

1. Introduction to survey

Confidentiality Notice Your professor is part of the Socio-Environmental Synthesis (SES) Teaching Study, a research project that is taking place at a number of colleges and universities. As part of this research project, we will be collecting data from you with assignments such as this one. Your responses will be held in confidence. Only your professor(s) will know your identify. Before sharing any of your responses with the other researchers in the study, your name will be replaced with a unique identifying code. In this way, the data will be completely confidential beyond your professor(s). Your name will not be published in association with any specific comment or information you give. Please type your initials to indicate that you read and understand the confidentiality conditions of this survey. Thank you.

Please indicate if you give your consent to use your data in our research (such as your responses to the questions on this survey). If you choose not to participate, none of your responses will be shared with the other researchers in the project, nor will they be used in the research and any publications or presentations that result.

Open-Ended Response

Response

2. Skills and Interest

SES inquiry skills - enjoyment

1. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with each of the following phrases completing the sentence that starts, "I really enjoy ..."
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) Gathering or acquiring information from different fields, like environmental science, economics, anthropology, etc.

b) Coming up with my own answers to complicated questions.
c) Evaluating and criticizing arguments I hear or read using evidence and reasoning.
d) Working with large datasets with lots of numbers and variables.
e) Trying to combine information from different fields, like environmental science and economics into a single story or argument.
f) Approaching a complicated problem by first figuring out what I already know about the subject.

SES inquiry skills - importance

2. For the same skills as in Question 1, please rate your agreement or disagreement with each of the following phrases completing the sentence, "I think ... is really important to be able to do."
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) Gathering or acquiring information from different fields, like environmental science, economics, anthropology, etc.

b) Coming up with my own answers to complicated questions.
c) Evaluating and criticizing arguments I hear or read using evidence and reasoning.
d) Working with large datasets with lots of numbers and variables.
e) Trying to combine information from different fields, like environmental science and economics into a single story or argument.
f) Approaching a complicated problem by first figuring out what I already know about the subject.

Cross disciplinary awareness

3. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with each of the following five phrases completing the sentence that starts, "Most issues involving the socio-environmental problems can be better understood with information from ..."
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree

a) environmental science
Please explain your answer, giving specific examples if you agree or strongly agree.
b) economics
Please explain your answer, giving specific examples if you agree or strongly agree.
c) politics, policy studies, decision science
Please explain your answer, giving specific examples if you agree or strongly agree.
d) anthropology and ethnography
Please explain your answer, giving specific examples if you agree or strongly agree.
e) ethics
Please explain your answer, giving specific examples if you agree or strongly agree.

Collaboration

4. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with each phrase, completing the sentence that starts, "I really value ..."
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) Working in groups because they are more productive.
b) Working in a group with different majors.
c) Getting other peoples' perspectives.
d) Working with others to fill in gaps in my own knowledge.
e) Working on my own because it is more productive.

Systems thinking

5. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with each statement.
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) I see the importance of approaching a complicated problem by figuring out the system that is behind the problem.
b) I fully understand what it means to understand something as a system.
c) Diagrams and other ways to visualize a complex problem or system help me understand things better.
d) Using multiple ways of visualizing a complex problem or system help to communicate about it to others.

Normative thinking

6. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with each statement. The term "values" as used here includes one's beliefs, ideals, or sense of what "ought" or "should be."
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) It is really important to understand how different people place values on different things.
b) Values don't belong or fit in the science classroom.
c) Science cannot be made useful to society unless values are taken into account.
d) It is impossible to really understand or study values.
e) In most environmental issues, there is only one correct ethical stance or solution.
f) Many sets of values can be involved in a socio-environmental issue.
g) We can think rigorously about values in order to better understand them.
g) It is important to be able to distinguish claims based on values from claims based on evidence/ facts.

3. Attitudes about science, scholarship and society

1. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each proposition.
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

a) Good scholars are totally objective.
b) Scholarly research is a quest for absolute truth.
c) Coming up with hypotheses in any field requires creative thinking.
d) For scientific questions in which there is controversy and no clear right answer, all opinions are equally valid.
e) Scientists and other scholars have a responsibility to communicate their findings to policy makers and the public.
f) Scientists and other scholars should change the way they do research so that the results are more useful to society.

2. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree...
Choices are: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, neither agree nor disagree, agree, strongly agree

g) Research is a social process and is deeply influenced by the dominant social forces that act on scholars.
h) Scientists and other scholars create knowledge but it is up to others to act on that knowledge.
I like environmental science

I like economics, sociology, politics, policy science, etc.
I like anthropology, culture studies, ethnography, etc.

Please, briefly explain your response to the above question (what is it about each that appeals or does not appeal to you?)

4. Student Information - the last page!

Name or Identifying Code:
Please mark the university you are enrolled at.
Please indicate your year in college.

Open-Ended Response

Response

Response

What is your major at this time?
How confident are you that...
Presently enrolled in which course?
One last question...

If other, please explain

Open-Ended Response

this will be your major when you graduate?

Open-Ended Response

...about how long did it take for you to complete this survey?