

**2014 NSSE/USF  
Alignment with WSCUC  
Core Competencies  
First Year - Senior Frequencies**

NSSE 2014 Items		First Year		Senior	
		Count	%	Count	%
<b>WSCUC Core Competency: Critical Thinking</b>					
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	Never	5	1.8%	10	2.5%
	Sometimes	103	37.1%	94	23.2%
	Often	122	43.9%	168	41.4%
	Very often	48	17.3%	134	33.0%
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	Never	5	1.8%	10	2.4%
	Sometimes	80	29.0%	105	25.6%
	Often	141	51.1%	191	46.6%
	Very often	50	18.1%	104	25.4%
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	Never	6	2.2%	7	1.7%
	Sometimes	88	31.8%	84	20.6%
	Often	118	42.6%	184	45.2%
	Very often	65	23.5%	132	32.4%
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	Never	3	1.1%	1	.2%
	Sometimes	68	24.8%	78	19.2%
	Often	148	54.0%	195	47.9%
	Very often	55	20.1%	133	32.7%
Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	Never	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Sometimes	56	20.3%	51	12.6%
	Often	132	47.8%	170	42.1%
	Very often	88	31.9%	183	45.3%
Coursework emphasized: Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	Very little	5	1.8%	2	.5%
	Some	72	26.6%	53	13.1%
	Quite a bit	122	45.0%	165	40.7%
	Very much	72	26.6%	185	45.7%
Coursework emphasized: Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	Very little	6	2.2%	4	1.0%
	Some	53	19.6%	58	14.4%
	Quite a bit	126	46.5%	159	39.4%
	Very much	86	31.7%	183	45.3%
Coursework emphasized: Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	Very little	4	1.5%	15	3.7%
	Some	67	25.0%	63	15.5%
	Quite a bit	115	42.9%	178	43.8%
	Very much	82	30.6%	150	36.9%
Coursework emphasized: Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	Very little	7	2.6%	11	2.7%
	Some	75	27.7%	80	19.9%
	Quite a bit	109	40.2%	162	40.2%
	Very much	80	29.5%	150	37.2%

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		Count	%	Count	%
Had discussions with people of a race or ethnicity other than your own	Never	4	1.5%	10	2.6%
	Sometimes	59	22.8%	48	12.3%
	Often	75	29.0%	101	25.8%
	Very often	121	46.7%	232	59.3%
Had discussions with people from an economic background other than your own	Never	8	3.1%	11	2.8%
	Sometimes	70	27.0%	55	14.1%
	Often	81	31.3%	109	27.9%
	Very often	100	38.6%	216	55.2%
Had discussions with people with religious beliefs other than your own	Never	9	3.5%	10	2.6%
	Sometimes	74	28.6%	72	18.5%
	Often	81	31.3%	116	29.8%
	Very often	95	36.7%	191	49.1%
Had discussions with people with political views other than your own	Never	16	6.2%	19	4.9%
	Sometimes	89	34.5%	104	26.9%
	Often	78	30.2%	117	30.2%
	Very often	75	29.1%	147	38.0%
Identified key information from reading assignments	Never	2	.8%	1	.3%
	Sometimes	41	15.9%	42	10.9%
	Often	114	44.2%	140	36.5%
	Very often	101	39.1%	201	52.3%
Perceived gains: Thinking critically and analytically	Very little	3	1.3%	3	.8%
	Some	46	19.6%	41	11.3%
	Quite a bit	109	46.4%	126	34.6%
	Very much	77	32.8%	194	53.3%

