

Graduate Alumni Survey of 2010

Most open-ended responses are excluded in order to protect anonymity and confidentiality. Custom reports are available upon request from the Office of Institutional Research.

1. What degree or degrees did you receive? Please check all that apply.

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Graduate Certificate	11	7%
2	Master's	156	97%
3	Doctorate	5	3%

2. How do you maintain connections with the department in which you were enrolled?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Through a faculty member in my department	29	19%
2	Through the department head/program chair	14	9%
3	Through Alumni Activities on campus	12	8%
4	Through my advisor	13	8%
5	I do not maintain a connection	85	56%
6	Other	22	14%

3. How often do you visit campus?

#	Answer	Response	%
5	Three or more times per year	17	11%
4	Two to three times per year	15	10%
3	Once per year	25	16%
2	Every few years	31	20%
1	Never	65	42%
	Total	153	100%

4. During your studies at UCCS as a graduate, were you a full-time student?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	93	60%
2	Sometimes	19	12%
3	No	42	27%
	Total	154	100%

5. Did you earn a Master's Degree or Ph.D. elsewhere?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	27	18%
2	No	126	82%
	Total	153	100%

6. Please indicate the academic discipline of your graduate program.

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Engineering/Computer Science	13	9%
2	Law	2	1%
3	Medicine/Nursing/Health Sciences/ Dentistry	7	5%
4	Education	33	22%
5	Business	53	35%
6	Public Affairs	15	10%
7	Social Science	22	14%
8	Natural Science	0	0%
9	Arts & Humanities	8	5%
10	Other, please specify	6	4%

7. What would you have done had you not attended UCCS?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	I would have attended a 2-year college in my immediate area.	6	4%
2	I would have attended a different 4-year college in the Colorado Springs area.	28	19%
3	I would have attended a 4-year college outside of the Colorado Springs metro area.	41	27%
4	I would have delayed attending college.	21	14%
5	I would not have attended college anywhere.	12	8%
6	Other	47	31%

8. After graduating from UCCS, did you enter the job market in a field related to your major?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	I already had a job related to my major.	78	52%
2	Yes, within six months of graduation .	33	22%
3	Yes, within one year of graduation.	5	3%
4	Yes, within two years of graduation.	2	1%
5	I entered the job market, but not in a field related to my major.	18	12%
6	I did not enter the job market.	14	9%
	Total	150	100%

9. Are you currently employed?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes, full time.	117	77%
2	Yes, part time.	14	9%
3	No, but seeking employment.	12	8%
4	No, and not seeking employment.	8	5%
5	I am retired	0	0%
	Total	151	100%

10. What is your current annual salary ?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Less than \$20,000	12	9%
2	\$20,000 to \$29,999	7	5%
3	\$30,000 to \$39,999	11	9%
4	\$40,000 to \$49,999	25	19%
5	\$50,000 to \$59,999	13	10%
6	\$60,000 to \$69,999	10	8%
7	\$70,000 to \$79,999	13	10%
8	\$80,000 to \$89,999	6	5%
9	\$90,000 to \$99,999	9	7%
10	\$100,000 to \$129,999	15	12%
11	\$130,000 to \$149,999	4	3%
12	\$150,000 or more	4	3%
	Total	129	100%

11. Please estimate what you think your salary might be had you not graduated from UCCS.

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Less than \$20,000		5	4%
2	\$20,000 to \$29,999		17	13%
3	\$30,000 to \$39,999		19	15%
4	\$40,000 to \$49,999		17	13%
5	\$50,000 to \$59,999		13	10%
6	\$60,000 to \$69,999		13	10%
7	\$70,000 to \$79,999		10	8%
8	\$80,000 to \$89,999		7	6%
9	\$90,000 to \$99,999		13	10%
10	\$100,000 to \$129,999		9	7%
11	\$130,000 to \$149,999		1	1%
12	\$150,000 or more		3	2%
	Total		127	100%

12. In which sector of the economy is your employment (primary position)?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Agricultural	0	0%
2	Construction	1	1%
3	Education	51	36%
4	Engineering	13	9%
5	Finance	9	6%
6	Government	14	10%
7	Insurance/Real Estate	2	1%
8	Law	1	1%
9	Manufacturing	2	1%
10	Medicine/Nursing/Health	14	10%
11	Military	12	8%
12	Non-Profit or Non-governmental organization (NGO)	10	7%
13	Retail or Wholesale	3	2%
14	Technology or Computer Science	11	8%
15	Other, please specify	15	10%

