



# Alumni Survey

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# Overview of Presentation

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- ◆ Administration
  - Response rate
- ◆ Demographics
- ◆ Results
- ◆ Policy implications

# Administration

Why was there a need for a survey?

- Competencies

Who designed the survey?

- Spring 2007 Sociology Senior Seminar

Start of the Survey

1. List of 267 alumni from 2000-2005
2. Trial Survey
3. Online Survey

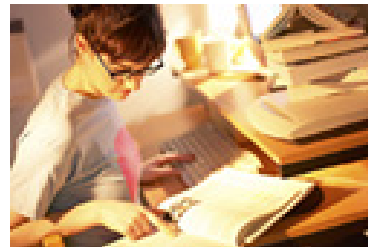


# Response rates

Sociology Alumni Survey 25% (67 out of 267)

What does the literature say?

- Competencies that included cognitive and technical skills were beneficial (Coll et al., 2006)
- Three kinds of skills were identified functional adaptive specific skills (Murphy et al., 1983)
- Managers are generally satisfied with the skill levels of graduates (Love et al., 2001)



# Demographics

- ◆ Major in Sociology (75.4%)
- ◆ Female (86.2%)
- ◆ White (75%)
- ◆ Half graduated within last 4 years/ other half spanned over 25 years since graduation (1976-2003)
- ◆ Continuing their education (42%)



# Demographics

## Currently Employed (96.9%)

- Social Work (30%)
- Education (25%)
- Business (23%)
- Security (6.6%)
- Unskilled (12%)



## Finding Job

- Independently (47.6%)
- Friends, Family, or Coworkers (34.9%)

Median length to find job 4 months

Satisfied in current position (77.8%)

# Results - Competencies

When were most students aware of competencies?

-58% in Junior or Senior year

-53.8% through professor or syllabus

When should students be aware?

-83.6% said during freshmen or sophomore year



# Results - Competencies

What competency was the most helpful in finding a job?

- Technology (58.5%)
- Collaboration and teamwork (24.6%)
- Promoting active of ideas in a civil manner (24.6%)
- Understanding process of theory construction (6.2%)



# Results - Competencies

What competency was the most helpful in their current position?

- Gaining confidence in teamwork and collaboration (70.8%)
- Understanding of cultures (69.2%)
- Assessing and critiquing different theories (66.2%)
- Impact on social and physical environment (64.6%)
- Confronting ethnocentrism (64%)
- Understanding process of theory construction (20%)



# Results - Competencies

What competency was the most helpful in their personal lives?

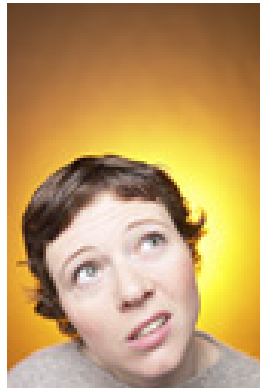
- Understanding and applying concepts, theories, and perspectives (67.7%)
- Promoting active of ideas in a civil manner (67.7%)
- Understanding process of theory construction (27.7%)



# Results - Competencies

The two competencies hardest to understand:

1. Assessing and critiquing different theories (13.8%)
2. Understand process of theory construction (13.8%)



# Results – Senior Seminar

When was senior seminar part of the major requirements?

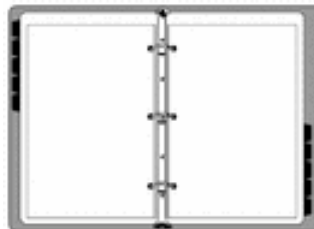
- ◆ First offered in Fall 2002
- ◆ Required in Fall 2003
- ◆ 71.% did not take senior seminar

How many did not create a portfolio?

- ◆ 55.2%

How many did not create a resume?

- ◆ 68.4%



# Results – Specific Courses

Courses that were beneficial to current job

- ◆ Race Class Status and Power (13.8%)
- ◆ Deviant Behavior, Juvenile Delinquency, & Criminology (13.8%)
- ◆ Statistics and Research classes (10.8%)
- ◆ All classes (10.8%)



# Results - Jobs

Where the job skills developed?

- ◆ Workforce (46%)
- ◆ UWP (20.6%)
- ◆ Both (25.4%)

What was the most mentioned skill developed at UWP?

- ◆ Teamwork (30.8 %)
- ◆ Leadership (29.2 %)
- ◆ Computer (24.6 %)
- ◆ Critical Thinking (13.8 %)





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# Major Findings

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- ◆ Students should be aware of competencies in their freshman year
- ◆ Sociology department should offer more statistics and theory courses
- ◆ Students would like more assistance finding jobs after graduation
- ◆ Overall students are satisfied with the department

# What does this data mean for the Sociology Department?

