# Survey of Graduate Degree Alumni
## Spring 2016

**English Alumni**

**Southeastern Louisiana University**

**Institutional Research**

# M.A. English

## Satisfaction with Degree Program

| Number of Respondents: 14 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Very Dissatisfied - 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Very Satisfied - 5 |
| **Overall quality of your department** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 35.7% (5) | 57.1% (8) |
| **Overall quality of your degree program** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 35.7% (5) | 50.0% (7) |
| **Clarity of the degree requirements as outlined in the catalogue and/or curriculum sheets** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 7.1% (1) | 78.6% (11) |
| **Usefulness of the academic advice you received from your advisor** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 35.7% (5) | 42.9% (6) |
| **Opportunities to interact with faculty outside of class** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 28.6% (4) | 21.4% (3) | 50.0% (7) |
| **Effectiveness of the faculty as teachers** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 28.6% (4) | 71.4% (10) |
| **Friendliness and helpfulness of the office staff** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 21.4% (3) | 7.1% (1) | 71.4% (10) |
| **Interest shown by faculty in your academic development** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 35.7% (5) | 57.1% (8) |
| **Effectiveness of beginning courses in preparing you for advanced courses** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 7.1% (1) | 28.6% (4) | 50.0% (7) |
| **Quality of instruction in advanced courses** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 28.6% (4) | 71.4% (10) |
| **Faculty treatment of students both inside and outside of the classroom** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 28.6% (4) | 71.4% (10) |
| **Professional activities, associations, or clubs associated with your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 21.4% (3) | 28.6% (4) | 42.9% (6) |
| **Opportunity for meaningful interaction with faculty in research or other scholarly activity** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 7.1% (1) | 14.3% (2) | 28.6% (4) | 42.9% (6) |
| **Availability of the required courses in your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 28.6% (4) | 21.4% (3) | 42.9% (6) |
| **Availability of elective courses you wanted to take in your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 14.3% (2) | 7.1% (1) | 21.4% (3) | 50.0% (7) |
| **Quality of instruction regarding standards and ethics in your major field** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 21.4% (3) | 28.6% (4) | 42.9% (6) |
| **Satisfaction with Degree Program** | | | | | |
| Number of Respondents: 14 | | | | | |

| | Very Dissatisfied - 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Very Satisfied - 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Opportunities for you to collaborate with other students on class projects** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 21.4% (3) | 21.4% (3) | 57.1% (8) |
| **Library resources related to your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 28.6% (4) | 71.4% (10) |
| **Use of appropriate technology in the classroom** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 21.4% (3) | 0.0% | 78.6% (11) |
| **Facilities and equipment (including computer resources) for courses in your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 14.3% (2) | 21.4% (3) | 57.1% (8) |
| **Help you received from faculty in your department with regard to further educational opportunities** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 21.4% (3) | 64.3% (9) |
| **The size of classes in your major** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 85.7% (12) |
| **Help you received from faculty in your department with regard to finding employment in your field** | | | | | |
| MA English | 14.3% (2) | 7.1% (1) | 28.6% (4) | 14.3% (2) | 35.7% (5) |
| **The global perspectives of courses** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 42.9% (6) | 42.9% (6) |
| **The relevancy of courses** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 7.1% (1) | 35.7% (5) | 42.9% (6) |
| **"Real-world" experiences, exposure, examples, etc. in or out of the classroom** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 14.3% (2) | 14.3% (2) | 42.9% (6) | 21.4% (3) |
| **Your advisor's knowledge of requirements** | | | | | |
| MA English | 7.1% (1) | 7.1% (1) | 0.0% | 35.7% (5) | 50.0% (7) |
| **The accessibility of your advisor** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 7.1% (1) | 7.1% (1) | 21.4% (3) | 64.3% (9) |
| **Your advisor's concern with your academic goals** | | | | | |
| MA English | 0.0% | 14.3% (2) | 7.1% (1) | 35.7% (5) | 42.9% (6) |

| Satisfaction with Degree Program | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **No** | **Yes** |
| **2. Would you recommend Southeastern to someone interested in what you majored in?** | | |
| MA English | 21.4% (3) | 78.6% (11) |
| **3. If you had it to do over again, would you choose the same major?** | | |
| MA English | 14.3% (2) | 78.6% (11); 7.1% (1) Not at Southeastern |
| **4. Did you participate in an internship, a practicum, a clinical experience, or student teaching as part of your degree requirements?** | | |
| MA English | 35.7% (5) | 64.3% (9) |
| **6. Should a hands-on course be required in your program?** | | |
| MA English | 14.3% (2) | 85.7% (12) |