13. Where was your primary residence immediately after graduation?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	In Colorado Springs/or surrounding areas.	102	68%
2	Outside of Colorado Springs, but in Colorado	12	8%
3	Outside of Colorado	33	22%
4	Outside of the U.S.	3	2%
	Total	150	100%

14. Have you relocated since graduation?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	57	38%
2	No	94	62%
	Total	151	100%

15. How would you rate the quality in the following areas?

#	Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	Responses	Mean
1	Primary College of Academic Work	37.04%	56.30%	4.44%	0.74%	1.48%	135	1.73
2	Overall Instruction	42.45%	48.20%	7.19%	0.72%	1.44%	139	1.71
3	Academic Challenge or Rigor	30.43%	52.17%	14.49%	0.72%	2.17%	138	1.92

16.

#	Question	strongly agree	agree	neither agree or disagree	disagree	strongly disagree	Responses	Mean
1	I learned the technical skills expected in my degree program.	34.06%	55.07%	7.25%	2.17%	1.45%	138	1.82
2	I learned the theoretical foundations expected in my degree program.	51.08%	44.60%	2.88%	0.72%	0.72%	139	1.55
3	My studies at UCCS met the educational goals I had in mind when I enrolled.	45.32%	42.45%	8.63%	2.16%	1.44%	139	1.72
4	My studies at UCCS helped me get a job.	37.93%	25.86%	25.86%	7.76%	2.59%	116	2.11
5	UCCS prepared me well for my field of specialization.	29.32%	45.86%	19.55%	3.76%	1.50%	133	2.02
6	Overall, I am satisfied with the education I received at UCCS.	43.88%	48.92%	4.32%	0.72%	2.16%	139	1.68
7	I would recommend UCCS to a prospective student.	48.55%	43.48%	3.62%	1.45%	2.90%	138	1.67

17. How would you rate the overall quality of your education at UCCS, in the following areas?

#	Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	Responses	Mean
1	Oral Communication	34.33%	54.48%	8.21%	1.49%	1.49%	134	1.81
2	Quantitative Skills	35.82%	47.01%	12.69%	2.99%	1.49%	134	1.87
3	Scientific Reasoning	26.98%	58.73%	11.90%	0.79%	1.59%	126	1.91
4	Qualitative Skills	35.29%	51.47%	9.56%	2.21%	1.47%	136	1.83
5	Analytical Reasoning	38.97%	48.53%	9.56%	1.47%	1.47%	136	1.78
6	Reading Skills	37.21%	54.26%	7.75%	0.00%	0.78%	129	1.73
7	Writing Skills	40.91%	47.73%	10.61%	0.00%	0.76%	132	1.72
8	Problem Solving Skills	38.97%	47.06%	10.29%	2.21%	1.47%	136	1.80
9	Computer Skills	25.20%	51.97%	18.90%	0.79%	3.15%	127	2.05
10	Multi-Cultural Awareness (sensitivity to others unlike you)	30.65%	44.35%	20.97%	1.61%	2.42%	124	2.01

18. What one piece of advice would you give to a new student at UCCS?

Text Response

Stick to it

major in something that will make you marketable

Communicate openly

Take a work study class, volunteer, go to lectures, etc. Do what you can to form relationships with some of your professors. Find a way to stand out, because when it comes time to ask for letters of recommendation, these professors need to know who you are

Spend the time on your own to develop an academic plan that fits your goals, then meet with a counselor plan your path. Be prepared, so that you can ask the questions on how to get where you want to go rather than trying to figure it out on the fly.

Take advantage of the diverse area available to study.

Enjoy your time in college. Don't rush through it.

I would advise them to get acquainted with the professors and instructors because they are a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Don't join the Geography department

Step up and study

Your program is what you make it. If you want a rigorous program, pursue internships, independent study and push yourself on your senior thesis or Masters thesis (or Capstone). If you want an easy program, do what is required of the program.

