Dear [contact("first name")][contact("last name")],

As a graduate of your program, you have critically important insights to offer about how well your program prepared you to embark upon a career in your field. The Assessment of the Illinois Doctoral Experience (AIDE) reviews each doctoral program every five years. Thank you for your willingness to help us improve our doctoral programs.

The survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. Your responses will remain confidential. Only university-level assessment staff – not individual departments or programs – will have access to your identifiable data. Your data may be combined with existing administrative data (e.g., student funding, demographics, grades) to help us better understand the factors that help or hinder progress through doctoral programs. Only aggregated results will be shared with your former program and included in reports. Individual responses and student comments will not be shared with program leaders, faculty or staff. Your decision to participate is completely voluntary, and your feedback on this survey will not affect your relationship with the University of Illinois in any way. You may skip any questions you wish, and you may end survey participation at any time.

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study or any concerns or complaints, please contact the University of Illinois Institutional Review Board at 217-333-2670 (collect calls will be accepted if you identify yourself as a research participant) or via email at irb@illinois.edu. If you have questions about the survey, you may contact us at DocExperience@illinois.edu.

I thank you in advance for your willingness to contribute to program improvement efforts for future generations of Illinois students,

Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko,
Dean, Graduate College
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

I have read and understood this consent letter. I voluntarily agree to participate.

Please click on the "Continue" button below to supply consent and to proceed to the survey.

Experiences
1. How satisfied are you with the educational experience you had in the doctoral program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all satisfied</th>
<th>Slightly satisfied</th>
<th>Moderately satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. How satisfied are you with the advising you received from the doctoral program (including the guidance received from your academic advisor and other faculty and staff)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all satisfied</th>
<th>Slightly satisfied</th>
<th>Moderately satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3. How often did you receive guidance or feedback from your primary faculty advisor? (This is the person who formally served as your academic advisor or research supervisor. If you had co-advisors, answer in reference to the person with whom you worked most closely.)

- [ ] Weekly
- [ ] Once or twice a month
- [ ] Once or twice a semester
- [ ] Once a year
- [ ] Never

4. How satisfied are you with the quality of the relationship you had with your advisor?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all satisfied</th>
<th>Slightly satisfied</th>
<th>Moderately satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
5. How well did the [invite("custom 1")]] doctoral program prepare you to begin a career in your discipline?

Not well at all ◯  Not very well ◯  Moderately well ◯  Very well ◯  Extremely well ◯

6. How collegial (collaborative, friendly) was the environment in the [invite("custom 1")]] doctoral program?

Extremely collegial ◯  Very collegial ◯  Moderately collegial ◯  Slightly collegial ◯  Not at all collegial ◯

Funding

7. Was the financial support you received for your doctoral studies sufficient to meet your basic living expenses? (Include fellowships, assistantships and other employment related to your area of study -- do not include loans or gifts.)

◯ More than sufficient for my needs
◯ Sufficient for my needs
◯ Somewhat less than sufficient for my needs
◯ Not at all sufficient for my needs
◯ I never received financial support for my doctoral studies.
8. Please select all of the different kinds of funding you ever received during your doctoral program. 
*Check all that apply.*

- Fellowship (*internal - from UI sources*)
- Fellowship (*external - from non-UI sources*)
- Research assistantship
- Teaching assistantship
- Graduate assistantship
- Other on-campus employment (*e.g., hourly*)
- Funds from off-campus employment
- Student loans
- Support from family members (*e.g., spouse/partner, parents*)
- Other (*Please specify:*)

Were your research assistantships **primarily** within your department?

- Yes
- No
- *I am not sure*

Were your teaching assistantships **primarily** within your department?

- Yes
- No
- *I am not sure*
Were your graduate assistantships *primarily* within your department?

- Yes
- No
- *I am not sure*

**Loans Before**

9. How much student loan and related education debt did you have *before you began* your UI doctoral program?

- I had no student loan debt before I began
- $1 - $10,000
- $10,001 - $20,000
- $20,001 - $30,000
- $30,001 - $40,000
- $40,001 - $50,000
- $50,001 - $60,000
- $60,001 - $70,000
- $70,001 - $80,000
- $80,001 - $90,000
- $90,001 - $100,000
- $100,001 - $150,000
- More than $150,000
- *I don’t know*
10. How much additional student loan and related education debt did you accumulate to finance your UI doctoral program?

*Don't count any loan debt you accumulated before beginning your doctoral program.*

- [ ] I did not accumulate any additional loan debt
- [ ] $1 - $10,000
- [ ] $10,001 - $20,000
- [ ] $20,001 - $30,000
- [ ] $30,001 - $40,000
- [ ] $40,001 - $50,000
- [ ] $50,001 - $60,000
- [ ] $60,001 - $70,000
- [ ] $70,001 - $80,000
- [ ] $80,001 - $90,000
- [ ] $90,001 - $100,000
- [ ] $100,001 - $150,000
- [ ] More than $150,000
- [ ] *I don't know*
11. Please answer the following questions about your primary faculty advisor. *(Again, if you had co-advisors, please answer questions in reference to the person with whom you worked most closely.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>A moderate amount</th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How useful was your advisor's feedback?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To what extent was your advisor available when you had questions about your program or research?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To what extent did your advisor support you in the career path of your choosing?</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Which of the following would have **most improved** your level of satisfaction with your advisor?  
*Choose up to three.*

- [ ] More program guidance *(e.g., coursework, qualifying examinations)*
- [ ] More research guidance *(including dissertation, publishing)*
- [ ] More career/professional advice *(jobs, networking)*
- [ ] More teaching/pedagogical guidance
- [ ] More personal encouragement/support
- [ ] Nothing – I was fully satisfied with the advising I received.

