**Prior Learning Questionnaire 08-09 Field Key Guide**

This document lists the questions as they were asked in the 2008-2009 Prior Learning Survey for the freshman inquiry classes that began in Fall 2008. Some fields, that might possibly identify individuals have been elided from this document. Each question is labeled with a numeric key which corresponds to how the data is accessed using the PriorLearn module in the file PriorLearn.hs. If you have any questions please direct them to Tim Sheard – [sheard@cs.pdx.edu](mailto:sheard@cs.pdx.edu), or call him 503-725-2410

Thank you for your participation.

**1) Which of the following best describes your educational plans at PSU?**  
  
 6  Earn a Bachelor's degree from PSU  
 5  Take courses in order to transfer to another institution  
 4  Take courses for your own interest, but not earn a BA at PSU  
 3  Not sure at this time  
 99 Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

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**2) What is the highest degree you intend to earn?**  
  
 1  None  
 6  Bachelors (BA or BS)  
 3  Master's  
 2 Professional (M.D., J.D.)  
 4  Ph.D.  
 5  Undecided  
  
**3) How likely are you to complete a bachelor's degree at PSU?**  
  
 4  Very likely  
 3  Somewhat likely  
 2  Somewhat unlikely  
 1  Very unlikely  
  
**4-11) In making your decision to go (or return) to college how important was each of the following for you?**  
  
 4 3 2 1

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very Important | Somewhat Important | Slightly Important | Not Important at All |
| 4- Advance in current job |  |  |  |  |
| 5- Get a better job |  |  |  |  |
| 6- Become a better informed person |  |  |  |  |
| 7 - Gain a general education |  |  |  |  |
| 8 - Prepare for graduate or professional school |  |  |  |  |
| 9 - Parents wanted me to go |  |  |  |  |
| 11 - Earn more money |  |  |  |  |
| 10 - Meet new people |  |  |  |  |

**12-25) How important was each of the following factors in making your decision to attend PSU?**  
  
 4 3 2 1

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very Important | Somewhat Important | Slightly Important | Not Important at All |
| 12 - Cost |  |  |  |  |
| 13 - Location in downtown Portland |  |  |  |  |
| 14 - Academic Majors |  |  |  |  |
| 15 - Admission Requirement |  |  |  |  |
| 16 - Ability to live at home |  |  |  |  |
| 17 - Reputation of the institution |  |  |  |  |
| 18 - Reputation of intercollegiate athletics |  |  |  |  |
| 19 - Reputation of academic programs |  |  |  |  |
| 20 - Reputation of University Studies |  |  |  |  |
| 21 - Opportunities for community-based learning |  |  |  |  |
| 22 - Recommendation of family |  |  |  |  |
| 23 - Friends attending this institution |  |  |  |  |
| 24 - Diverse student body |  |  |  |  |
| 25 - Financial aid package |  |  |  |  |

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

**26-30) Where did you receive your academic advising/counseling for this term (check all that apply)?**

Checked – 1, Unchecked - 0  
  
  26 - New Student Orientation  
  27 – Appt with an advisor from Undergraduate Academic Support Center (UASC)   
  28 - Advising workshop by UASC during New Student Week or first week of term  
  29 - Other PSU advisor or office  
  30 - Other (please specify)

**31) How well do you think you understand PSU's graduation requirements?**  
  
 1  Not at all  
 2  Not very well  
 3  A little  
 4  Fairly well  
 5  Very well

**32) Were you able to register for the freshman inquiry theme that most interested you?**  
  
 1  Yes  
 0  No  
  
 Additional comments:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**33) Were you able to register for a freshman inquiry course at a time that worked best for you?**  
  
 1  Yes  
 0  No  
  
 Additional comments:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**34) Which of the following is your top concern as you begin this year at PSU?**  
  
 7  Finances  
 0  Academic performance  
 5  Childcare  
 4  Employment  
 3  Family  
 2  Transportation to PSU  
 1  Housing  
 99  Other (please specify)

**35-40) Which of the following concerns do you have about taking this class? (select all that apply)**

Checked – 1, Unchecked – 0

 35 - That I may not be smart enough to do a good job  
  36 - That I might fail  
  37 - That I may not be able to keep up with the work  
  38 - That I may not make friends  
  39 - That I may have taken too many credits  
  40 - Other (please specify)

