



University Studies Program and First Year Seminar (2022)

Summary

The University Studies portion of the ASUW Fall Issue Survey opened on Wednesday, September 7th from 1,136 students. Questions surrounding the University studies program (USP) were prefaced with the context of “do you feel the USP curriculum is beneficial to your degree path in its current form”, students were first provided with the context of “the UW University studies program, sometimes known as ‘general studies’ or ‘USP Classes’, are courses that all undergraduate students must complete in order to earn a degree. More information about the program is included below: ‘The University Studies Program requires students to develop skills necessary for full participation in a technologically complicated world. These skills are developed through six categories that focus on Communication, Human Culture, the Physical & Natural World, Quantitative Reasoning, the U.S. & Wyoming government, and a First-Year Seminar... The University Studies Program ensures that each student’s program includes the elements essential to a lifetime of personal and professional growth; habits of mind, practices of active citizenship, and development of intellectual skills.’”.

The first question specifically relating to the University studies program revolved around the first-year seminar course required at the University. For quantitative data, there was a wide distribution of responses. When asked if students felt that the first-year seminar course prepared them for future classes, the response chosen most was “No” with 45.29% of students. However, 31.25% of students responded “Yes” while 23.46% of students responded that they were “Unsure”. The variation amongst responses indicates that no answer in particular stands out more than another in regards to first-year seminar course preparation. For more specific interest in the first-year seminar courses, follow up survey questions should be asked with specifics to if their first-year seminar course related to their major, did first-year seminar help build necessary success skills, etc.

When asked “do you feel the USP curriculum is beneficial to your degree path in its current form”, the most common response was “No” with 39.10% of students selecting this option. The option of “unsure” was second most common with 31.36% of students selecting this. Finally, 29.55% of students selected “Yes”.

From these results, ASUW acknowledges that more information should be collected, including open ended responses relating to the university studies programs. More specifics into classes and curriculums should be evaluated based on majors.

Survey Results

If applicable, do you feel the First Year Seminar course you took prepared you for future classes?			
#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Yes	31.25%	305
2	No	45.29%	442
3	Unsure	23.46%	229

Do you feel the USP curriculum is beneficial to your degree path in its current form?			
#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Yes	29.55%	294
2	No	39.10%	389
3	Unsure	31.36%	312