



Department of Health and Human Development

Recreation, Management and Leadership

Recreation, Management and Leadership Graduate Survey 2018

Prepared by

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Background Information

The purpose of the 2018/2019 Recreation, Management and Leadership (RML) Program Graduation Survey was to query graduating RML students about their perspectives and experiences in the program and about the learning outcomes associated with their involvement. The survey is part of the ongoing assessment of the RML program and meets the 2.05 standard for COAPRT accreditation. The online survey was developed from versions used in previous years. The faculty reviewed the survey and had opportunity to comment on the content of the questions and answers. A total of 53 students were identified as graduating from the program. A total of 34 surveys were returned, yielding a 64% response rate.

The following summarizes the results of the survey. Most questions are simply presented as to how students responded to the question based on simple illustrative descriptive and frequency statistics associated with each question. Results will be used to inform future program and curricular changes.

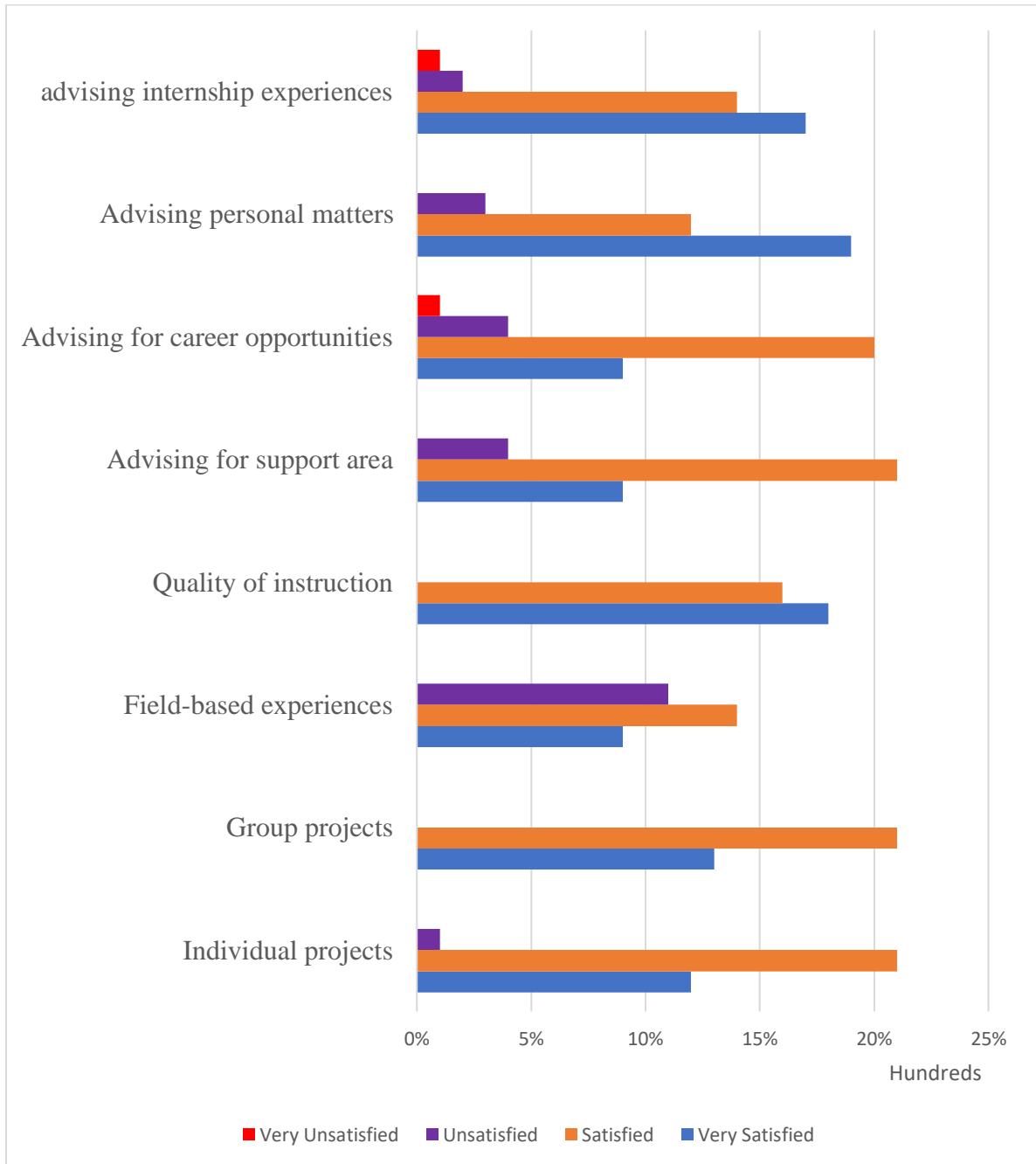
Table 1. Q1: Percentage of respondents who indicated the quarter in which they planned to graduate.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Fall Quarter 2018	60%	2
Winter Quarter 2019	14.3%	5
Spring Quarter 2019	22.9%	8
Missing	.03%	1
<i>answered question</i>		34
<i>skipped question</i>		1

Question 2. Please rate each of the following aspects of RML’s program according to your level of satisfaction.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
Individual projects	12	21	1	0
Group projects	13	21	0	0
Field-based experiences	9	14	11	0
Quality of instruction	18	16	0	0
Advising in selection of courses in support area	9	21	4	0
Advising in helping you explore different career opportunities	9	20	4	1
Advising in helping you address personal matters	19	12	3	0
Advising in helping you secure an internship experience	17	14	2	1

