All participants in the SHADES Graduate Student Mentoring Program are asked to take a personal resilience assessment survey. This survey measures participants’ perceived levels of support in academic/scholarly identity development and career development from (1) faculty networks, (2) family networks, and (3) peer/community networks. Research indicates resilience and perceived levels of support are instrumental to the development of strong scholarly identities and the ability to overcome academic challenges and obstacles, and play a critical role in graduate student persistence and degree completion. The SHADES mentoring program is designed specifically to help graduate students contextually navigate academic, interpersonal, and cultural environments in order to bolster resiliency and academic persistence and success.

The survey will be administered both at entry into the SHADES program and upon conclusion of the academic year. Data will be compiled to measure (1) individual resilience development/change for each SHADES participant, (2) aggregate resilience development/change across all participants, and (3) scholarly identity outcomes associated with provision of resilience-building support.

All data collected will be stored on an encrypted university web server; SHADES Personal Identification Markers will be used to match each participant’s pre- and post-project scores for study purposes while allowing anonymity within the study. SHADES/IRC program participation and participant scores and identities will remain confidential. Data from this survey may be published for research purposes, but no personally identifiable information will be shared.