Hope College Graduate Survey

Hope graduates are educated to think about life’s most important issues with clarity, wisdom, and a deep understanding of the foundational commitments of the Christian faith. Graduates go on to do this at organizations, companies and graduate schools around the country and abroad. This summary of the annual Graduate Survey, gives a six-month snapshot of the Class of 2011.

Class Overview 2009-2011

Graduate School Attendance by Region

Job Satisfaction
78% satisfied or very satisfied

Choice of Grad School
90% in their first or second choice

Sample Employers
American Red Cross
Art Institute of Chicago
BDO Seidman
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Center for American Progress
Deloitte
Detroit Medical Center
Dow Chemical Company
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Fifth Third Bank
Gentex Corporation
Government of Japan
LG Chemical
Peace Corps
Sojourners Magazine
Spectrum Health
U.S. Representative Huizenga
Zondervan

Sample Grad Schools
American University
Duke University
Loyola University
Georgetown University
University of Illinois
University of California-Davis
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
Notre Dame
Valparaiso University
Internships and Networking

- Nearly 400 members of the Class of 2011 reported having an internship experience.
- 57% of students with an internship received academic credit.
- 37% of all students said an internship helped them secure employment.
- 1 of 4 internship experiences are paid.
- 38% of all students reported that networking connections helped them secure employment.
- The Hope alumni network was ranked as the second most beneficial type of networking while securing employment (personal networks were first).

Factors Leading to Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Major</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Degree</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking Connections</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship Experience</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus or Community Leadership</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Search Skills</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Ten Majors

- Psychology (11.2% of the class)
- Management (9.7%)
- Communications (8.4%)
- Exercise Science (6.2%)
- Biology (4.9%)
- Nursing (4.9%)
- Chemistry (4.1%)
- Special Education (4.1%)
- Spanish (4.0%)
- Political Science (3.7%)

142 members of the Class of 2011 completed a field of study that was a certified education major.

About the Graduate Survey

The Hope College Graduate Survey is administered annually by Alumni and Parent Relations, Career Services and Admissions. Graduates are contacted six to nine months after graduation by email, mail and telephone and asked to complete the online survey.

Between November 2011 and January 2012, 68% (560) of the graduating Class of 2011 (827) participated in the survey.

For departmental level data and analysis or to see survey data from previous years, please contact Herb Dershem, Director of Institutional Research, at dershem@hope.edu.

A NETWORK OF RESOURCES

$5 million in active grants that support student research
200+ study-abroad programs in 60 countries
Over 30,000 alumni in every state and 80 countries

Office of Career Services

Career Services assists students and alumni with all aspects of career planning, including choosing a major/career, exploring interests, developing effective searches, or applying to graduate schools. The primary mission of the office is to integrate academic and career interests in order to prepare students for lives of leadership and service in a global society. Learn more at hope.edu/student/career.

Alumni Association

The Hope College Alumni Association hosts an online career center where you can work on your resume, join and use the Career Resource Network, volunteer, find job postings, connect with social media and sign up for events. Connect at hope.edu/alumni/career.

JobStop

Students and alumni can browse hundreds of postings on Hope’s online job board. Start searching at jobstop.hope.edu.