



# National Survey of Student Engagement 2008

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Study # 06-11006

## What it's about—

Please tell us about your university experiences. The information from this National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is used by faculty and administrators at your institution and by other higher education leaders to improve the collegiate experiences of undergrads.

Students from universities across the country are also being asked these same questions—about how they spend their free time, what they feel they have gained from classes, and their interaction with faculty and other students. Filling out the questionnaire takes about 15 minutes. Your participation is completely voluntary.

## Things you should know—

This survey is conducted on behalf of your institution by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research; we will send your identified responses to your school for institutional assessment. Your university and the Center will keep your responses confidential and no information associated with your name will ever be released publicly. No one will use the information in any way that could cause problems for you. If you have questions at any time about the study or the procedures, you may contact the National Survey of Student Engagement at [nsse@indiana.edu](mailto:nsse@indiana.edu) or by calling 812-856-5824.

If you feel you have not been treated according to the descriptions in this form, or your rights as a participant in this research have not been respected, you may contact the office for the Human Subjects Committee, Indiana University, Carmichael Center LD3, 530 E. Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington, IN 47408, USA, 812-855-3067, by e-mail at [iub\\_hsc@indiana.edu](mailto:iub_hsc@indiana.edu).

## On to the survey—

If you have read this form and agree to take part in this survey, click the "Proceed to the survey" button.

[Proceed to the survey](#)

[I do not wish to participate](#)

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IRB Approved  
Approval Date: December 3, 2007  
Expires: September 19, 2008





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In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

	Very often ▼	Often ▼	Sometimes ▼	Never ▼
Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Made a class presentation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Come to class without completing readings or assignments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked with other students on projects <b>during class</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked with classmates <b>outside of class</b> to prepare class assignments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

	Very often ▼	Often ▼	Sometimes ▼	Never ▼
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?**

	Very often ▼	Often ▼	Sometimes ▼	Never ▼
Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following mental activities?

	Very much ▼	Quite a bit ▼	Some ▼	Very little ▼
<b>Memorizing</b> facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Analyzing</b> the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Synthesizing</b> and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Making judgments</b> about the value of information, arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Applying</b> theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done?

Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings

None       1-4       5-10       11-20       More than 20

---

Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment

None       1-4       5-10       11-20       More than 20

---

Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more

None       1-4       5-10       11-20       More than 20

---

Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages

None       1-4       5-10       11-20       More than 20

---

Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages

None       1-4       5-10       11-20       More than 20

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In a typical week, how many homework problem sets or problem-based homework assignments do you complete?

None

1-2

3-4

5-6

More than

6



Number of problem sets or problem-based homework assignments that take you **more** than an hour to complete

Number of problem sets or problem-based homework assignments that take you **less** than an hour to complete

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Select the circle that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the current school year have challenged you to do your best work.

Very little



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

Very much

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During the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

	Very often ▼	Often ▼	Sometimes ▼	Never ▼
Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theater, or other performance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution?

	Done ▼	Plan to do ▼	Do not plan to do ▼	Have not decided ▼
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community service or volunteer work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coursework in a foreign or additional language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Study abroad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Independent study or self-designed major	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Select the circle that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution.

## Relationships with other students

Unfriendly,  
Unsupportive,  
Sense of  
alienation

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Friendly,  
Supportive,  
Sense of  
belonging

## Relationships with faculty members

Unavailable,  
Unhelpful,  
Unsympathetic

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Available,  
Helpful,  
Sympathetic

## Relationships with administrative personnel and offices

Unhelpful,  
Inconsiderate,  
Rigid

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Helpful,  
Considerate,  
Flexible

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**About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following?**

**Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

---

**Working for pay on campus**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

---

**Working for pay off campus**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

---

**Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

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**About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following?**

**Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

---

**Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

---

**Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)**

0 Hours per week     1-5     6-10     11-15     16-20     21-25     26-30     More than 30

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To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?