The instructors who are the most "Multi-Cultural" are the worst. Find an instructor who wants to teach you "how" to think, not "what" to think, so that you may make your own conclusions and have analytical skills in the future to deal with unfamiliar problem sets. I do not have a reliable way of identifying these instructors to you in advance.

Be diligent. Work hard. The investment you make is for YOU and the future you create from the tools you are given.

Establish relationships with your professors. That was my favorite part of UCCS. The professors are wonderful and really care about their students and their success.

Take advantage of technology.

Study hard and get a great job.

Get involved in your program...get connections and network

Fight to ensure your ability to plan your degree (i.e. get access to future class schedules, hold chairs and deans accountable on courses listed but not offered, etc).

Some courses and professors are really excellent, while others don't do a good job. if possible, attend full time and be on campus.

Get the most out of your experience. Make it work for you.

Commit yourself to learning everything you are shown. If there is something special you would like to work on, by all means approach the faculty. There is none more open and capable than at UCCS.

don't take courses you are very interested in online

Take advantage of every opportunity

Focus on today and before you know it you will be graduating

If you're going into a technical field in geography, learn a computer language. And to intern if possible in the field of interest. It will be an incredible experience and potentially open doors for you.

Practice good time management.

I would tell them that you get out of it what you put into it just like everything in life.

Get a faculty mentor and be engaged with school activities

Being a leader rather than a follower in group work is very fulfilling.

To get involved in many different areas of campus life and to try new things that may be outside their comfort zone.

Try to fully understand the classes and class schedule offered so that you can take the classes you want, even if they are only offered every several years and require a pre-req.

Don't just go to class and go home. Get involved. Get to know your fellow students. Network.

Choose your major carefully and do not commit to a major until at least the third semester. I think we program the student too early in the lives to pick a job before they have the chance to really explore what they truly want to do. Very few people really know what they want to do with their lives and we really need to focus on giving these kids a chance to compete in the global market. The idea of the renaissance person is a better fit in today's job market because it will be the age of ideas not just producing a widget, hence, the choice of a major should reflect a passion and interest rather than a widget producer.

As a new student entering the program, the immediate need is to become familiar with and actively utilize the support system within the college, i.e. library, and writing center, and computer use rules and tech support. This will set up the educational experience for success to achieve the goal of a diploma.

Excellent undergraduate education from the philosophy department. Take some philosophy courses. These professors are professional and the skills are useful.

Get familiar with the library and its services quickly.

Plan on studying

Concentrate in Finance so it is more equal to an MBA from a top tier business school.

Use the writing lab if you need help with writing papers. If you don't ask for help you won't get it.

Don't just rely on the Internet/electronic databases when working on your research papers or presentations. Use the books (and other print media)!!! The UCCS library is pretty good! What's going on with the Americans - especially the young ones? A lot of them (including my son) refuse to read good old books! They know how to troubleshoot the software error, but they don't have a clue what Charles Dickens or Geoffrey Chaucer wrote. Because of that, most of the young students I've met at the UCCS are poor writers.

Don't go into education until the budget cuts stop! I'm currently unemployed due to that factor.

take Public Speaking during spring break. I forget the professor's name but it was a great learning experience.

Take the program and courses seriously. Don't try to load up just to achieve a quicker graduation date, especially if you are trying to work and go to school. It goes by fast enough.

Get to know your professors

The Dean and leadership at Beth El do not support the Doctorate program, find another school.

Do not, under any circumstances, consider UCCS for a masters in forensic science.

I would not be able to give advice as I believe the program has gone through significant change.

Reserve time to speak with professors about topics that are confusing to the student in order to better clarify it. Study groups can be helpful.

Take advantage of your professor's office hours.

Work hard on mind and body and avoid distractions.

Get involved with faculty's work & volunteer in the areas that interest you.

Take advantage of the welcoming and available professors. They respond extremely well and enthusiastically to great students who are interested in their work

I felt the overall educational and academic experience stacked up well to the alternative programs in the area.

Don't attend UCCS psychology grad program.

Don't pay for the bloated parking fees. Park at the Softball Fields, and take the shuttle.

Learn quickly the capabilities of your classmates because you may end up working with them on class projects.

Get downtown and enjoy a more lively part of town

Please consider UCCS Master programs by distance learning. I really liked my MBA in Finance by distance learning.

