you are satisfied with your responses, please submit the survey with the arrow on the bottom right. Once you submit the survey you will be redirected to another page to enter a drawing for an Amazon gift card.

Thank you for your participation.