Figure 1. Bar chart of level of satisfaction to the following aspects of RML



Question 3. Students level of satisfaction with RML's contribution to developing the following skills and abilities.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
Writing effectively	8	24	2	0
Speaking effectively	15	18		0
Information literacy	14	18	2	0
Critical thinking skills to analyze and solving problems	16	16	2	0
Working and/or learning independently	20	14	0	0
Working cooperatively in a group	23	11	0	0
Working effectively with technology, including computers/online resources	12	18	4	0
Organizational management and socially responsible leadership	15	17	2	0
Using moral, philosophical or logical reasoning	18	15	1	0
Working effectively with other cultures	7	14	8	5
Analyzing complex social and political issues	9	13	11	1
Developing interpersonal skills	23	11	0	0

Figure 2. Bar chart of level of satisfaction to the following aspects of RML.

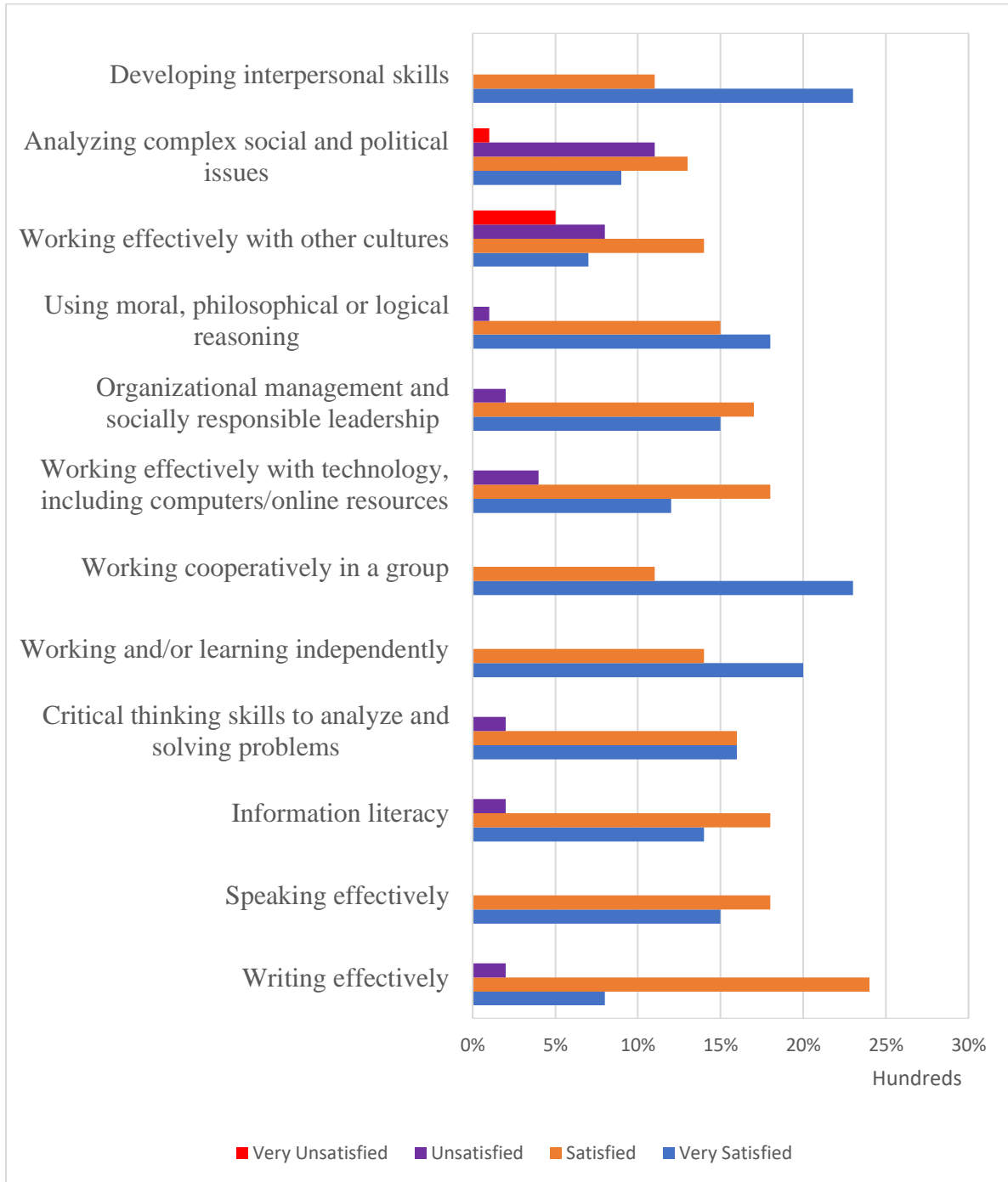


Figure 3. The skills and abilities students believe they experienced the most growth in as a result of their participation in RML.

