



America's Brightest ORANGE

Oklahoma State University

University Assessment and Testing

2019 OSU Alumni Survey

Survey Report – Art, Graphic Design and Art History

The OSU Alumni Survey is a survey designed to collect information about OSU graduated students. More specifically, it is designed to collect information on their career, educational achievements, and their experience with OSU. This information will be used to improve academic programs and student experiences at OSU for generations to come. This survey targeted alumni of undergraduate and graduate programs who received their degree in 2013 and/or 2017. The survey was administered online by OSU-University Assessment and Testing (UAT) in April 2019 through June 2019. Departments may request additional information by contacting UAT (assessment@okstate.edu).

Survey Questions

Respondents were asked 37 institutional level items. Institutional level items were given to all OSU alumni and the items consisted of six topics: continuing education, well-being and community, demographic information, academic satisfaction, career reflection, and current job or career information.

Target Population / Response Rate – Art, Graphic Design and Art History

	OSU Degree Received:		
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of graduates (<i>n</i>)	51	43	94
Number of survey respondents (<i>n</i>)	15	11	26
Response rate	29.4%	25.6%	27.7%

1. Since graduating from OSU, how would you describe your activity? (Select all that apply)	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school	3	20.0	0	0.0
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	0	0.0	0	0.0
Employed full-time or part-time	10	66.7	11	100.0
Both employed (other than graduate assistant) and continuing my education	1	6.7	0	0.0
Self-employed	6	40.0	0	0.0

2. Whether or not you are currently employed, in what area is your principal occupation?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Engineering	0	0.0	0	0.0
Computer Science, Programming or Technology	0	0.0	1	9.1
Science, Social Science, or Mathematics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Health or Mental Health	1	6.7	0	0.0
Business or Management	2	13.3	0	0.0
Finance or Accounting	1	6.7	0	0.0
Education, Training, or Library	0	0.0	1	9.1
Legal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Writing, Journalism, or Design	2	13.3	6	54.5
Public Service, Policy, or Politics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Public Relations, Marketing, or Sales	0	0.0	0	0.0
Architecture	0	0.0	0	0.0
Art, Performing, or Athletics	8	53.3	3	27.3
Participating in a volunteer or service program	0	0.0	0	0.0
Serving in the U.S. military	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other occupational area (INSERT FIELD)	1	6.7	0	0.0



Continuing Education

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
3. What graduate or professional degree are you pursuing or, if you completed a degree, what degree did you complete? (Select all that apply)*				
Graduate Certificate	1	100.0	0	0.0
Master's	0	0.0	0	0.0
Doctoral	0	0.0	0	0.0
Medical (includes nursing, osteopathy, dental, vet, and more)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Law	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other (INSERT FIELD)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2017</u>
	4. What was the name of your graduate or professional school?*	
Francis Tuttle Technology Center	1	0

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
5. How well did your OSU program prepare you for graduate or professional education program?*				
Very well	0	0.0	0	0.0
Adequately	1	100.0	0	0.0
Not very well	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

*For items 3 through 5 do not include alumni who responded: 'not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school', 'Employed full-time or part-time', or 'self-employed' in item 1.



Well-being & Community

6. How connected do you feel to OSU?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very connected	3	21.4	3	30.0
Moderately connected	3	21.4	6	60.0
Somewhat connected	4	28.6	1	10.0
Not very connected	4	28.6	0	0.0

7. Are you regularly in touch with people you met at OSU? (Mark all that apply)	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Yes, with my advisor(s)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Yes, with professors or staff	5	35.7	5	50.0
Yes, with members of my team, club, or sorority/fraternity	1	7.1	3	30.0
Yes, with classmates/friends I met at OSU	6	42.9	7	70.0
No	6	42.9	0	0.0

8. How much has your overall quality of life been enhanced by your Oklahoma State University experience?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Much	6	42.9	7	70.0
Somewhat	4	28.6	3	30.0
Little	2	14.3	0	0.0
None	2	14.3	0	0.0

9. In the past twelve months, how often have you participated in unpaid volunteer work?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
More than once a week	1	7.1	0	0.0
About once a week	1	7.1	1	10.0
About once a month	1	7.1	1	10.0
Every few months	1	7.1	2	20.0
Once or twice in the past year	4	28.6	5	50.0
Not at all	6	42.9	1	10.0



How would you change the emphasis OSU placed on these aspects of education and college life?