They have an outstanding psychology department -- take as many classes as you can.

Get the masters degree.

Find a mentor with whom you connect, even if this person is outside of your research interest area. It is important to have someone as an advocate for you and someone to lean on when you encounter personally difficult experiences.

Your professors love you - love them back.

Do your homework

Study first, party after

If you will be studying for a Masters degree, start thinking about the area in which you would like to research your project/thesis as soon as possible. Also start work on the project as soon as you can.

Choose your mentor wisely. Get involved at the undergraduate level before going to graduate school.

Ask questions in class. Most professors have real world experience and have much to teach outside the textbook.

Distance learning is 90% self-driven, so don't wait for anyone to spoon-feed you the knowledge.

Go to your classes and ask your professors for advice when needed.

Don't buy into the standard advising from the department. You get way more professional traction from the unusual classes than the core classes. The things that Engineering is most inclined to recommend for accompanying coursework are simultaneously the least valuable professionally. Also, every engineering student who wants to progress very far needs to take tech writing seriously. Engineers who

are competent but cannot write well are a dime a dozen, and never highly valued.

Get involved with the school.

Driving up the hill in winter to make a class can be treacherous in bad weather. Use snow tires.

Take classes you are interested in taking

Demand the most out of yourself and out of those around you. The potential for the University is enormous, but only if students are willing to demand excellence from everyone they meet there.

Be open to other students stories and interests. You learn as much from the students in your class or cohort as you do the professor...

Keep up with your work

Get involved.

be involved

Check your grades to make sure that the professor gives you the grade you earn.

Don't be afraid of the great educational opportunity and don't be afraid to make yourself part of the experience. Grow through the process but don't get lost.

Try to connect with people working in your field.

Enjoy the time you have on campus.

Work and study hard.

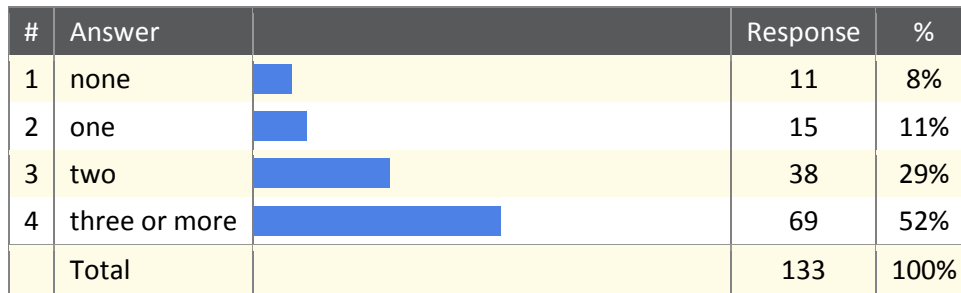
Keep up your studies and don't give up!! YOu can do it!

19. Please rate the quality of services you feel you received while attending UCCS.

#	Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	Responses	Mean
1	Admissions and Records	32.35%	50.74%	13.24%	2.21%	1.47%	136	1.90
2	Advising in your major or degree program	35.11%	36.64%	20.61%	4.58%	3.05%	131	2.04
3	Advising in the Student Success Center	26.32%	42.11%	12.28%	14.04%	5.26%	57	2.30
4	Disability Services	29.41%	41.18%	17.65%	11.76%	0.00%	17	2.12
5	Campus Housing	18.75%	43.75%	18.75%	18.75%	0.00%	16	2.38
6	Campus Recreation Center	25.71%	37.14%	25.71%	11.43%	0.00%	35	2.23
7	Student Orientation	16.98%	45.28%	20.75%	5.66%	11.32%	53	2.49
8	Family Development Center	31.58%	31.58%	15.79%	5.26%	15.79%	19	2.42
9	Financial Aid/Student Employment	30.38%	41.77%	16.46%	10.13%	1.27%	79	2.10
10	Freshman Seminar Program	33.33%	50.00%	8.33%	8.33%	0.00%	12	1.92
11	Information Technology (IT)	16.07%	52.68%	26.79%	3.57%	0.89%	112	2.21
12	Multicultural Office for Student Access, Inclusiveness, and Community	32.14%	50.00%	3.57%	7.14%	7.14%	28	2.07
13	Office of Campus Activities	21.62%	45.95%	16.22%	10.81%	5.41%	37	2.32
14	Tutoring/Excel Learning Centers	32.35%	55.88%	5.88%	5.88%	0.00%	34	1.85
15	UCCS Bookstore	19.85%	55.73%	21.37%	2.29%	0.76%	131	2.08
16	UCCS Career Center	18.18%	31.82%	29.55%	11.36%	9.09%	44	2.61
17	UCCS Health Center	41.30%	41.30%	17.39%	0.00%	0.00%	46	1.76
18	UCCS Public Safety	29.63%	38.27%	27.16%	1.23%	3.70%	81	2.11
19	University Testing Center	26.32%	42.11%	21.05%	10.53%	0.00%	19	2.16
20	Veteran and Military Affairs Office	60.00%	25.00%	15.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20	1.55

