

2012-2013 Graduating Senior Survey Results

Number of graduates Aug 2012- Aug 13 1,909
 Respondents to survey: 1,665
 Response rate 87%

1. What do you plan to do your first year after leaving New Paltz? Please select the MOST relevant.		
	N	%
I have a professional job or job offer	218	13%
I am going to graduate school	409	25%
I will be self-employed	37	2%
I am seeking employment	706	42%
I am seeking an internship	105	6%
I am going to volunteer	36	2%
I am unsure of what I will do	154	9%

20. Think of a world in which there is no SUNY campus at New Paltz. Where would you have gone to college?		
	N	%
Somewhere else in the Hudson Valley	300	19%
Within the five boroughs or on Long Island	239	15%
Somewhere else downstate	96	6%
Upstate	361	23%
Western New York	51	3%
Out of state	324	20%
I would not have gone to college	21	1%
No opinion	212	13%

Going to Graduate School

2. What graduate degree will you seek?	N	%
Master's degree (MA, MS, MSED, MAT, MSW, etc.)	288	72%
Master's of Business Administration (MBA)	30	7%
Master's of Fine Arts (MFA)	9	2%
First Professional (J.D., M.D., etc.)	28	7%
Doctorate degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., Au.D., etc.)	31	8%
Certificate	3	1%
Other, please specify	14	4%

3. In considering a graduate school, how important to you is each of the following?	N	Extremely Important 5	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant	Not at all Important 1	Mean
Convenience (e.g., courses offered on preferred days and times)	399	37%	42%	17%	2%	2%	4.1
Location	402	59%	35%	5%	1%	0%	4.5
Majors available	391	73%	23%	3%	1%	0%	4.7
Length of program	395	33%	49%	15%	2%	2%	4.1
Ability to attend part time	374	20%	22%	29%	15%	13%	3.2
Quality of the program	400	70%	29%	1%	0%	0%	4.7
Affordability	400	63%	32%	4%	2%	0%	4.6
Faculty	400	42%	48%	9%	1%	0%	4.3

4. If you are not going to SUNY New Paltz for graduate school, please indicate why not. Select all that apply.	N	%
Cost	12	4%
Proximity to home/work	52	17%
Program not available	144	48%
Relocation to another area	58	19%
Undecided	43	14%
Not accepted	13	4%
Other, please specify	48	16%

Employed

5. Is this full time or a part time work?	N	%
Full time	197	79%
Part time	53	21%

6. Is this work related to your field of study?	N	%
Yes	170	68%
No	80	32%

7. Where are you/will you be working? (name of employer/company)

see additional report

8. What resources did you use to find this job? Please select all that apply.	N	%
Internship	34	14%
Personal contacts (family, friend, etc.)	78	32%
Employer event/job fair on the campus	13	5%
Employer event/job fair off campus	12	5%
Career Resource Center (resume, cover letter, etc.)	12	5%
Professional or student club	8	3%
Want ads in print	5	2%
Alum of SUNY New Paltz	20	8%
Networking event	16	7%
Industry-related job board	8	3%
Informational interview	4	2%
Social networking sites such as LinkedIn	8	3%
Faculty member (advisor or other)	25	10%
Your own research/resources	95	39%
Want ads online	25	10%
Had this job prior to earning my degree	56	23%
Other, please specify	20	8%

Learning Experiences							
9. How would you rate these activities as learning experiences? If you did not take part, select N/A.	N	Excellent	Above	Average	Below	Extremely	Mean
		5	Average	Average	Average	Poor	
						1	
Participation in a campus organization or club	1138	36%	31%	26%	5%	2%	3.9
Study abroad	440	50%	24%	22%	3%	2%	4.2
Work on a research or other creative project under the guidance of a faculty member	1004	33%	34%	28%	3%	2%	3.9
Collaboration with other students on class assignments	1556	18%	31%	41%	8%	3%	3.5
Fieldwork	812	32%	31%	29%	6%	2%	3.8
On-campus employment	776	26%	25%	33%	11%	5%	3.6
Internship	734	38%	28%	24%	7%	4%	3.9
Campus committee membership	498	20%	27%	45%	6%	2%	3.6
Community service	826	23%	36%	35%	5%	1%	3.8
Honors and awards	1001	20%	32%	42%	5%	2%	3.6
Leadership activities	901	28%	38%	29%	4%	1%	3.9
Performances and shows	1089	27%	36%	31%	5%	2%	3.8
Student government	544	20%	25%	39%	11%	5%	3.4
Non-credit bearing academic experience	883	26%	35%	34%	4%	2%	3.8

10. Overall, how often did you...	N	Very	Frequently	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Mean
		5					1	
Work harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations?	1626	28%	40%	25%	5%	2%	3.9	
Talk about career plans with someone from the Career Resource Center	1622	5%	7%	22%	25%	41%	2.1	
Review your major plan of study with a faculty member or your academic advisor?	1623	21%	33%	29%	13%	4%	3.5	
Meet with your academic advisor in advance of registration?	1626	32%	36%	20%	8%	4%	3.8	
Prepare your schedule before meeting with your academic advisor?	1622	60%	28%	8%	3%	1%	4.4	
Talk about career plans with a faculty member or academic advisor?	1619	16%	26%	32%	17%	9%	3.2	
Work with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, social events, etc.)	1624	10%	14%	24%	20%	31%	2.5	