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>
10. Making ethical and thoughtful decisions				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	7	50.0	4	44.4
Increase somewhat	4	28.6	2	22.2
Increase a great deal	3	21.4	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>
11. Exploring alternative values, perspectives, and beliefs from around the world				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	4	28.6	1	11.1
Increase somewhat	7	50.0	5	55.6
Increase a great deal	3	21.4	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>	<u><i>n</i></u>	<u>%</u>
12. Improving written and oral communication skills				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	10	71.4	3	33.3
Increase somewhat	3	21.4	3	33.3
Increase a great deal	1	7.1	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0



	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
13. Improving ability to think critically (analytically and logically)				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	8	57.1	3	33.3
Increase somewhat	5	35.7	3	33.3
Increase a great deal	1	7.1	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
14. Ability to interact positively with people who are different from you				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	5	35.7	2	22.2
Increase somewhat	3	21.4	4	44.4
Increase a great deal	6	42.9	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

	<u>2013</u>		<u>2017</u>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
15. Developing good health habits and physical fitness				
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	1	7.1	0	0.0
Keep about the same	6	42.9	5	55.6
Increase somewhat	5	35.7	1	11.1
Increase a great deal	2	14.3	3	33.3
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0



Demographics

16. Which OSU campus do you most identify with?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Stillwater	14	100.0	10	100.0
Tulsa	0	0.0	0	0.0
Equally Stillwater or Tulsa	0	0.0	0	0.0
Online	0	0.0	0	0.0

17. What is your current 5-digit zip code?	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
KS	1	100.0	0	0.0
MO	0	0.0	1	100.0
OK	11	100.0	5	100.0
TX	1	100.0	2	100.0



Academic Satisfaction

Please rate your degree of satisfaction with each of the following items:

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
18. The quality of teaching at OSU				
Very Satisfied	4	30.8	4	44.4
Satisfied	6	46.2	5	55.6
Neutral	1	7.7	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	2	15.4	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
19. Availability of courses needed for your degree program				
Very Satisfied	1	7.7	3	33.3
Satisfied	8	61.5	5	55.6
Neutral	1	7.7	1	11.1
Dissatisfied	1	7.7	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	2	15.4	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
20. OSU academic facilities (e.g. classrooms, labs, buildings, etc.)				
Very Satisfied	3	23.1	2	22.2
Satisfied	4	30.8	4	44.4
Neutral	6	46.2	3	33.3
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
21. OSU academic advising				
Very Satisfied	3	23.1	2	22.2
Satisfied	6	46.2	4	44.4
Neutral	1	7.7	2	22.2
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	11.1
Very Dissatisfied	3	23.1	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0



	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
22. Preparation to handle non-career related goals (e.g. family, finances, etc.)				
Very Satisfied	1	7.7	1	11.1
Satisfied	2	15.4	0	0.0
Neutral	4	30.8	5	55.6
Dissatisfied	3	23.1	2	22.2
Very Dissatisfied	2	15.4	1	11.1
Not applicable	1	7.7	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
23. Availability of internship/practicum experiences				
Very Satisfied	1	7.7	2	25.0
Satisfied	4	30.8	0	0.0
Neutral	3	23.1	5	62.5
Dissatisfied	3	23.1	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	2	15.4	1	12.5
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
24. Overall education at OSU				
Very Satisfied	3	23.1	1	11.1
Satisfied	6	46.2	8	88.9
Neutral	1	7.7	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	1	7.7	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	2	15.4	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
25. If you start over, would you still choose to attend Oklahoma State University?				
Definitely yes	6	46.2	7	70.0
Probably yes	3	23.1	2	20.0
Uncertain	0	0.0	1	10.0
Probably no	2	15.4	0	0.0
Definitely no	2	15.4	0	0.0