	Very much ▼	Quite a bit ▼	Some ▼	Very little ▼
Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing the support you need to thrive socially	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using computers in academic work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

	Very much ▼	Quite a bit ▼	Some ▼	Very little ▼
Acquiring a broad general education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Writing clearly and effectively	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Speaking clearly and effectively	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Thinking critically and analytically	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Analyzing quantitative problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using computing and information technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Working effectively with others	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

	Very much ▼	Quite a bit ▼	Some ▼	Very little ▼
Voting in local, provincial, or federal elections	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learning effectively on your own	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Understanding yourself	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Solving complex real-world problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing a personal code of values and ethics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contributing to the welfare of your community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?**

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

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## Select your year of birth:

- 1990
- 1989
- 1988
- 1987
- 1986
- 1985
- 1984
- 1983

If other year, enter here: 19

## Your sex:

- Male
- Female

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## Are you a Canadian citizen?

- Yes
- No

**Ethno-cultural information is collected to support programs that promote equal opportunity for everyone.**  
**Are you ...**

### Select all that apply:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White  | <input type="checkbox"/> Arab (e.g., Saudi, Egyptian, etc.)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North American Indian  | <input type="checkbox"/> West Asian (e.g., Afghan, Iranian, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Métis  | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inuit  | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latin American   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast Asian (e.g., Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc.) |   |

**To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did your ancestors belong? For example, Canadian, French, English, Chinese, Italian, German, Scottish, Irish, Cree, Micmac, Métis, Inuit, East Indian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Filipino, Jewish, Greek, Jamaican, Vietnamese, Lebanese, etc. Specify as many groups as applicable.**

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## What is your current classification in university?

- 1st year
- 2nd year
- 3rd year
- 4th year
- Unclassified

## Did you begin university at your current institution or elsewhere?

- Started here
- Started elsewhere

## Since graduating from high school, which of the following types of schools have you attended other than the one you are attending now? (Select all that apply.)

- Community college (vocational or technical courses not at university level)
- Community college (university credit/transfer courses)
- University other than this one
- CEGEP (general or pre-university program)
- CEGEP (professional or technical program)
- Private training institution
- None
- Other

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**Thinking about this current academic term...**

**How would you characterize your enrollment?**

- Full-time
- Less than full-time

**Are you taking all courses entirely online?**

- Yes
- No

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**Are you a member of a social fraternity or sorority?**

- Yes
- No

**Are you a student-athlete on a team sponsored by your institution's athletics department?**

- Yes
- No

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**On what team(s) sponsored by your institution's athletics department are you an athlete? (Select all that apply.)**

Baseball

Basketball

Bowling

Cross Country

Fencing

Field Hockey

Football

Golf

Gymnastics

Ice Hockey

Track & Field

Lacrosse

Rifle

Rowing

Skiing

Soccer

Softball

Swimming & Diving

Tennis

Volleyball

Water Polo

Wrestling

Other, specify:

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**What have most of your grades been up to now at this institution?**

- A
- A-
- B+
- B
- B-
- C+
- C
- C- or lower

**Which of the following best describes where you are living now while attending university?**

- Room or apartment in university residence or campus housing
- Off-campus accommodation within **walking distance** of campus
- Off-campus accommodation within **driving distance** of campus
- Fraternity or sorority house

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## What is the highest level of education that your father completed?

- Did not finish high school
- Graduated from high school
- Some or completed college or CEGEP
- Attended university without earning degree
- Completed a bachelor's degree (B.A., B.Sc., etc.)
- Completed a master's degree (M.A., M.Sc., etc.)
- Completed a doctoral degree (Ph.D., J.D., M.D., etc.)

## What is the highest level of education that your mother completed?

- Did not finish high school
- Graduated from high school
- Some or completed college or CEGEP
- Attended university without earning degree
- Completed a bachelor's degree (B.A., B.Sc., etc.)
- Completed a master's degree (M.A., M.Sc., etc.)
- Completed a doctoral degree (Ph.D., J.D., M.D., etc.)