20. Approximately how many faculty members took an interest in your educational and career goals?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	none	11	8%
2	one	15	11%
3	two	38	29%
4	three or more	69	52%
	Total	133	100%



21. Who was your favorite professor/instructor?

Text Response

Dr. Jeffrey Ferguson

Dr. Wilcox

Kirk Wilcox

Rhonda Williams

Rob Weigand

Dr. Berning

Dr. Semwal

Kelli Klebe, Kate Lane, Pat Walker, Andrea Herrera, Sandy Wuertle, Sara Qualls

Dr. Charlie Wang, Dr. Dandapani

Dr. Swaby was my favorite and most inspiring professor.

Dr. Debra Dew in preparation for my MA. For my BA, living; Dr. Moon. Deceased; Dr. Donahue (I was there a long time!).

Dr. Leslie Grant

Scott Butterfield or Sherri Trumpfeller

Dr. Barbara Swaby

Tom Huber

Charles Beck

Dr. Dan Ponder, who taught statistics for the MPA program at the time.

Dr. Paul Harvey. He is an outstanding instructor; articulate, thoughtful, and a man truly seeking the truth, not tenure or ulterior agendas.

Dr. David Fenell

Terri Schwartz

Dr. Michael Hackman....then Dr. Curt Holder, then Dr. Steve Jennings

Dr. Swaby

Ron Wisner

Dr. DD Warrick

Dr. Fenell

Paul Prentice

Services - Andrew J Czaplewski Marketing - Tom W Gruen Strategy - Eric Olson

Dr. Bacon

Lynne Bryant

Dr. S. Semwal

Rob Weigand. I can't believe you guys let him go he was the best professor there hands down.

Warick

Dr. Clint Fisher

Shepherd and Gordan

Kathy Ellis

Professor Rappold - MAE department

John Harner, Tom Huber, Steve Jennings: all had valuable styles of teaching. I took away something from each of them.

Jeff Ferguson

Michael Hackman, Nina Gomez and MaryAnne Wanca Thibault

Professor Jeff Ferguson

Tom Zwirlein

Dr. Connie Staley

Dr. Ferguson

Rebecca Duray and Jeff Ferguson. Both really made me want to learn more and exposed me to new ways of thinking. They challenged me in a very positive way.

Dr. Jeff Ferguson

Dr. Fred Crowley

Dr. Shocklley and Dr. Hackman

Dr. DePry, he was thoughtful, professional and determined to push me to do my best work. His coaching and critique of my work created a good foundation for me and gave me the confidence to enroll in a Ph.D. program shortly after graduating UCCS.

Sargent in Special Education

Carol Finnegan

Dr. Barbara Swaby

It is hard to pick just one favorite because I enjoyed all of my classes and all of my professors.

Dr. Rothe

Jeff Spicher, NP-C

Professors McConkey and Klingner

Dr. Randy DePry

my thesis advisor (also taught my stats class); but she was actually a CU Denver professor who was hired to teach a few classes during the summer.

Jeff Ferguson

Sara Qualls

Charles Beck AND Don Warrick

Dr Hines and Dr LaSalla

Werner Jenkins

Mark T. Green

Warrick, Ferguson

no favorite, several that were memorable

Mark McConkie

Edie Greene

Dr. Al Davis.

Chip Benight & Don Klingner

Paul Harvey

Dr. Guzman

I believe his last name is Prentise. He taught the General Economics class that was a pre-req to the MBA program. Fantastic teacher and had the qualifications to back it up.