Career Reflection

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
26. How closely is your job related to your field of study?*				
Not related	3	25.0	0	0.0
Somewhat related	2	16.7	3	30.0
Directly related	7	58.3	7	70.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
27. How well did OSU prepare you for meaningful employment?*				
Very well	2	16.7	4	40.0
Adequately	6	50.0	5	50.0
Not very well	2	16.7	1	10.0
Not at all	2	16.7	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
28. Overall, how satisfied are you with your career?*				
Very Satisfied	5	41.7	4	40.0
Satisfied	4	33.3	4	40.0
Neutral	0	0.0	2	20.0
Dissatisfied	2	16.7	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	1	8.3	0	0.0

*For items 26 through 35 do not include alumni who responded 'not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school' or/and 'enrolled in graduate or professional school' in item 1.



Current Job or Career

29. Are you employed full-time (on average 30 hours or more per week) or part-time (on average less than 30 hours per week)?*	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Full-time	7	58.3	9	90.0
Part-time	5	41.7	1	10.0

30. How long did it take to find your first employment after graduating from OSU?*	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Employed by graduation	3	25.0	2	20.0
3 months after graduation	5	41.7	5	50.0
6 months after graduation	2	16.7	2	20.0
9 months after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
1 year after graduation	1	8.3	0	0.0
over 1 year after graduation	3	25.0	2	20.0

31 & 32. Alumni Employer Names and Position Titles	
Current employer	Job Title
Oklahoma State University	Web Designer
Life.Church	Graphic Designer
Cerner	Motion Graphics Artist
Oklahoma State University	Graphic Designer
Global Gardens	Volunteer Coordinator
The Bearded Doe and Company	Owner/Operator
Oklahoma State University - information technology Department	Operator
Oklahoma state university	Adjunct lecturer
The Faison Center	Teacher
Matchfire	Graphic designer
Self employed	Graphic Designer
Self-Employed	Self-Employed Photographer and Freelance Designer
Hobby Lobby	Frame Shop attendant
Prairie Arts Center	Art Education Coordinator
Bohemian Cowgirl	Graphic Design/Social Media Coordinator

*For items 26 through 35 do not include alumni who responded 'not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school' or/and 'enrolled in graduate or professional school' in item 1.



31 & 32. Alumni Employer Names and Position Titles (Continued)	
Current employer	Job Title
Deer Oaks Behavioral Health	Clinical Therapist Assistant, Subcontractor
Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores	Jr. Graphic Designer
Hobby Lobby	Graphic Designer/Art directing
Fenix Design Studio	Graphic Designer
RFTB Creative Digital Agency	Associate Creative Director

33. Which of the following best describes your employer?*	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
A corporation, partnership, or private business	7	58.3	3	33.3
Military	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other governmental entity	0	0.0	0	0.0
Charity or other nonprofit entity	1	8.3	2	22.2
Educational institution	2	16.7	4	44.4
Other	2	16.7	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

34. Does your job require: (mark all that apply)*	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Technology skills	6	50.0	6	60.0
Conducting research	3	25.0	1	10.0
Extensive training	3	25.0	2	20.0
Math skills	3	25.0	0	0.0
Problem solving/analytic reasoning	8	66.7	5	50.0
Speaking to a group	6	50.0	5	50.0
Use of specialized machinery	2	16.7	1	10.0
Use of specialized software	9	75.0	4	40.0
Working with a diverse group of people	7	58.3	6	60.0
Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc.	4	33.3	1	10.0

*For items 26 through 35 do not include alumni who responded 'not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school' or/and 'enrolled in graduate or professional school' in item 1.



35. Does your job require: (mark all that apply)*	2013		2017	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Less than \$15,000	3	25.0	1	10.0
\$15,000 but less than \$25,000	2	16.7	0	0.0
\$25,000 but less than \$35,000	0	0.0	5	50.0
\$35,000 but less than \$45,000	1	8.3	3	30.0
\$45,000 but less than \$55,000	0	0.0	1	10.0
\$55,000 but less than \$65,000	2	16.7	0	0.0
\$65,000 but less than \$75,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$75,000 but less than \$100,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$100,000 but less than \$125,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$125,000 but less than \$150,000	1	8.3	0	0.0
Over \$150,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	3	25.0	0	0.0

*For items 26 through 35 do not include alumni who responded 'not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school' or/and 'enrolled in graduate or professional school' in item 1.