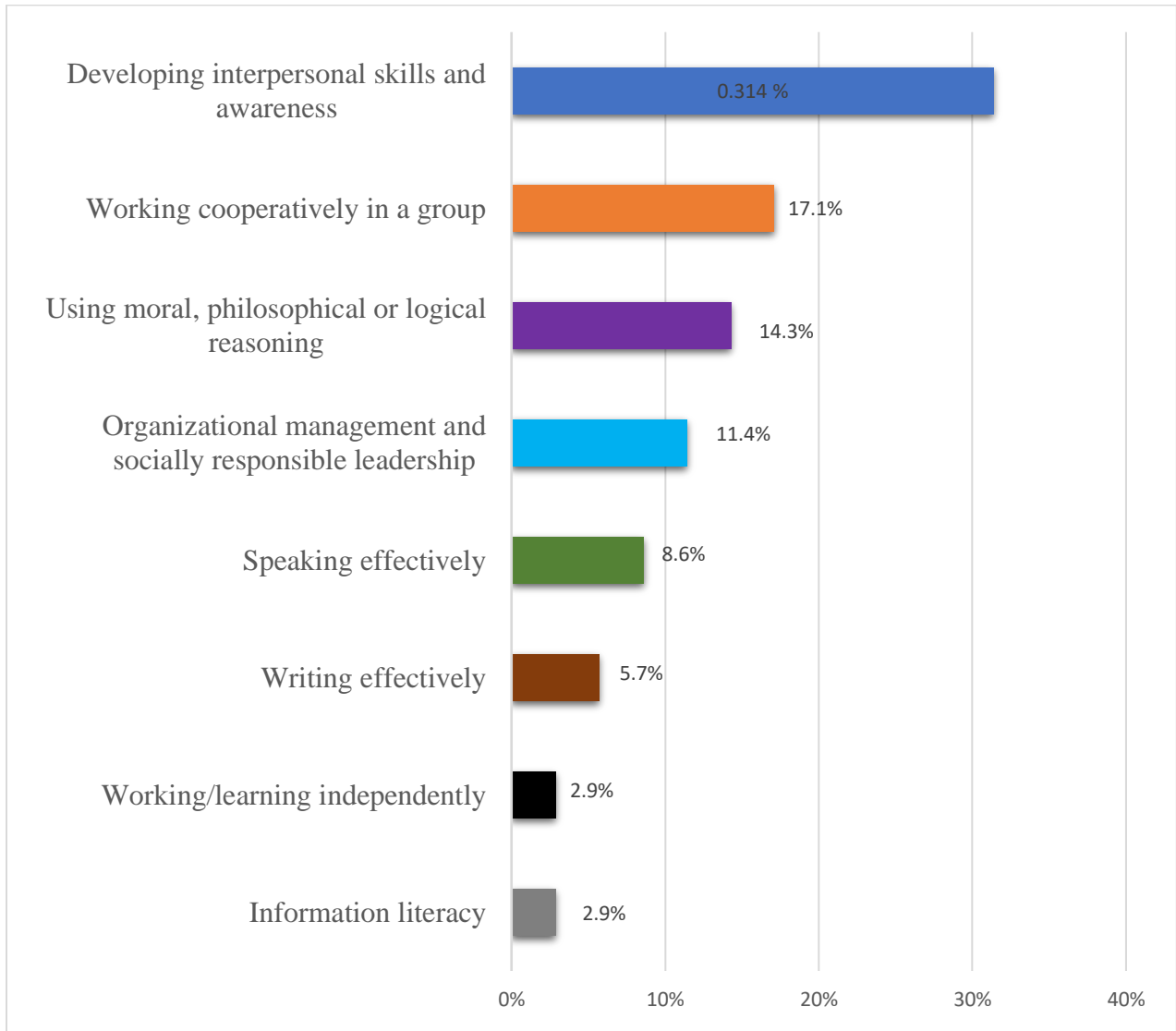


Figure 4. Ranking of Skills and abilities that students think are the most important for their professional career.

