



Education and Training Quality Surveys



Glossary of Terms and Concepts

Higher Education
Quality Surveys

سجل المصطلحات والفاهيم

Glossary of Terms and Concepts in Higher Education
Quality Surveys

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Glossary of Terms and Concepts in Higher Education Quality Surveys

Introduction

This Glossary clarifies terms and definitions used in the Higher Education Quality Surveys Project, guiding its users toward a better understanding.

N	Terms and Phrases	Definition
General Terms		
1	Higher Education	Post-secondary programs leading to academic degrees, ranging from bachelor's to doctoral levels as defined by the national qualifications framework
2	Institutions of Higher Education (IHE)	Legally empowered public and private universities and colleges (domestic and international) to offer post-secondary education and award academic degrees or professional certificates.
3	Higher Education Quality Surveys	A suite of surveys evaluating higher education institutions and programs' performance, prioritizing higher education in its initial phase. They empower stakeholders to gain valuable insights into students', parents', and employers' opinions and aspirations regarding the learning experience and teaching quality, and more importantly provide them with a platform to express their experiences, needs, and suggestions freely.
4	Target Groups	Target Groups: Higher education stakeholders, including bachelor/graduate students and alumni, faculty members and equivalent roles, and Employers.
5	Electronic Survey Platform	The Education and Training Evaluation Commission (ETEC) electronic platform enables higher education faculty, staff, other personnel, employers, and stakeholders to provide their input on various aspects of higher education quality, including the learning environment, graduates' skills, regulations, rules, and other areas of concern.
Glossary of Terms and Concepts in the Bachelor Students Survey		
6	Bachelor Students Survey	A survey administered periodically to evaluate undergraduate students enrolled in higher education institutions' proficiency, readiness, knowledge, environment, set-up, and other areas.
7	Educational Institution and Programs' Identifying Information	Institutions' public information on official sites for stakeholders (i.e., vision, mission, academic programs, various services, systems, and any related matters.).

N	Terms and Phrases	Definition
8	Orientation Programs	Higher educational institutions' initiatives to familiarize their Freshmen with their policies, academic departments, and academic electronic portal (if applicable), provide academic guidance activities, and other relevant matters.
9	Educational Environment	The place in which the educational process occurs, including pedagogical methodology, social and cultural milieu, physical environment, invested material resources, instructional aids, and technological advancements in any given educational institution.
10	Registration Procedures	Process of registering for available learning courses through an electronic learning process management system, including deadline, add and drop policies aligned with the institution's academic calendar.
11	Course	Developed and monitored study material in each department's program plan that may be studied independently or require a prerequisite or a concurrent requirement [3], which includes a number, symbol, and content description.
12	Program Learning Outcomes	Statements that describe what the learner should acquire, understand, and be able to do by the end of a program as a result of the outcome of the learning process [8].
13	Program Learning Objectives	Statements that describe what a program hopes to achieve practically, academically, in research, or community aspects [8].
14	Communication Skills	Demonstrate comprehension of theoretical knowledge and effectively convey specialized knowledge, skills, and complex ideas to an individual or group of recipients.
15	Digital Skills	Ability to utilize and adapt to selected digital devices, technical tools, and applications to process, create, share analyze, and enhance content for research and/or specialized projects[5] .
16	Struggling Student	A low GPA student with emotional, behavioral, and academic difficulties (i.e., absence, lack of basic knowledge, skills, attention, and functioning abilities), who requires periodic and continuous academic, psychological, and social support, counseling, and follow-up.
17	Gifted and Outstanding Student Support	Innovative and talented students in one or more areas, who excel academically and need support diversity in activities and experiences.
18	Academic Guidance	A task assigned to faculty members to assist, guide, and familiarize students with academic regulations, systems, and

