

**Exit Interview (Form II)**  
Graduate Program Assessment  
Department of Crop and Soil Sciences  
University of Georgia

Please read the following statements to the graduate student being interviewed: “The following questions are designed to provide the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences with ongoing graduate program assessment data for use by the Department in periodic reviews of our graduate programs. Program assessment is vital in ensuring that we provide relevant and challenging graduate programs in Crop and Soil Sciences. I will ask you several questions about your experiences as a graduate student in this Department. Not all of the questions will be relevant to you and to your career goals. Following this interview, I will give you an optional form (Exit Interview - Form III) in the event you want to add additional, anonymous comments”.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Learning Objective 1:** Graduates should have a fundamental understanding of the scientific method and be capable of critical thinking

**Questions:**

1. Did your graduate experience provide you the necessary background to understand the scientific method?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Do you feel that you can use critical thinking to address problems?

**Student Learning Objective 2:** Graduates should have in-depth knowledge in one of the following areas: plant breeding and genetics, physiology, weed control, crop production and management, forage production and utilization, soil chemistry, soil physics, atmospheric physics, soil classification and genesis, soil erosion and conservation, soil fertility and plant nutrition, or soil microbiology.

**Questions:**

1. Did the program increase your knowledge of scholarship and new developments in your area of expertise?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Do you feel that your program was lacking in a particular area?

**Student Learning Objective 3:** Graduates should have strong communication and technical skills.

**Questions:**

1. Did the program increase your communication skills?
  
2. Did the program increase your technical skills?

**Student Learning Objective 4:** Graduating **MS students** should be able to conduct original research and be prepared to enter a PhD program or a nonacademic position.

**Questions (For MS students only):**

1. Did your graduate experience provide you the necessary background to conduct original research?
  
2. Do you feel that you are prepared to enter a Ph.D. program?

**Student Learning Objective 5:** Graduating **PhD students** should be able to formulate and conduct original research and be prepared to enter an academic position.

**Questions (for PhD students only):**

1. Did your graduate experience provide you the necessary background to formulate and conduct original research?
  
2. Do you feel that you are prepared to enter an academic position and teach in your area of specialty?

**Student Learning Objective 6:** Graduates should participate in professional societies and activities in Crop and Soil Sciences (e.g. membership and activities in state, regional, and national/international organizations) and win awards and recognition within the University, and at the regional and national levels.

**Questions:**

1. Did the program increase your knowledge of professional development and professional activities?
2. Do you currently participate in professional societies and activities? Please specify.

**Additional Questions**

1. Did you encounter specific problems as a graduate student in this Department?
2. How might have those problems been avoided or corrected?
3. Were the faculty, staff and Department administrators helpful and supportive?
4. How did you choose your graduate program?
5. Would you choose graduate work in Crop and Soil Sciences if you had to make the choice again? (Please explain your response)
6. Do you have any suggestions as to how our Department might attract minority graduate students and be more sensitive to issues of cultural diversity?
7. What are your plans now?