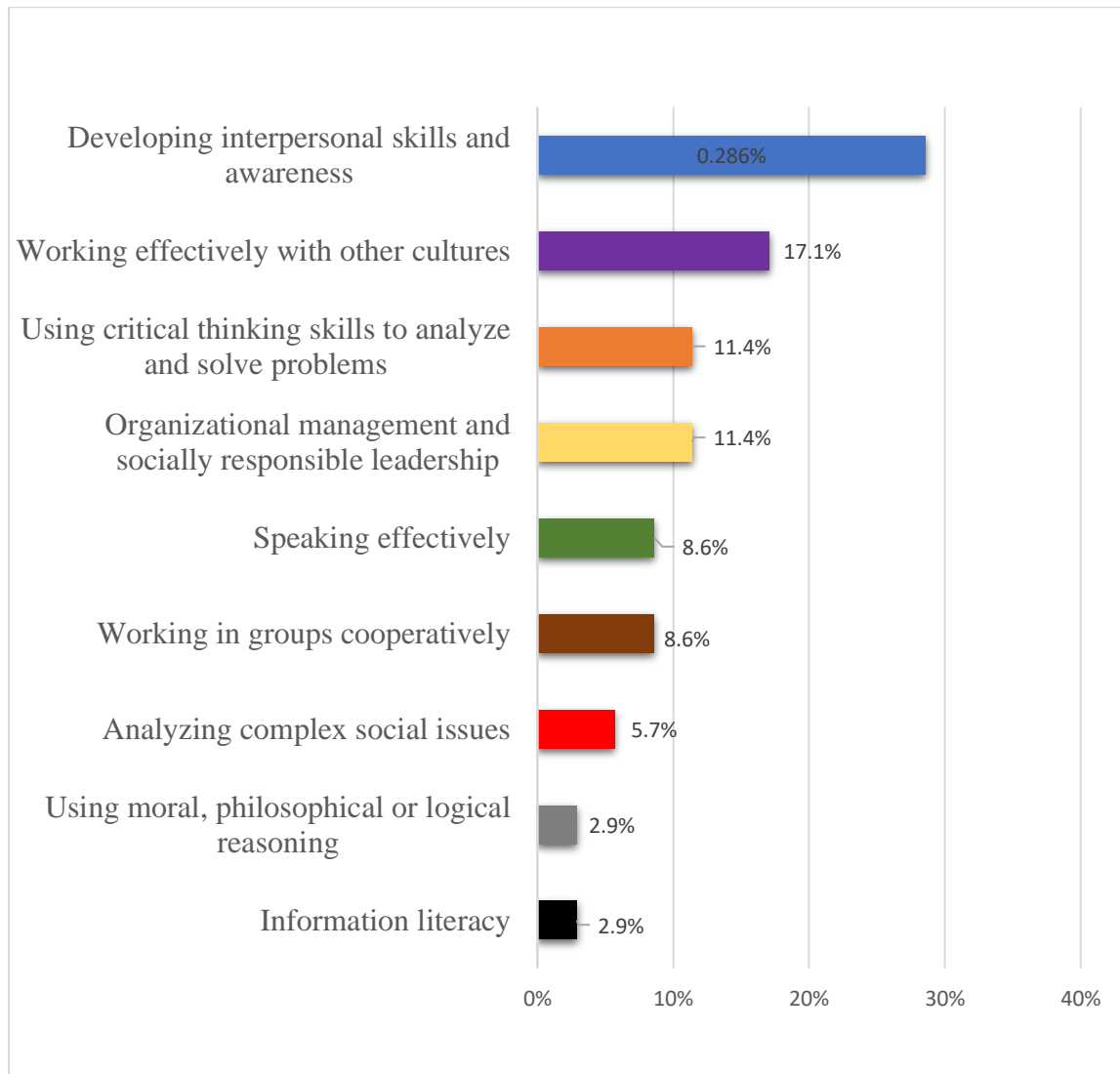


Figure 5. Stacked bar chart of ranked levels of satisfaction to the question: How satisfied were you with the Recreation Program’s contribution to your learning and understanding of the following concepts related to recreation and leisure.

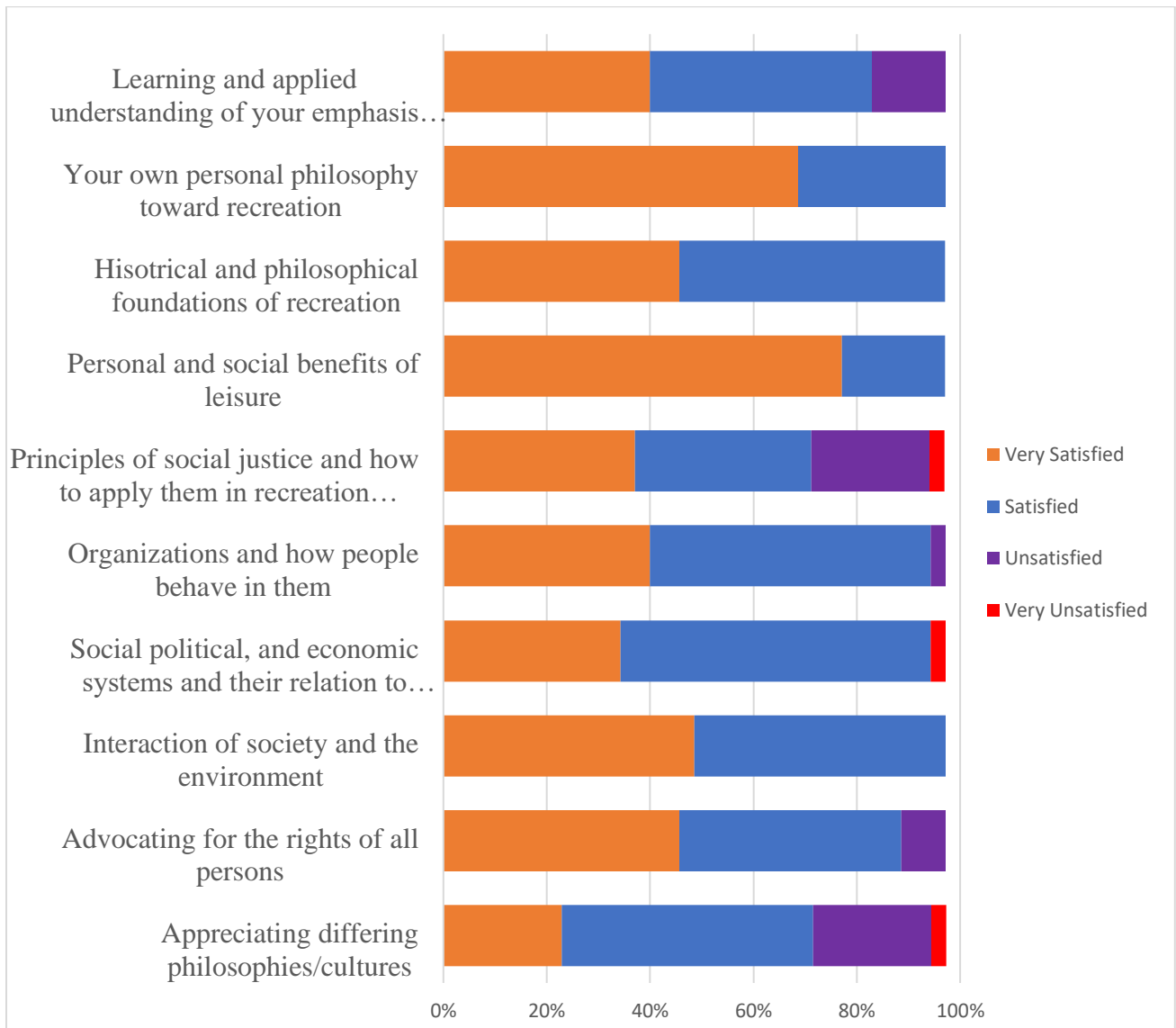


Figure 6. The ranking of concepts and learning that the students believed they experienced the most growth in as a result of participation in RML.