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<b>WSCUC Core Competency: Oral Communication</b>					
Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways	Never	5	1.7%	5	1.1%
	Sometimes	107	35.8%	109	24.7%
	Often	101	33.8%	139	31.4%
	Very often	86	28.8%	189	42.8%
Gave a course presentation	Never	28	9.8%	15	3.6%
	Sometimes	111	38.9%	122	29.0%
	Often	90	31.6%	151	36.0%
	Very often	56	19.6%	132	31.4%
Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	Never	63	22.9%	75	18.4%
	Sometimes	136	49.5%	165	40.4%
	Often	57	20.7%	107	26.2%
	Very often	19	6.9%	61	15.0%
Had discussions with people of a race or ethnicity other than your own	Never	4	1.5%	10	2.6%
	Sometimes	59	22.8%	48	12.3%
	Often	75	29.0%	101	25.8%
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	Sometimes	70	27.0%	55	14.1%
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Had discussions with people with political views other than your own	Never	16	6.2%	19	4.9%
	Sometimes	89	34.5%	104	26.9%
	Often	78	30.2%	117	30.2%
	Very often	75	29.1%	147	38.0%
Perceived gains: Speaking clearly and effectively	Very little	8	3.4%	11	3.0%
	Some	49	20.9%	69	18.8%
	Quite a bit	115	49.1%	152	41.3%
	Very much	62	26.5%	136	37.0%

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<b>WSCUC Core Competency: Quantitative Reasoning</b>					
<b>Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)</b>	<b>Never</b>	34	12.5%	49	12.0%
	<b>Sometimes</b>	93	34.1%	125	30.5%
	<b>Often</b>	104	38.1%	155	37.8%
	<b>Very often</b>	42	15.4%	81	19.8%
<b>Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)</b>	<b>Never</b>	44	16.2%	61	14.9%
	<b>Sometimes</b>	104	38.4%	158	38.6%
	<b>Often</b>	90	33.2%	130	31.8%
	<b>Very often</b>	33	12.2%	60	14.7%
<b>Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information</b>	<b>Never</b>	39	14.4%	47	11.5%
	<b>Sometimes</b>	120	44.3%	154	37.6%
	<b>Often</b>	87	32.1%	144	35.1%
	<b>Very often</b>	25	9.2%	65	15.9%
<b>Perceived gains: Analyzing numerical and statistical information</b>	<b>Very little</b>	32	13.6%	31	8.4%
	<b>Some</b>	82	34.7%	101	27.4%
	<b>Quite a bit</b>	78	33.1%	135	36.7%
	<b>Very much</b>	44	18.6%	101	27.4%

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		Count	%	Count	%
<b>WSCUC Core Competency: Written Communication</b>					
<b>Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in</b>	<b>Never</b>	30	10.1%	77	17.4%
	<b>Sometimes</b>	86	29.0%	132	29.9%
	<b>Often</b>	112	37.7%	136	30.8%
	<b>Very often</b>	69	23.2%	97	21.9%
<b>Number of written papers or reports: Up to 5 pages†</b>	<b>None</b>	4	1.6%	11	3.0%
	<b>1-2</b>	34	13.5%	70	19.1%
	<b>3-5</b>	107	42.5%	117	32.0%
	<b>6-10</b>	66	26.2%	90	24.6%
	<b>11-15</b>	22	8.7%	31	8.5%
	<b>16-20</b>	9	3.6%	20	5.5%
	<b>More than 20 papers</b>	10	4.0%	27	7.4%
<b>Number of written papers or reports: Between 6 and 10 pages†</b>	<b>None</b>	31	12.4%	53	14.5%
	<b>1-2</b>	111	44.4%	124	33.9%
	<b>3-5</b>	77	30.8%	107	29.2%
	<b>6-10</b>	21	8.4%	56	15.3%
	<b>11-15</b>	7	2.8%	16	4.4%
	<b>16-20</b>	1	.4%	7	1.9%
	<b>More than 20 papers</b>	2	.8%	3	.8%
<b>Number of written papers or reports: 11 pages or more†</b>	<b>None</b>	156	63.9%	136	37.8%
	<b>1-2</b>	63	25.8%	135	37.5%
	<b>3-5</b>	15	6.1%	55	15.3%
	<b>6-10</b>	3	1.2%	17	4.7%
	<b>11-15</b>	3	1.2%	9	2.5%
	<b>16-20</b>	2	.8%	2	.6%
	<b>More than 20 papers</b>	2	.8%	6	1.7%
<b>Perceived gains: Writing clearly and effectively</b>	<b>Very little</b>	11	4.7%	16	4.3%
	<b>Some</b>	45	19.1%	62	16.8%
	<b>Quite a bit</b>	114	48.5%	136	36.9%
	<b>Very much</b>	65	27.7%	155	42.0%