**Rank**

13. Please rank the items you have chosen, with #1 being the most important for improving your satisfaction with your advisor, and #2 being the second most important, etc.

---

**Faculty and Program Support**
14. For each of the following areas, please rate the quality of guidance you received from your advisor, research supervisor, and other program faculty/staff:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Very Poor</th>
<th>I received no guidance at all</th>
<th>Not applicable to me</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching/pedagogy</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applying and interviewing for jobs</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducting research (including research methods)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing a career plan</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing and presenting research</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking (e.g., developing professional relationships with others in the field, joining professional organizations)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supportiveness**

15. How supportive was your program/department of the following professional growth opportunities for doctoral students?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>Not at all supportive</th>
<th>Slightly supportive</th>
<th>Moderately supportive</th>
<th>Very supportive</th>
<th>Extremely supportive</th>
<th>Not applicable to my program or field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating as a member of the intellectual...</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual community of the department</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serving on departmental committees with faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conducting research or taking courses abroad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizing events where students are able to meet with guest speakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaining knowledge and experience in applying for grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaborating with students or faculty in other disciplines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interacting with people in industry and government policy agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Considering careers outside academia</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
16. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many times did you present your scholarly work at conferences, workshops, seminars, and other scholarly or professional venues outside the classroom?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of times presented on campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 or more times</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of times presented at regional or national meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 or more times</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of times presented at international meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 or more times</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding for presentations

17. Did you receive financial support from your department to attend any of the off-campus events where you presented your research or work?

☐ Always
☐ Sometimes
☐ Never

Publications

18. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many research articles, chapters, and other scholarly publications did you submit for publication (as an author or a co-author)?

None
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 or more

Were you the first or solo author of this submitted work?

☐ Yes
☐ No
At this point, has this submitted work been published or accepted for publication?

- No
- Yes

Of the total number of submitted works you stated above, on how many were you listed as the first or solo author?

None
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 or more

Of the total number of submitted works you stated above, how many have been accepted or published so far?

None
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 or more

Awards and grants

None
Yes
19. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many departmental, campus-wide, regional or national awards or honors for your scholarly work did you receive? *(Include any awards related to your research, teaching, outreach, or writing.)*

None   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 or more

20. While pursuing doctoral studies, how many grant applications did you author or co-author?

None   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 or more

Has this grant application been successfully funded?

☐ Yes

☐ No
How many of these grant applications have been successfully funded so far?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 or more

Collaborators

21. While working on scholarly publications and other products during your doctoral program, who were your major collaborators? Check all that apply.

- My primary faculty advisor (including research director)
- Other faculty within my department/program
- Faculty outside of my department/program
- Graduate students in my program
- Graduate students outside of my program
- Someone else *(Please specify:)*

☐ None – I primarily worked alone

Learning Outcomes
22. How much did your doctoral program experiences contribute to your knowledge in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>A moderate amount</th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A broad understanding of my discipline as a whole <em>(including its history, controversies, etc.)</em></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep expertise in at least one specialized area of knowledge</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding how my research fits into the landscape of my discipline</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to generate interesting questions that are worth investigating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research techniques commonly used within my discipline</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic writing skills appropriate for my field of study</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding how knowledge in my discipline is relevant to public issues</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to design a course in my field</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to teach a course in my field</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Career Goals**
23. What is your primary career goal?

- Research-intensive faculty position
- Teaching-intensive faculty position
- Balanced research+teaching faculty position
- Non-teaching research position
- Higher education administration
- Work in preschool or K-12 education
- Work in the private sector (*for-profit organizations*)
- Work in the government or a non-profit organization
- Self-employment
- Something else (*Please specify:*)
- *I am not sure yet*
24. What best describes your current position:

- Primarily teaching in higher education
- Primarily research in higher education
- Balance of teaching and research in higher education
- Non-teaching research position
- Higher education administration
- Preschool or K-12 education
- Private sector (for-profit organizations)
- Government or a non-profit organization
- Self-employment
- Continuing study (e.g., seeking additional training or degree)
- Unemployed and seeking employment
- Taking time off (e.g., for travel or family)
- Something else (Please specify:)

Is your current position:

- Postdoctoral position
- Tenure-track faculty position
- Other full-time, permanent employment
- Temporary/adjunct or visiting appointment
- Part-time position
- Internship
- Something else *(Please specify:)*

**Thoughts on Program**

25. If you could begin your graduate studies over again, what would you do?
*Check all that apply.*

- Select a different thesis/research topic
- Select a different advisor
- Attend a different program in the same discipline
- Attend a program in a different discipline
- Attend a program at a different institution *(not at Illinois)*
- I would not pursue a doctoral degree
- I wouldn't change anything
- I don't know

26. Would you recommend the [invite("custom 1")]) program to someone interested in pursuing a doctoral education in your discipline?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitely would not</th>
<th>Probably would not</th>
<th>Might or might not</th>
<th>Probably would</th>
<th>Definitely would</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(untitled)*
27. Did you ever consider leaving the [invite("custom 1")]] program to join a different program, either on the Illinois campus or at another university?

- No
- Yes, sometimes
- Yes, frequently

28. Why did you considering leaving the [invite("custom 1")]] doctoral program?

(untitled)

29. We would like to hear any additional comments or information you have to share about your experiences in the [invite("custom 1")]] doctoral program.

(untitled)

Thank You!
Thank you for taking our survey. Your experience and opinions are very important to the committee. For more information on the review of doctoral programs on campus, please go to:
http://www.grad.illinois.edu/aide

If you have any questions or feedback about the survey, please email us at DocExperience@illinois.edu.

You may close your browser window now.