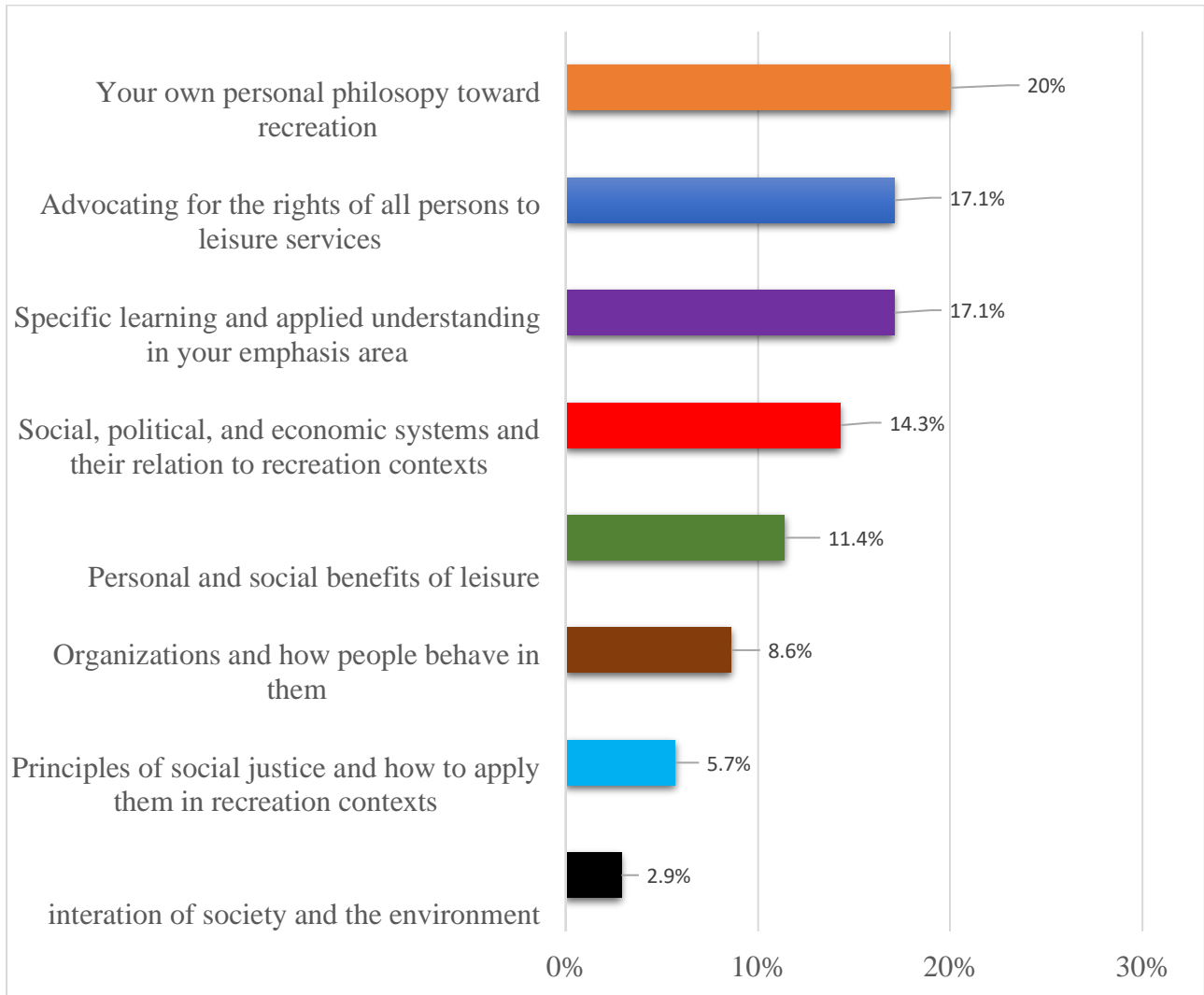


Figure 7. The ranking of concepts and learning that students believed **most important** to their success in their professional career.