Satisfaction							
11. Overall, how satisfied were you with...	N	Very Satisfied			Very Dissatisfied		Mean
		5	Satisfied	Average	Dissatisfied	1	
Availability of academic advising?	1617	20%	36%	30%	10%	4%	3.6
Academic advising in your major?	1616	29%	33%	23%	9%	6%	3.7
Availability of General Education (GE) courses?	1612	12%	35%	32%	15%	6%	3.3
Availability of courses in your major?	1613	16%	35%	28%	15%	7%	3.4
Variety of courses from which to choose?	1618	13%	39%	31%	12%	4%	3.5
Quality of instruction?	1613	28%	47%	20%	4%	1%	4.0
Academic advising from the Academic Advising Center?	1610	10%	26%	43%	14%	7%	3.2

Satisfaction							
12. Overall, how satisfied were you with the following? If you did not participate, choose N/A.	N	Very Satisfied			Very Dissatisfied		Mean
		5	Satisfied	Average	Dissatisfied	1	
Services of the Career Resource Center?	961	18%	41%	32%	6%	3%	3.6
Availability of internships/field work opportunities?	1030	19%	33%	25%	15%	7%	3.7
Quality of faculty as researchers/scholars?	1262	31%	43%	22%	3%	1%	3.3
Job search assistance (regardless of whether you found employment)?	802	12%	28%	33%	17%	9%	3.4
Availability of opportunities to engage in research with faculty?	834	18%	38%	27%	11%	6%	3.5

Contribution							
13. How much of a contribution did your SUNY New Paltz experience make to the following?	N	Very Large	Large	Moderate	Small	No	Mean
		Contribution 5	Contribution	Contribution	Contribution	Contribution 1	
Developing an openness to the opinions of others	1608	33%	34%	22%	7%	4%	3.9
Using computer and information technology effectively	1606	20%	30%	31%	13%	5%	3.5
Acquiring knowledge and skills needed for a career	1604	30%	36%	24%	8%	3%	3.8
Understanding yourself	1603	36%	34%	20%	6%	4%	3.9
Acquiring analytical thinking skills	1605	30%	39%	24%	5%	2%	3.9
Acquiring knowledge and skills for further academic study	1601	32%	41%	20%	5%	2%	4.0
Acquiring knowledge and skills for intellectual growth throughout your life	1604	37%	39%	19%	4%	1%	4.1
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	1606	28%	30%	25%	11%	7%	3.6
Understanding political and social issues	1600	21%	30%	31%	12%	6%	3.5
Working with others	1603	28%	37%	26%	7%	2%	3.8
Acquiring information, ideas and concepts	1605	34%	41%	21%	4%	1%	4.0
Developing leadership skills	1604	26%	32%	25%	11%	6%	3.6
Writing clearly and effectively	1607	28%	37%	24%	8%	3%	3.8
Understanding your rights and responsibilities as a citizen	1608	18%	27%	30%	13%	12%	3.3
Speaking clearly and effectively	1603	25%	36%	28%	8%	4%	3.7

14. How much of a contribution did SUNY New Paltz make to your knowledge, skills and personal development in the following areas?	N	Very Much	Quite a Bit	Some	Very Little	Mean
		4			1	
Analyzing quantitative problems	1608	24%	37%	31%	9%	2.8
Acquiring a broad, general education	1609	34%	44%	19%	3%	3.1
Solving complex, real-world problems	1606	27%	37%	29%	8%	2.8

15. If you could start over again, would you choose...	N	Yes	Probably Yes	Probably No	Definitely No	Mean
		4			1	
...to attend SUNY New Paltz?	1605	48%	39%	10%	3%	3.3
...the same major or field of study?	1592	43%	35%	16%	5%	3.2

16. How would you evaluate ...?	N	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor	Mean
		5				1	
Your entire educational experience	1608	38%	49%	9%	3%	1%	4.2
Academic advising	1605	21%	37%	22%	9%	11%	3.5
Social environment/activities	1604	33%	40%	18%	6%	3%	3.9

Time to Graduation

17. Did you graduate within four years, if you entered as a first year student, or within an appropriate time if you entered as a transfer student?		
	N	%
Yes	1238	77%
No	381	24%

18. Which of the following circumstances extended your time to graduation? Please check all that apply.		
	N	%
Availability of courses to fulfill major requirements	131	37%
Availability of courses to fulfill General Education (GE) requirements	67	19%
Financial issues	36	10%
Academic performance issues	78	22%
Personal issues	138	39%
Loss of credits while transferring	84	24%
Changed my major	142	40%
Work/employment issues	56	16%

19. Any comment regarding your time to graduation?

See additional report