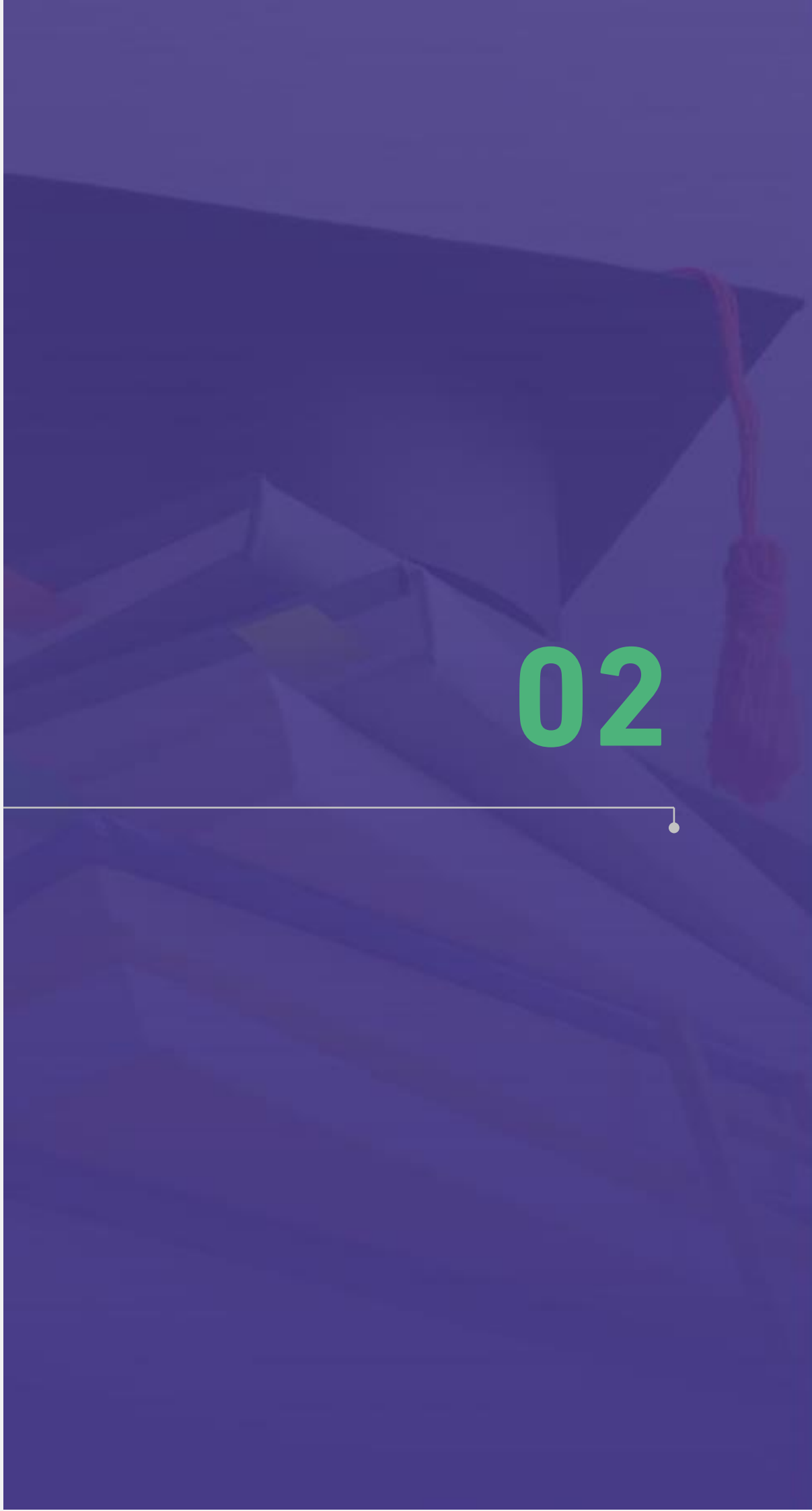
N	Terms and Phrases	Definition
		choices to overcome social or academic challenges they may encounter and affect their academic level.
19	Scientific Research Resources	All published articles, theses, books, and abstracts in national and international libraries and digital databases.
20	Public Facilities for Extracurricular Activities	Cultural, sports, religious, and leisure facilities in educational institutions (i.e., museums, libraries, halls, playgrounds, pools, mosques, restaurants, green spaces, etc.).
21	The Learning Experience	It describes the student's experience of academic and social life on campus, such as teaching, facilities provided to him on campus, extracurricular activities, and academic and technical support services.
22	Bachelor's Graduates	Higher education institutions' graduates in any semester (i.e., 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , or summer if any).
23	Bachelor Graduates Survey	A survey to evaluate higher education institutions' bachelor graduates' professional readiness, personal skills, technical proficiency, institutional satisfaction, employed graduates' job specialization alignment, and other relevant areas.
24	Cooperative Field Training	A program to achieve a high degree of alignment between students' fields of study and employers' requirements through supervised cooperative employer-institute student internships to bridge theory and practice in real work environments.
25	Professional Preparation	Provide comprehensive and effective training workshops and programs to equip students with the necessary skills to make informed specialization choices, refine CVs, enhance job search and interview, work ethics, time management, and gain a nuanced understanding of the labor market.
26	Skills Record	A record of all personal and professional non-academic skills developed by students during their university studies (i.e., evidence of all activities and training programs).
27	Career Day	An event that facilitates an interactive meeting between an array of employers and an institution's graduates, where graduates review their job opportunities and employers learn about the available academic programs and specializations offered by the educational institution.
28	Self-Development	Enhance one's personal, professional, spiritual, and emotional skills to transform and foster personal growth and advance overall development.