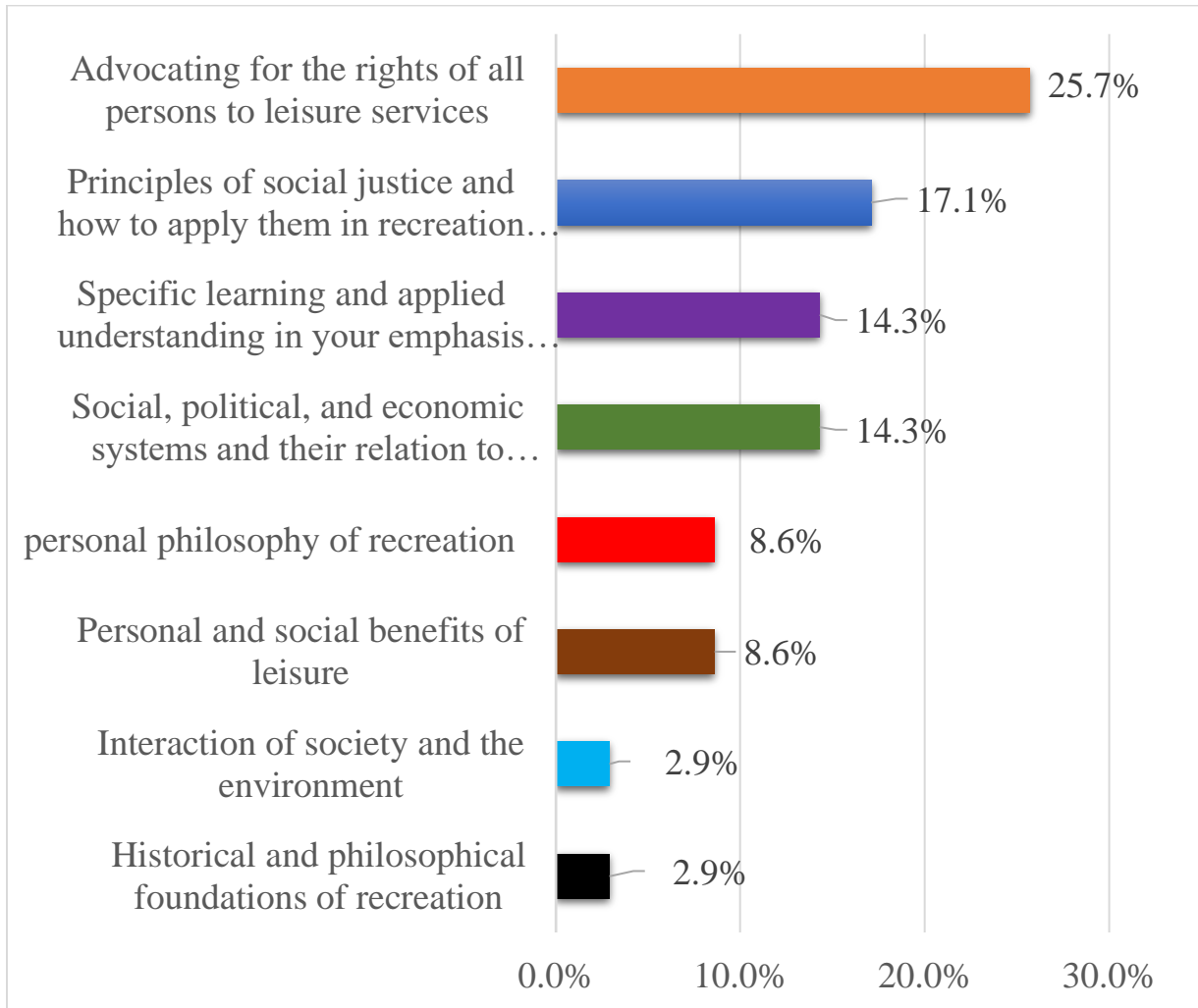


Figure 8. Stacked bar chart of ranked levels of satisfaction to the question: How relevant and useful were the below courses and topic areas in preparing you for your career?

