

# Prior Learning Questionnaire 07-08

Dear student,

The purpose of this questionnaire is to learn about your background, skills and interests before you begin the course. This will help your instructor better tailor the course to the needs of the class. Your involvement is completely voluntary and will not affect your performance in the course. You are free to skip any question you do not wish to answer. Your individual responses will be held in the strictest confidence. If you have any questions regarding the questionnaire, please contact your instructor or Rowanna Carpenter, Assessment Associate (503-725-3445 or carpenterr@pdx.edu).

Thank you for your participation.

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**Which Inquiry class are you in?**

If you selected other please specify:

**Use the drop-down arrow to select your professor and mentor for this course.**

If you selected other please specify:

**Which of the following best describes your educational plans at PSU?**

- Earn a Bachelor's degree from PSU
- Take courses in order to transfer to another institution
- Take courses for you own interest, but not earn a BA at PSU
- Not sure at this time
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**What is the highest degree you intend to earn?**

- None
- Bachelors (BA or BS)
- Master's
- Professional (M.D., J.D.)
- Ph.D.
- Undecided

**How likely are you to complete a bachelor's degree at PSU?**

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

**In making your decision to go (or return) to college how important was each of the following for you?**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Slightly Important	Not Important at All
Advance in current job				
Get a better job				
Become a better informed person				

Gain a general education				
Prepare for graduate or professional school				
Parents wanted me to go				
Earn more money				
Meet new people				

**How important was each of the following factors in making your decision to attend PSU?**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Slightly Important	Not Important At All
Cost				
Location in downtown Portland				
Academic Majors				
Admission Requirement				
Ability to live at home				
Reputation of the institution				
Reputation of intercollegiate athletics				

Reputation of academic programs				
Reputation of University Studies				
Opportunities for community-based learning				
Recommendation of family				
Friends attending this institution				
Diverse student body				
Financial aid package				

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Now we have some questions about academic advising and the concerns you may have as you begin this year.

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**Where did you receive your academic advising/counseling for this term (check all that apply)?**

New Student Orientation

Appointment with an advisor from the Undergraduate Academic Support Center (UASC)

Advising workshop offered by UASC during New Student Week or first week of term

Other PSU advisor or office

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**How well do you think you understand PSU's graduation requirements?**

Not  
at all

Not  
very  
well

A little

Fairly  
well

Very  
well

**What are your greatest concerns about them?**

**Were you able to register for the freshman inquiry theme that**

**most interested you?**

Yes

No

Additional comments:

**Were you able to register for a freshman inquiry course at a time that worked best for you?**

Yes

No

Additional comments:

**What topics would you like to see covered in this freshman inquiry course?**

Topic:

Topic:

Topic:

**Which of the following is your top concern as you begin this year at PSU?**

Finances

Academic performance

Childcare

Employment

Family

Transportation to PSU

Housing

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**Which of the following concerns do you have about taking this class? (select all that apply)**

That I may not be smart enough to do a good job

That I might fail

That I may not be able to keep up with the work

That I may not make friends

That I may have taken too many credits

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

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We understand that our students have multiple responsibilities including this course. This set of questions asks about your plans and commitments this year and will help us better understand your situation.

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**What do you plan to major in while at PSU. If you do not know at this time, please select "Undecided," the second-to-last choice on the drop-down list.**

If you selected other please specify:

**How many credits do you plan to take PER TERM during this academic year?**

**How many hours per week do you plan to work for pay during this academic year?**

- None
- 1 - 15 hours
- 16 - 20 hours
- 21 - 25 hours
- 26 - 34 hours
- 35 or more hours

**If you are working, are you working on or off campus?**

- On campus
- Off campus
- Combination of both
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**Where do you have access to a personal computer? Please check all that apply.**

- My home
- My work place
- PSU computer lab
- Public library
- Friend's or family member's home
- I don't have any access to computers
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**Are you responsible for the care of children or other dependents?**

- No
- Yes, full responsibility
- Yes, partial responsibility

**Are you receiving Financial Aid for your education?**

- No
- Loans only
- Scholarships, grants, or fellowships only
- Work-study only
- Veteran's benefits only
- From a combination of sources

**How often do you expect to use the following methods of transportation to get to school?**

	Not at all	Occasionally	Primary Method
Walk			
Drive alone			
Carpool			
Bicycle			
Public transportation			

**What kind of housing will you be living in during your first term at PSU?**

- University housing (on campus)
- Other private home, apartment, or room
- With parents or relatives
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

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Now we would like to know about your previous academic and community involvement experience.