**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.**

**41) 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.**  
  
  Administration of Justice  
  Accounting  
  African Studies  
  Anthropology  
  Applied Linguistics  
  Architecture  
  Art  
  Biology  
  Black Studies  
  Business Administration  
  Canadian Studies  
  Chemistry  
  Chicano/Latino Studies   
  Child and Family Studies   
  Civil Engineering  
  Communication Studies  
  Computer Engineering  
  Computer Science   
  East Asian Studies  
  Economics  
  Electrical Engineering   
  Elementary Education  
  Engineering  
  English  
  Environmental Sciences and Resources  
  Environmental Studies   
  European Studies   
  Film  
  Foreign Languages  
  Geography   
  Geology  
  Health Studies  
  History   
  International Studies  
  Latin American Studies   
  Liberal Studies  
  Mathematics   
  Mechanical Engineering  
  Middle East Studies   
  Music  
  Philosophy   
  Physics  
  Political Science  
  Psychology  
  Science  
  Sculpture  
  Secondary Education  
  Social Science   
  Social Work  
  Sociology  
  Theater Arts   
  Women's Studies   
  Undecided  
  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

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

**43) How many hours per week do you plan to work for pay during this academic year?**  
  
 1  None  
 2  1 - 15 hours  
 3  16 - 20 hours  
 4  21 - 25 hours  
 5  26 - 34 hours  
 6  35 or more hours  
  
**44) If you are working, are you working on or off campus?**  
  
 1  On campus  
 2  Off campus  
 3  Combination of both  
 99  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**45-51) Where do you have access to a personal computer?  Please check all that apply.**

Checked – 1, Unchecked – 0

 45 - My home  
  46 - My work place  
  47 - PSU computer lab  
  48 - Public library  
  49 - Friend's or family member's home  
  50 - I don't have any access to computers  
  51 - Other (please specify)  
  
   
**52) Are you responsible for the care of children or other dependents?**  
  
 1  No  
 2  Yes, full responsibility  
 3  Yes, partial responsibility  
  
**53) Are you receiving Financial Aid for your education?**  
  
 1  No  
 2  Loans only  
 3  Scholarships, grants, or fellowships only  
 4  Work-study only  
 5  Veteran's benefits only  
 6  From a combination of sources  
  
**54-58) How often do you expect to use the following methods of transportation to get to school?**  
  
 1 2 3

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not at all | Occasionally | Primary Method |
| 54 - Walk |  |  |  |
| 55 - Drive alone |  |  |  |
| 56 - Carpool |  |  |  |
| 57 - Bicycle |  |  |  |
| 58 - Public transportation |  |  |  |

**59) What kind of housing will you be living in during your first term at PSU?**  
  
 3  University housing (on campus)  
 2  Other private home, apartment, or room  
 1  With parents or relatives  
  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**60-66) In which of the following activities are you planning to participate during the 2008-2009 school year? Please select any that apply.**  
Checked – 1, Unchecked – 0

 60 - Student clubs or organizations  
  61 - Volunteering in the community  
  62 - Student government  
  63 - Greek life (fraternities or sororities)  
  64 - Intramural sports (competing with other PSU students)  
  65 - Outdoor Program  
  66 - Residence Life programs (programs in PSU on-campus housing)  
  
**67-72 & 73-78) Please tell us how willing and how likely you are to do the following things for academic support during the 2008-2009 school year.**  
  
 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Willing (67-72) | | | | Likely (73-78) | | | |
|  | Very unwilling | Somewhat unwilling | Somewhat willing | Very Willing | Very unlikely | Somewhat unlikely | Somewhat likely | Very likely |
| 67 & 73 - Meet with one of your professors during office hours. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 68 & 74 - Get tutoring by peer tutors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 69 & 75 - Go to the writing center |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 70 & 76 - Take a skills enhancement workshop (note taking, time management, etc.) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 71 & 77 - Go to the career center |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 72 & 78 - Contact a librarian for assistance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**79) How far*(in miles)* do you live from campus?**  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**80) How long (*in minutes*) is your commute to school?**  
  
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**Now we would like to know about your previous academic and community involvement experience.**

