

## University of Massachusetts-Amherst 2011 Graduating Senior Survey

### APPLIED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The 2011 Graduating Senior Survey included a set of items asking seniors whether they participated in each of five types of **applied learning experiences** (see below). These items are similar to a set of questions asked on the National Study of Student Engagement (NSSE) in which UMass Amherst participates (*more information on NSSE can be found online at [nsse.iub.edu/html/about.cfm](http://nsse.iub.edu/html/about.cfm).*)

Below are the proportions of students who reported participating in each of these learning experiences. Results from three different survey populations are provided: UMass Amherst seniors responding to the 2011 Senior Survey, UMass Amherst seniors participating in the 2011 NSSE survey, and 2011 National NSSE results for seniors at other doctoral-extensive institutions.

#### Percent of respondents indicating they have participated in each of the following applied learning experiences

Type of Learning Experience	UMA 2011 Senior Survey		UMA 2011 NSSE Seniors		National Flagship Peers: 2011 NSSE Seniors	
	N*	Percent	N*	Percent	N*	Percent
Practicum, internship, field or co-op experience, clinical assignments	3,322	58%	1,032	59%	16,839	60%
Community service or volunteer work	3,313	59%	1,027	60%	16,824	66%
Research project with faculty outside of course requirements	3,300	30%	1,029	29%	16,810	28%
Study abroad	3,285	22%	1,023	22%	16,821	25%
Culminating senior experience	3,296	40%	1,031	38%	16,838	31%

\*Number of respondents who answered this item.

#### Note the following:

1. The response rate for the UMass Amherst NSSE survey was lower than the Senior Survey response rate (69% vs. 30%).
2. UMass Amherst students' participation rates are fairly similar to those of seniors at other flagship peers (the National NSSE data). The largest difference is UMass Amherst seniors' higher participation rates in culminating senior experiences (+9) and their lower participation rates in community service or volunteer work (-7).

To see the participation rates of UMass seniors reported by department click on the 'All Departments' link on the OAPA Senior Survey home page: [http://www.umass.edu/oapa/reports/senior\\_survey](http://www.umass.edu/oapa/reports/senior_survey).