36. What could OSU have done to better serve you?
Better facilities concerning computer based art and design. The Bartlett was designed as a fine art facility. This no longer reflects the fields that art and design have taken in the world. Technology is the future. It's crucial that OSU's art and design programs recognize this.
more help in finding a job/mentoring
I know there are a lot of career fairs and training opportunities for some fields, but not much for anyone in the art department. I loved the design program at OSU, but it largely feels like the Bartlett Center has been long forgotten in favor of Ag, Engineering, and Architecture. Financial aid and advising could have been better.
Offered more in-depth classes pertaining to my field.
Internships for Studio Art majors.
More community service
Keep finding strong graphic design professors like XXX. Don't make graphic design students take 5 art history classes. Put more money into the art program. We have an incredible program with incredible potential, do everything you can to make the students the best employees possible!
Some sort of life-prep course covering taxes, budgeting, etc.
More preparation for the process of applying to jobs and getting work in Graphic Design. Making interesting application packaging was neat, but had no real world effect. People just throw that crap out. They want to see your work, not your one little packaging project. I feel like there could have been more prep in analyzing what we individually brought to the table and, most importantly, where those skills would be best used. How do design job interviews differ from others? How should I price my freelance work? What red flags to avoid? How do I build up my portfolio when I lack work? The balance of work and home?
Have more funding for the Bartlett art center
Have courses for animation.
Maybe some more training on some of the non-school related things like finances and general wellness? I don't know.



36. What could OSU have done to better serve you? (Continued)

OSU could have taken the time to teach me my precession. All of my success I can attribute to my first employer. Luckily, they were a successful firm. I received very little training in the actual programs needed to preform well in my career from my OSU professors. And more than one made it clear my future was not a priority to them. The best example I can give is this: Once I asked a simple technical question in one of my freshmen courses. I now know my question to be simple and easily answered. However, difficult to grasp when new to the world of graphic design. My professor told me to, "Google the answer." And that sums up to core of my experience at OSU. Frankly, I feel I payed \$80,000 to receive a piece of paper that I'm no way ACTUALLY qualifies me for anything. I've had to succeed on the job and "faked it till I made it." I would never encourage a serious designer to enter your program. XXX, XXX and XXX were poor professors and the core of the department. My advisor was not helpful either and I felt abandoned in an ocean when I graduated. I was treated as an imbecile and with little respect, despite continuing to ask questions. Since graduating, I have won 3 national design awards, had my work published in GDUSA, and work/worked for two highly respected in-house design agencies and been promoted quickly.

Education on the ramifications of student loan debt (esp private loans), Better facilities in the Art and Music schools (some of which have already been updated).

37. What additional information would you like OSU to know?

It's a great university and I had a wonderful experience there.

fees are ridiculous

I, along with so many, are deeply in debt that we won't escape for a long time to come, meanwhile we receive calls and emails requested donations. This feels like a slap in the face.

I am mainly a stay-at-home mom currently with a side photography business. I have previously had \$15,000 and \$35,000 full-time degree-related employment at small businesses.

Economy sucks. Help the next generation out

It's hard to get a job in Studio Art.

I enjoyed my time at OSU for the most part.

Teach your students the programs. Give them the knowledge they need to preform on the job. If they can't use the programs, they will be lost and at the mercy of their employer and Google. Why pay thousands of dollars for a degree where gaining information is placed solely on the shoulders of the student. You should have exams where the students must show their knowledge of the program, BUT FIRST teach and show examples of that technical knowledge. In my experience, designers who went to OSU Oklmulgee received far better technical training and are better designers. Ironically, that is only regarded as an associates degree. It is truly a disappointment. Also, encourage more internships. That area was also severely lacking.

I have just recently paid off the total sum of my student loans which when I graduated in 2013 exceeded \$80K. This is due to my work ethic honed in during my time at OSU and my OSU Vet school grad wife (girlfriend at the time) setting an example of fiscal responsibility.