N	Terms and Phrases	Definition
29	Critical Thinking Skills	The ability to comprehend and differentiate using disciplined, informed, evident, clear, and rational thinking before making or accepting judgments.
30	Post-graduation Support	Higher education institutions continue to support their graduates and cultivate lasting relationships through ongoing engagement and inclusion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation: Inviting alumni to public and scientific events, development plans, and other relevant activities. • Tailored assistance: Providing alumni with customized services across public and private sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Informative resources: Updating on relevant fields and opportunities. ○ Career support: Assisting with training, job placement aligned with skills, and annual skills showcases. ○ Community building: Participate in events, fostering a lifelong connection.
31	Educational Program	A structured series of experiences and activities designed to achieve specific learning outcomes or complete defined tasks over an extended period [5].
32	Specialization	A series of courses or activities in a structured program of learning experiences within a specific domain, leading to the achievement of recognized expertise and a designated credential [5].
Glossary of Terms for Faculty Members and Their Equivalents Survey		
33	Faculty Members and Equivalents	Faculty members are college professors, and their equivalents are lecturers, teaching assistants, language instructors, and research assistants[7] .
34	Faculty Members and Equivalents Survey	A survey administered periodically to assess various aspects of the professional experience of faculty and their equivalents, regarding the quality of the earning process, environment, infrastructure, institutional climate, support opportunities, professional development, and other key areas.
35	Scientific Research Resources	All published articles, dissertations, books, and abstracts in national and international libraries and online databases.
36	E-learning	Integrating technology, academic content, and communication channels to improve the efficiency and quality of all learning and training opportunities across various formats [1].

N	Terms and Phrases	Definition
37	Distance Learning	Delivering education and training to physically separate learners with tech tools, communication, and alternative mediums throughout the learning processes, offering real-time interaction and independent learning options (synchronous and asynchronous) [5].
38	Executive Rules Regulating Faculty Members and Equivalent Affairs	Faculty members, staff, and contractors' code of conduct at Saudi universities detailing and regulating aspects including salaries, bonuses, allowances, appointments, promotions, secondments, internal and external transfers, and return to academic work.
39	Community Service	The institution's commitment and responsible practices in contributing to the community's development, addressing its needs, and solving problems within a regulatory framework and through partnerships with relevant partners.
Glossary of Terms for Employers' Survey		
40	Employers' Survey	A periodic survey that gathers employers' insights on key areas impacting graduates' professional effectiveness in the workforce, such as preparedness, personal and technical skills, job role alignment with their specialized training, and other key areas.

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