

Universities As Sites of Citizenship and Civic Responsibility
Interview Questionnaire and Survey for Students

To the respondent: Thank you for taking time to participate in this important study. We appreciate your candor and care in answering the questions in this survey. Please keep in mind that this is not an opinion survey, but an effort to gather information about the university and the surrounding community. There are no right or wrong answers. You may skip a question though it is not preferred: an answer, even if it does not perfectly fit your thinking, is better than none at all. All information will be treated confidentially and no personal identification will be attached to the survey or your answers.

1. Does the university regularly schedule hearings or meetings that are open to the public in order to solicit input and feedback on matters of university governance?

Yes	No

2. Does the university sponsor regularly scheduled, publicly accessible events that address political issues from various perspectives?

Yes	No

3. Is the university making a meaningful (not perfunctory) effort to make university facilities accessible to the community?

Yes	No

4. Does your university intentionally support the policy objectives of local government?

Yes	No

5. My university makes a conscious effort to encourage students to get involved in politics and policy.

Yes	No

6. My university consults with students on more matters than just student activities.

Yes	No

7. Is student government effective in adjudicating conflict between competing student interests?

Yes	No

8. Are there courses in your university that promote an understanding of civic duty and responsibility?

Yes	No

9. Are you aware of any joint projects involving the university and the local community's cooperation?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
10. Do students believe that voting in local elections (in the university town) is a good example of student civic-mindedness?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
11. Do students believe it is important to vote in local (the university town's) elections?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
12. Do students believe that the university should encourage or facilitate your ability to vote in local (the university town's) elections?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
13. Faculty, staff, or students may easily raise governance issues with the administration.
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
14. Students are allowed to give input into the configuration of their education program?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
15. Do students have adequate choice in choosing or changing their course of study?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
16. Does the faculty encourage students to consider options to study at other campuses or in another country as part of their program of study?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
17. Do students have sufficient knowledge of political organizations on campus?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
18. Does the university house any institutes, centers or programs whose espoused purpose is the study or promotion of democracy?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |
19. Do students believe that student government represents their interests?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|------------|-----------|
| | |

20. Are students consulted on matters and decisions that affect how the university is run?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
21. If “yes,” have you personally been involved?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
22. Does the presence of students from other countries change the way problems are addressed by the university’s administration?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
23. Does your university provide special services for student minorities or different racial or ethnic groups or from other countries?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
24. Are there courses in your university that explicitly address democracy?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
25. Have student minorities (or different racial/ethnic groups or from other countries) developed their own ways of participating in university life independent from established venues?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
26. Do student-run organizations sponsor political events?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
27. Do students have a seat or role in judicial and/or disciplinary bodies that oversee student behavior and academic integrity?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
28. Are there courses at your university that include opportunities for students to work, conduct research, or interact with local community political, civic, or religious organizations as part of the learning experience?
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
29. There are opportunities for participation in different levels of decision-making at this university.
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
30. The university administration’s consultation with students in its decision-making is satisfactory.
- | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

31. Students are adequately informed about their rights.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

32. When necessary, students can take full advantage of the information available to them in understanding their rights.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

33. Students as a whole care about their rights as students.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

34. The university does an inadequate job of providing services and information to students from other countries that allows their full participation in university life.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

35. Most students at our university are aware of what offices and personnel are responsible for student life.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

36. Students from other countries participate in student activities and university life as much as indigenous students do.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

37. The allocation of financial and other institutional resources (space, supplies, etc.) around the university is done on a fair and equitable basis.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

38. The means of communicating different views on campus are adequate.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

39. A small or exclusive group of students dominates student opinion on campus.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

40. During the past few years, my institution has become more open and transparent in its decision-making.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

41. If a student or group of students feels unrepresented by existing structures, the university provides a mechanism for students to organize and finance new means of student participation in campus life.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

42. There are student groups that are always excluded from participation in student life.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

43. There are groups on-campus that are effectively excluded from university life and governance.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

44. Major decisions at my university are made by very few people.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

45. There are satisfactory means available within the campus community to hold decision-makers accountable for their actions at my university.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

46. The curriculum fosters the social and political knowledge students will need to assume the duties of citizenship upon graduation.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

47. At this university, students acquire skills necessary to understand and deal with conflict.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

48. The university provides forums to express unpopular viewpoints.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

49. There are sufficient opportunities to attend events (lectures, symposia, workshops, or performances) at the university that explore major issues of society and economy from a political perspective.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

50. The administration and faculty allow students to participate in or observe meetings regarding university policy.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

51. The promotion of civic duty and responsibility is a fundamental objective of my university

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

52. University relations with established social and political interests serves to perpetuate the existing order.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

53. My university is active in shaping the political and social life of the local community in which it is located.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

54. The university actively promotes student involvement in the community.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

55. Students at my university are encouraged to participate in community-based projects.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

56. My university should encourage students to vote in local elections.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

57. Increasing the number and types of community-based program and projects will increase student voting in local (university town) elections.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

58. Community government, organizations, and interest groups would welcome an increase in student voting in local (university town) elections.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

59. The university is too concerned with responding to the immediate demands of student protests.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

60. My university is supportive of activities promoting democracy and civic responsibility.

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

61. The university is very cooperative in sharing information

	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Agree

62. How would you assess the effectiveness of student participation in university governance?

	Not Effective	Somewhat Effective	Very Effective	Very Effective

63. The university's ability to encourage public debate of major societal political issues is:

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent

64. The university's efforts and programs specifically geared toward issues of civic responsibility or citizenship are:

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent

65. The number of public events that promote the understanding of democratic processes and political participation is:

	None	Too Few	About Right	Excessive

66. Is it your impression that students vote in local (university town) elections as often as national elections?

	Less Often	Same Frequency	More Often

67. From which of the following do students learn most about their rights as students?
(Choose one)

- University publications
- Other students
- Administrators
- Faculty
- Advisors
- University web page

68. What describes the leadership in student governance groups?

	Not very				Very Much
	1	2	3	4	5
Motivated					
Ambitious					
Ideological					
Exclusionary					
Public-spirited					
Intellectual					
Incompetent					
Self-sacrificing					
Manipulative					
Self-serving					
Inclusionary					
Irrelevant					

69. Students participate in community projects via:

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Never</u>
Course requirements			
Student clubs and organizations			
Fraternities/Sororities			
Personal membership in non-university organizations			
Political party affiliation			
Faculty research projects			
University-sponsored projects			
Personal relationships in the community			
Faith-based organizations			

70. Academic projects that incorporate a community-based learning experience (research, work, teaching, etc.) tend to be:

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Never</u>
Graded the same as regular courses			
Well-integrated with other lecture and course material			
Time-consuming			
Personally rewarding			
Complement other learning experiences at the university			

71. Student participation in community-based projects,

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Never</u>
-Encourages civic-mindedness			
-Promotes democratic attitudes			
-Increases political participation			
-Helps connect theory to practice			
-Educates students about real problems			
-Dilutes the curriculum			
-Increases their political cynicism			
-Results in apathy			--
-Is rewarded appropriately			
-Takes too much time away from the rest of my life			
-Takes too much time away From other studies			

72. Please rate yourself on the degree to which you are actively involved in the community.
Circle one number on the scale below.

<u>Indifferent or inactive</u>	<u>very involved or active</u>
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	8 9 10

For the Respondant:

Age: _____ **Sex:** Male Female **Year of Study (Class):** _____

Race/Ethnicity (optional; self-identified): _____

Major field of study: _____

Citizenship: _____

Registration Status: Full-time: _____ Part-time: _____ Non-traditional student: _____