When asked what benefits they received from hands-on experience, respondents had the following to say:

- Classroom experience and course structure.Interaction with students.
- I had an amazing opportunity to teach under the guidance of a seasoned professional, allowing myself to explore practically a classroom environment. I was able to experiment and explore teaching styles with real-world results.
- I was well-prepared to take over a classroom after a year of student teaching and two years in the Writing Center.
- Skills for use in my job

**Graduate Professional Education**

One (7.1%) of the respondents is currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program, three (21.4%) have taken classes but not enrolled in a degree program, six (42.9%) plan to enroll in the future, and four (28.6%) have no plans for further education.  Of those with plans for further education, five (83.3%) plan on obtaining a doctorate and one (16.7%) a professional degree.  The respondent enrolled in a degree program felt that Southeastern "Very Effectively" prepared them for further graduate/professional study and she/he was prepared "Better than Most" other students.  The alumni is in a degree program "Very Closely Related" to her/his Master's degree from Southeastern.

**Employment**

Three (21.4%) of the respondents have not been employed full-time since graduating from Southeastern, while eleven (78.6%) have been employed full-time.  Of those who have been employed full-time, four (36.4%) had a job before graduating, one (9.1%) accepted a position upon graduation, four (36.4%) took 1-6 months to find a job, and two (18.2%) took 7-12 months.

The six respondents who did not have a job upon graduation faced a variety of problems in obtaining employment.  Table 2 presents what were considered major problems, minor problems, or no problem.

| **Table 2** **Please indicate whether each of the following was a major problem, minor problem, or not a problem in obtaining employment after graduating from Southeastern with your Bachelors.** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Major Problem | Minor Problem | Not A Problem |
| Limited to only one geographic area | 16.7% (1) | 16.7% (1) | 50.0% (3) |
| Not knowing what I wanted to do | 0.0% | 16.7% (1) | 66.7% (4) |
| Tight job market | 16.7% (1) | 33.3% (2) | 33.3% (2) |
| Lack of marketable skills | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Lack of educational qualifications | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Reputation of Southeastern | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Lack of experience | 0.0% | 16.7% (1) | 66.7% (4) |
| Lack of job search skills | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Poor GPA | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Racial discrimination | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Gender discrimination | 0.0% | 0.0% | 83.3% (5) |
| Age discrimination | 0.0% | 16.7% (1) | 66.7% (4) |

Five (45.5%) of those who have been employed full-time indicated their education was "Very Effective" in preparing them for employment or improving their job performance and five (45.5%) indicated it was "Effective". In regards to sources for learning about their first full-time job, four (36.4%) indicated faculty at Southeastern, one (9.1%) indicated a parent or relative, one (9.1%) from a newspaper/trade publication, one (9.1%) from another student/friend, and three (27.3%) already had the job.

Nine (64.3%) are currently employed full-time, two (14.3%) are employed part-time and looking for full-time employment, one (7.1%) has a graduate assistantship, and one (7.1%) is unemployed but looking for employment. Of those who are currently employed full-time, eight (88.9%) are employed in the state of Louisiana. One (11.1%) is employed in industry, one (11.1%) in a service organization, two (22.2%) in higher education, one (11.1%) in government, and four (44.4%) in K-12. When asked "If underemployment is defined as a condition in which your job requires lower levels of skill and training than those you acquired in college would you say that you are currently underemployed", three (33.3%) of the respondents indicated they are underemployed. Five (55.6%) of the respondents are well satisfied with their employment and would not consider leaving, three (33.3%) are satisfied with their employment but would consider other employment, and one (11.1%) dislikes their employment. Eight (88.9%) of the respondents are employed in an the area of their Southeastern major or a related area. One (11.1%) respondent indicated a salary range of $25,001-$30,000, four (44.4%) $30,001-$40,000, two (22.2%) $40,001-$50,000 and two (22.2%) indicated a salary over $50,000.

### Professional Activities

Four (28.6%) of the respondents indicated they currently hold a license, and two (14.3%) indicated it is not available in their field. Currently held licenses include:

- Teacher Certification (4)

Of the seven without licensure, two (28.6%) plan on obtaining a teaching certificate within the next twelve months.  Seven (50.0%) of the respondents are members of a professional organization, and six (42.9%) have attended a professional meeting in the past year.