Richard Dukes

Dr. Jack Bernning-undergad favorite

Dr. Kelly Klebe and Dr. Mike Kisley.

I can't choose just one. I really enjoyed Dr. Warrick, Dr. Ferguson, and Dr. White.

They were all good.

Dr Edward Chow

Dr von Breton

Richard Weiner

Prof. Weigand from the Business School.

1. Dr. Kelli Klebe (Psychology) 2. Dr. Tom Pyszczynski (Psychology) 3. Dr. Lori James (Psychology)

Dr. Richard Dukes

Sara Qualls; Kelli Klebe; Brian Yochim; Dan Segal

listed above and another gentleman Al Ramirez?

Carol Finnegan

Lindy Crawford (special education)

Don Klingner

Dr. David Fenell

Dr. Leslie Grant

Jewel Chambers

Dr Chow

Mike Kisley

Dr. Davis in the biz school.

Jeff Ferguson. Great discussions in class that allowed the students to use what we were learning from the book.

Dr. Monique French

Dr. Sudhanshu Semwal

Kelli Klebe

Ferguson, Jeffery

Terry Schwartz, Ph.D. and Cathy Robbins

Dr. Peg Bacon

22. Did you work off campus while enrolled at UCCS?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes, Full-time	85	62%
2	Yes, Part-time	25	18%
3	No	28	20%
	Total	138	100%

23. Are you affiliated with the military?

#	Answer	Response	%
2	I am a member of the military	10	7%
3	I am a veteran	15	11%
1	My spouse is in the military	15	11%
4	My mother or father is in the military	5	4%
5	No, I am not affiliated with the military	87	63%
6	Other, please specify	13	9%

24. Were you a Colorado resident when you started at UCCS?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	103	74%
2	No	37	26%
	Total	140	100%

25. Why did you choose to attend UCCS?

Text Response

Professors in major

easy to transfer from PPCC

The location was convenient and the Teacher Education Program had a great reputation.

NISSC

AACSB Accredited online MBA and great value

It was the only university in the Colorado Springs that offered a Masters degree in the field of History that was not an online course.

Loved Colorado Springs, the campus, and the professors were great

Online platform - Able to spend time at work, family and do classwork at the time of choosing.

Location and MSN availability

The accreditation for the MBA program, and that it offered both on-campus and online courses.

I liked the on-line MBA program the best of those I researched.

It had the degree program I was looking for that could be accomplished during my time living in the area.

The psychology program that focused on gerontology and for its location in Colorado Springs

Connection to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs

University quality education at a close location

I thought it was a good psychology program.

I felt I wanted to move to Colorado and I was looking for a campus close to Denver with a good MBA program.

Downselected distance MBA programs that met my criteria. Came down to UCCS and one other school. My parents live in Colorado Springs, so that was the deciding factor.

Distance capability at a fully accredited institution in business. Flexible enrollment. Good curriculum choices.

AACSB accredited MBA by distance learning at a good price (back then).

Always wanted to live in Colorado as well as go to school. The Army was paying for it, so I let them.

Doctoral program in clinical psychology with curricular emphasis on geropsychology

To gain a Masters degree in Computer Science and experience living and studying in the USA.

Offered the graduate degree I wanted.

The graduate program

Best university in Colorado Springs.

To play soccer with my brother.

Quality of Distance MBA program

26. Your gender is?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Male	60	43%
2	Female	78	57%

27. Your primary ethnic group is:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	White	115	85%
2	Black or African American	4	3%
3	Latino/a or Hispanic	9	7%
4	American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0%
5	Asian American or Pacific Islander	6	4%
6	Multi-ethnic	1	1%
7	Other	1	1%
	Total	136	100%

28. Are you a first-generation student?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	46	34%
2	No	90	66%
	Total	136	100%

29. Please mark the level of education achieved by your parent(s) or guardian(s):

#	Question	mother/ guardian	father/ guardian	Responses
1	Don't Know	1	5	6
2	Less than High School	9	10	19
3	High School Graduate	50	27	77
4	Associate's Degree (2-year)	12	21	33
5	Baccalaureate Degree (4-year)	28	31	59
6	Master's Degree	23	24	47
7	Professional or Doctoral Degree	6	20	26