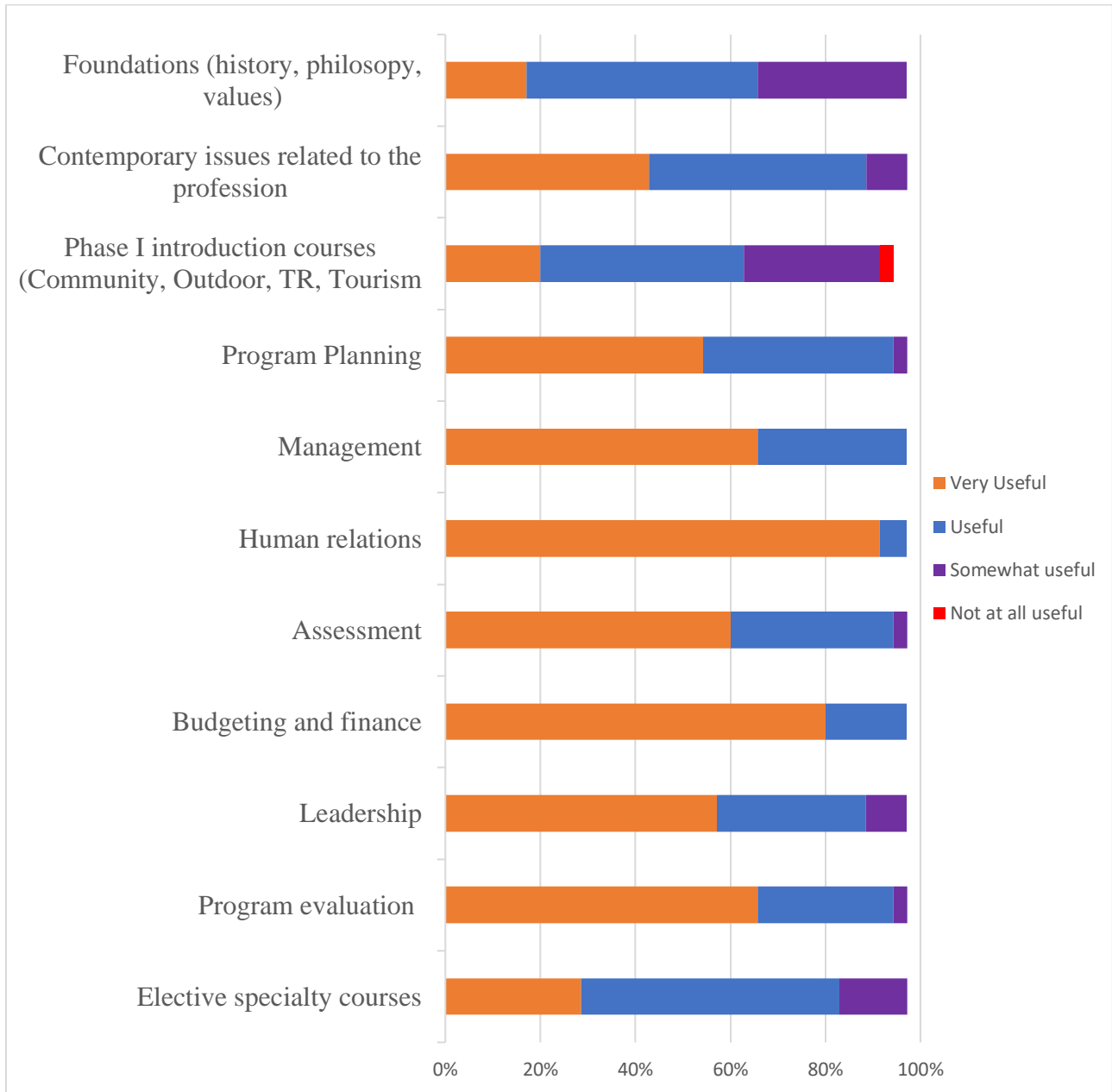
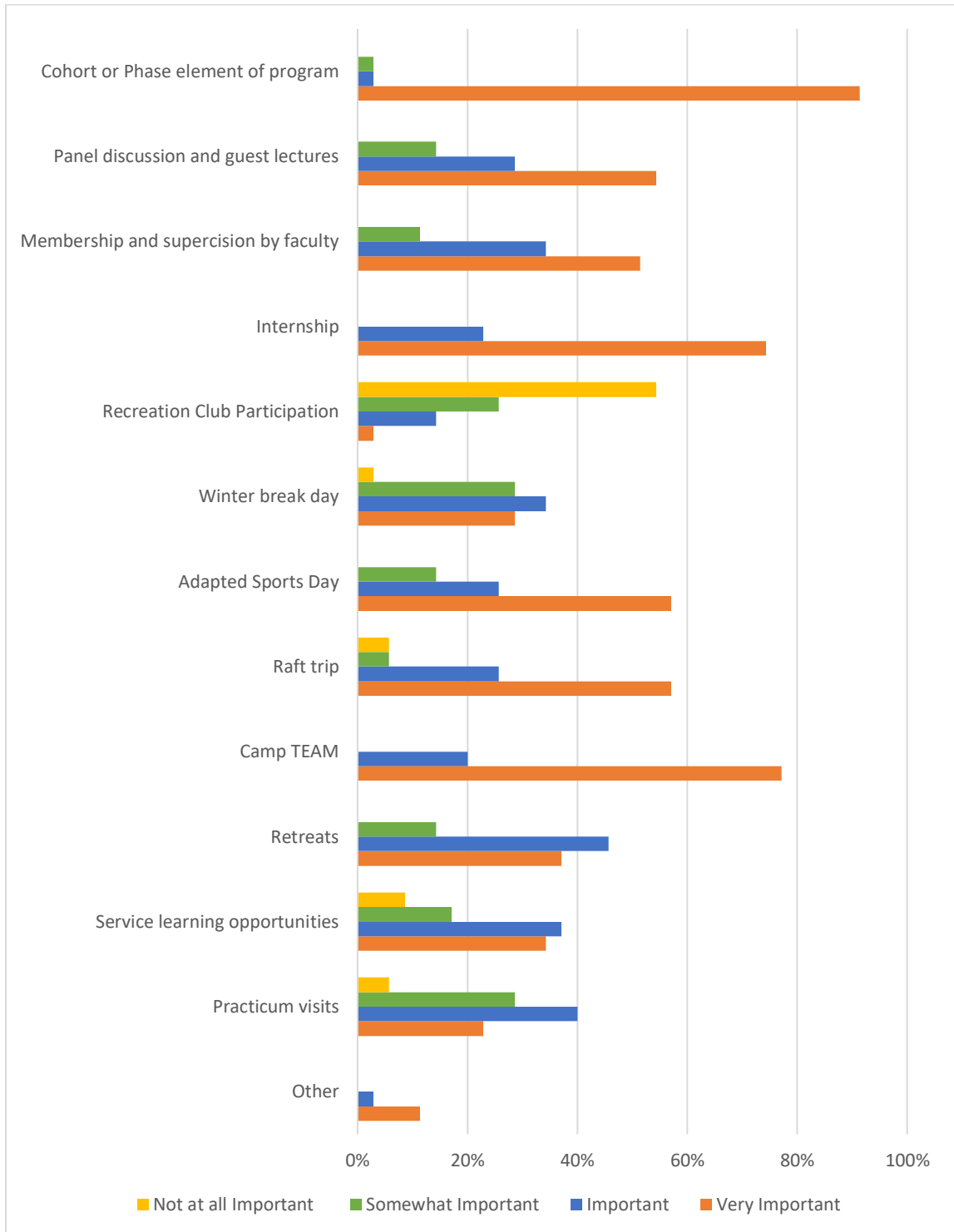


Figure 9. Stacked bar chart of ranked levels of satisfaction to the question: How important were the following to your growth and learning in RML?



*Other program elements identified were peer support, Human Relations, self-reflection, and opportunities to provide feedback

Table 3. Emphasis areas of graduating RML students who completed the survey.