**81) 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.**  
  
 5  Working  
 6  Attending High School  
 4  Attending Community college  
 3  Attending another 4-year university  
 2  Taking care of family  
 1  Traveling  
 0  Military  
 99  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**82-92) Please indicate how often you have done the following activities over the past TWO YEARS.**  
  
 0 2 2 3 4 5

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Frequency | | | | | |
|  | Never | 1 time | 2 times | 3 times | 4 times | 5 or more times |
| 82 - Generate a thesis for a writing assignment |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 83 - Use a writing process that involved revising one or more drafts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 84 - Wrote a paper using proper citation of sources |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 85 - Participated in a school or community activity involving persons or groups who are different from me |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 86- Worked collaboratively on a team project |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 87 - Prepared a paper or presentation using graphical tools (charts, diagrams, maps, computer graphics) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 88 - Gave oral presentations (speeches or oral reports) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 89 - Completed projects or papers that required the use of quantitative reasoning |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 90 - Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from multiple sources |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 91 - Participated in a discussion or activity that addressed social problems facing your community |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 92 - Used a library or library resources (databases etc.) to complete a research assignment |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**93-103) Now tell us how you rate yourself at each of the following.  Please be as honest as possible.**  
  
 1 2 3 4 5

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Rating | | | | |
|  | Need much improvement | Need some improvement | Average | Strong | Very Strong |
| 93 - Generating a thesis for a writing assignment |  |  |  |  |  |
| 94 - Using a writing process that involved revising one or more drafts |  |  |  |  |  |
| 95 - Writing a paper using proper citation of sources |  |  |  |  |  |
| 96 - Working effectively with persons or groups who are different from me |  |  |  |  |  |
| 97- Worked collaboratively on a team project |  |  |  |  |  |
| 98 - Preparing papers or presentations using graphical tools (charts, diagrams, maps, computer graphics) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 99 - Giving oral presentations (speeches or oral reports) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 100 - Using quantitative reasoning |  |  |  |  |  |
| 101 - Integrating ideas or information from multiple sources |  |  |  |  |  |
| 102 Addressing social problems facing your community |  |  |  |  |  |
| 103 - Finding appropriate information for a research assignment |  |  |  |  |  |

**104-107) 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.**  
  
 5 4 3 2 1 0

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Not applicable |
| 104 - I have a responsibility to serve my community. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 105 - I can make a difference in my community. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 106 - Community involvement has helped me to define my personal strengths and weaknesses. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 107 - Participation in the community has enhanced my leadership skills. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**108) Over the last year, have you participated in community service or volunteer work?**  
  
 0  No  
 1  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.  Please be sure to press "submit" when you are done with the survey.**

**109) How old are you?**  
  
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**110) What is your gender?**  
  
 1  Male  
 2  Female  
  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

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**111) What was the highest level of education achieved by your mother (or equivalent thereof-primary female guardian)?**  
  
 1  Did not graduate from high school  
 2  High school graduate or GED  
 3  Some college including 2 yr. degree  
 4  Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S.)  
 5  Graduate degree (Master's, MD, JD, Ph.D., etc.)  
 99  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**112) What was the highest level of education achieved by your father (or equivalent thereof-primary male guardian)?**  
  
 1  Did not graduate from high school  
 2  High school graduate or GED  
 3  Some college including 2 yr. degree  
 4  Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S.)  
 5  Graduate degree (Master's, MD, JD, Ph.D., etc.)  
 99  Other (please specify)  
  
 If you selected other please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**113-117) How supportive are each of the following individuals or groups of your educational goals?**

1 2 3 4

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not supportive | Neutral | Supportive | Don't know/Not applicable |
| 113 - Parents |  |  |  |  |
| 114 - Significant Other (spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| 115 - Employer |  |  |  |  |
| 116 - Friends |  |  |  |  |
| 117 - Extended family (aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**118-120) Please answer the following:**  
  
 1 0 2

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes | No | I am under 18 and not eligible to vote |
| 118 -Are you registered to vote? |  |  |  |
| 119 - Did you vote in the last election you were eligible for? |  |  |  |
| 120 - Do you intend to vote in the next major election (primary or general election)? |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

We appreciate your participation in completing this questionnaire and want to assure you that your responses will remain confidential. If you have any questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact your instructor.