**What were you doing the year before you enrolled at PSU? Please choose the ONE answer that best represents the main focus of your activities during that year.**

- Working
- Attending High School
- Attending Community college
- Attending another 4-year university
- Taking care of family
- Traveling
- Military
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**Please indicate how often you have done the following activities over the past TWO YEARS.**

	Frequency					
	Never	1 time	2 times	3 times	4 times	5 or more times
Generate a thesis for a writing assignment						

Use a writing process that involved revising one or more drafts						
Wrote a paper using proper citation of sources						
Participated in a school or community activity involving persons or groups who are different from me						
Worked collaboratively on a team project						
Prepared a paper or presentation using graphical tools (charts, diagrams, maps, computer graphics)						
Gave oral presentations (speeches or oral reports)						
Completed projects or papers that required the use of quantitative reasoning						
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from multiple sources						

Participated in a discussion or activity that addressed social problems facing your community						
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**Now tell us how you rate yourself at each of the following. Please be as honest as possible.**

	Rating				
	Need much improvement	Need some improvement	Average	Strong	Very Strong
Generating a thesis for a writing assignment					
Using a writing process that involved revising one or more drafts					
Writing a paper using proper citation of sources					
Working effectively with persons or groups who are different from me					
Worked collaboratively on a team project					

Preparing papers or presentations using graphical tools (charts, diagrams, maps, computer graphics)					
Giving oral presentations (speeches or oral reports)					
Using quantitative reasoning					
Integrating ideas or information from multiple sources					
Addressing social problems facing your community					

**Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about community involvement. Community involvement includes activities such as community service and volunteer work as well as participation in religious, political or other community organizations.**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not applicable
I have a responsibility to serve my community.						

I can make a difference in my community.						
Community involvement helps me to define my personal strengths and weaknesses.						
Community involvement helped me clarify which major I will pursue.						
Participation in the community helps me enhanced my leadership skills.						

**Over the last year, have you participated in community service or volunteer work?**

No

Yes

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

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In this last set of questions, please tell us a little bit more about yourself.

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**How old are you?**

**What is your gender?**

Male

Female

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**What is your racial/ethnic background?**

Asian/Pacific Islander

Black/African American

Hispanic/Latino

Native American/American Indian

White/Caucasian

Multiple Ethnicities

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**What was the highest level of education achieved by your mother (or equivalent thereof-primary female guardian)?**

- Did not graduate from high school
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college including 2 yr. degree
- Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S.)
- Graduate degree (Master's, MD, JD, Ph.D., etc.)
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**What was the highest level of education achieved by your father (or equivalent thereof-primary male guardian)?**

- Did not graduate from high school
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college including 2 yr. degree
- Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S.)
- Graduate degree (Master's, MD, JD, Ph.D., etc.)
- Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**How supportive are each of the following individuals or groups of your educational goals?**

	Not supportive	Neutral	Supportive	Don't know/ Not applicable
Parents				
Children				

Significant Other (spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend, etc.)				
Employer				
Friends				
Extended family (aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.)				

**Are you an international student?**

Yes      No

**What is your primary language?**

English

Other (please specify)

If you selected other please specify:

**What other languages do you speak?**

**Please answer the following:**

	Yes	No	I am under 18 and not eligible to vote
Are you registered to vote?			

Did you vote in the last election you were eligible for?			
Do you intend to vote in the next major election (primary or general election)?			
Do you intend to vote in the next minor-election (for example, on a school funding measure)?			

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