Emphasis Area	%	n
Community	14.3	5
Outdoor	45.7	16
Therapeutic Recreation	20.0	7
Tourism	14.3	5
Generalist or combined	2.9	1

Is there anything else you would like to say about the Recreation Program and your experience in the Phase?

Comments in blue were generally positive, while comments in yellow were areas that could be improved according to student comments.

Thankful to have been a part of such a great program. I feel much more prepared and very confident going into the field
It taught me a lot about how to work with people. It also taught me how to reflect on my-self as well as how I work with people. I have always wanted to serve people, the recreation program taught me how.
I loved my experience in this program, it has lead me down a path that I am very excited to embark on! The professors and peers I have gotten to know have made the experience unforgettable. I appreciate all the hard work that my professors have done to make the program what it is and I look forward to the potential for change in the program as it is reassessed!
I loved going through this program. Especially with a cohort, it was so nice to be able to get to know everyone and know that I was not alone in the classes that I was taking. Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to go through this program, I am so glad that I found it.
I loved the support system the phase created. It was extremely beneficial and something i will always remember.
It was a privilege of working with the professors and the phase that I had and I will always look back and be proud that I am a phaser.
This program has given me direction and hope for the future. I have found a passion for life moving forward that I did not previously have and am very grateful for. I found a passion for school, learning, and continued education. I have also found a close-knit family that I will stay friends with the rest of my life. (something I previously had only heard of others finding in college and not thinking I'd ever get the chance). I am thankful that this program exists and I found my way here. Thank you for all the hard work y'all do to make this program as awesome as it is.
Thank you for being the best program I discovered and for all the support you provided that went above and beyond what you needed to do.

Great structure, but content is lacking. I would like to see more intellectual and philosophical challenge. Too easy to go through the motions. With that said, the support from the professors was outstanding and I learned so much through the community that was created by the rec program. Thank you!
This program has altered my entire perspective on life. Those ideas are not forced upon us either but rather inspired within us by professors. After 201, I started to read for fun for the first time in 10 years. Melissa did not tell me to do that but looking at my life with the new lens, I realized my free time spent learning is much more beneficial and makes me happier overall. Ideas of Biophilia and Forest Bathing got me hooked on the idea and combined my love of cities and urban design created a rabbit hole that spanned 2 years. I was not told to look into these topics but Lindsay encouraged us to look into something we are interested in and that is where I was allowed to take it. That resulted in me reading more than a dozen books in my free time about the field and became the inspiration for my final paper. I am proud of the work I do in this program. In my excitement, my RECR 480 paper was written over a month in advanced because of how excited I was to learn about what I love. This program has become a model for how I want to live my life and who I want to spend it with. This is the closest thing to religion I have supported in my life. My experience at Western has not been the best but The Recreation Program has become the saving Grace in my eyes. Thank you
The dedication of the professors to the students is indescribable compared to any other program I've been through, and the social culture of the phase has been one of the most positive influences on my life in the last 2 years. Thank you.
It was the best decision for me to be a part of this department!
The best experience of my life. This program helped me to understand myself and those around me. I will never forget the people that were there with me through this experience
I think Lindsay Poynter should have deserves and should have a more active role in the program.
Thank you all for everything. It was very inspiring.
Very happy that I did this major and I don't think I would have graduated college if I did not find the Rec major. Thank you
I really like the phase system
One of the most important aspects for my experience in the program is having such a thoughtful, caring, and supportive community
I have really enjoyed my experience in the phase. I have learned and grown so much and met so many amazing people along the way. I am grateful beyond words for this program and feel like I have greatly benefitted from this experience!
Overall the Phase will always hold a special place in my heart and I am forever grateful for the community that was built during my time in the Rec program
I really appreciated this program, the community we made, and the support I felt from Professors. I think the program could use a bit of restructuring, however, to incorporate more

opportunities to get certifications during school. Sometimes, I felt that the curriculum was a bit repetitive - we would see the same readings and same slides. While the focus areas, HR, management/budget classes were helpful, there were a few that I didn't feel had much structure, which made it difficult to feel motivated. Also, having guest speakers was cool, but I almost think it would be better if we were able to take more field trips to learn about where these types of people actually work and what that looks like. Regardless, I am very grateful for this program and the opportunities for growth it gave me along the way. I would not be the person I am today without this program so thank you so much for all that you do for us!!!

The phase aspect of the recreation program was something unlike anything I have ever experienced at Western. Having a community of like-minded, yet unique people made it extremely easy to support others and be supported by others. I think there is a lot that needs to be done in order to understand the barriers to recreation based on the research project presentations, and I feel like that could have been emphasized more in the program by our professors. It is one thing to help continue and spread the idea and practices of recreation, but if we are not learning how to reach marginalized populations, I think we are ultimately failing the whole idea of recreation. If recreation is supposed to have no boundaries, then why are we seeing skewed and varied representation in the field? I think some of the changes that could be made to the program that would be a step in the right direction is changing the structure of the Leisure and Society class and the Community class in Phase IV. If we could first learn about these populations in class, then go out into those populations and learn more about their experiences, and put on an event with those members of that community, I think that would help prepare us better for our future. Overall, the Rec phase was incredible and I learned so much about myself being surrounded by our community. I just wish there was more time for the phase to stick together.

Overall the Recreation Program and the Phase changed my life for the better. I have gained professional and personal relationships I will cherish forever. Thank you!

Excited and prepared for Phase V!

I loved it and wish I could go deeper into it at a higher level if I were to do it over again.