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**Please enter your major(s) or your expected major(s).**

**Primary major (Enter only one.):**

**If applicable, second major (not minor, concentration, etc.):**

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**We're sorry, but we weren't able to identify the primary major you entered.**

**Please select the response below that most closely matches your primary major.**

**Select from a general area below to view a list of specific majors.**

Arts & Humanities:

- Art, fine and applied
- English (language and literature)
- History
- Journalism
- Language and literature (except English)
- Music
- Philosophy
- Speech
- Theater or drama
- Theology or religion
- Other arts & humanities

Biological Science:

- Biology (general)
- Biochemistry or biophysics
- Botany
- Environmental science
- Marine (life) science
- Microbiology or bacteriology
- Zoology
- Other biological science

Business:

- Accounting
- Business administration (general)
- Finance
- International business
- Marketing
- Management
- Other business

Education:

- Business education
- Elementary/middle school education
- Music or art education
- Physical education or recreation
- Secondary education
- Special education
- Other education

Engineering:

- Aero-/astronautical engineering
- Civil engineering
- Chemical engineering

- Electrical or electronic engineering
- Industrial engineering
- Materials engineering
- Mechanical engineering
- General/other engineering
- Physical Science:
  - Astronomy
  - Atmospheric science (including meteorology)
  - Chemistry
  - Earth science (including geology)
  - Mathematics
  - Physics
  - Statistics
  - Other physical science
- Professional:
  - Architecture
  - Urban planning
  - Health technology (medical, dental, laboratory)
  - Law
  - Library/archival science
  - Medicine
  - Dentistry
  - Veterinarian
  - Nursing
  - Pharmacy
  - Allied health/other medical
  - Therapy (occupational, physical, speech)
  - Other professional
- Social Science:
  - Anthropology
  - Economics
  - Ethnic studies
  - Geography
  - Political science (including government, international relations)
  - Psychology
  - Social work
  - Sociology
  - Gender studies
  - Other social science
- Other:
  - Agriculture
  - Communications
  - Computer science
  - Family Studies
  - Natural resources and conservation
  - Kinesiology
  - Criminal justice
  - Military science
  - Parks, recreation, leisure studies, sports management
  - Public administration

- Technical/vocational
- Other field
- Undecided

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**We're sorry, but we weren't able to identify the second major you entered.**

**Please select the response below that most closely matches your second major.**

**Select from a general area below to view a list of specific majors.**

Arts & Humanities:

- Art, fine and applied
- English (language and literature)
- History
- Journalism
- Language and literature (except English)
- Music
- Philosophy
- Speech
- Theater or drama
- Theology or religion
- Other arts & humanities

Biological Science:

- Biology (general)
- Biochemistry or biophysics
- Botany
- Environmental science
- Marine (life) science
- Microbiology or bacteriology
- Zoology
- Other biological science

Business:

- Accounting
- Business administration (general)
- Finance
- International business
- Marketing
- Management
- Other business

Education:

- Business education
- Elementary/middle school education
- Music or art education
- Physical education or recreation
- Secondary education
- Special education
- Other education

Engineering:

- Aero-/astronautical engineering
- Civil engineering
- Chemical engineering

Electrical or electronic engineering

Industrial engineering

Materials engineering

Mechanical engineering

General/other engineering

Physical Science:

Astronomy

Atmospheric science (including meteorology)

Chemistry

Earth science (including geology)

Mathematics

Physics

Statistics

Other physical science

Professional:

Architecture

Urban planning

Health technology (medical, dental, laboratory)

Law

Library/archival science

Medicine

Dentistry

Veterinarian

Nursing

Pharmacy

Allied health/other medical

Therapy (occupational, physical, speech)

Other professional

Social Science:

Anthropology

Economics

Ethnic studies

Geography

Political science (including government, international relations)

Psychology

Social work

Sociology

Gender studies

Other social science

Other:

Agriculture

Communications

Computer science

Family Studies

Natural resources and conservation

Kinesiology

Criminal justice

Military science

Parks, recreation, leisure studies, sports management

Public administration

Technical/vocational

Other field

Undecided

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