



SNOW COLLEGE

Snow College Learning Outcomes Assessment Incoming Students—Fall semester

Snow College General Education Committee & Office of Institutional Research

This assessment focuses on your prior experiences, current understandings, and future aspirations regarding the "essential learning outcomes" of a college education. Your thoughtful responses will help Snow College faculty and staff enhance what you have learned prior to college.

The instrument consists of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, with one essay question at the end. There is no time limit, but it should take no more than 30 minutes to complete. Please take your time and respond thoughtfully. There is also no work limit on your essay response.

Thank you for your participation!

Please verify that you are a Snow College student by entering your 8-digit banner number in space provided below.

1. If you could design your ideal professor, what qualities would he or she have? What would this person do to help students learn? (As you answer this question, please consider class time, assignments, responses to student work, out of class contact, and other teaching practices/behaviors you appreciate in a teacher).

Class Interesting Contact Creative Easy
Going Education Energetic Engaging Everyday
Help Students Knowledgeable Learn Limits
Nice One-on-one Patience Patient
Professor Reach Teacher
Teaching Understand Willing
to Help Willing to Listen Write

Top 10 Words (by frequency)

142 students answered the question

Professor	29%
Understand	28%
Teaching	24%
Help Students	21%
Learn	19%
Willing to Help	16%
Teacher	14%
Nice	11%
Patient	3%
Easy Going	2%

The “essential learning outcomes” of a college education involve a wide array of skills and abilities. Some of these may be familiar to you as a result of your high school experience while others may be new. On the following questions, please tell us about your prior learning experiences in relation to each outcome.

2. How often during high school did you work on developing each of the following intellectual and practical skills?

	AVE	Frequently (more than 2 times a week)	Sometimes (1 time a week)	Rarely (Less than 1 time a week)	Never	I’m not sure what this means
Engaged reading	4.2	44%	34%	16%	4%	3%
Critical thinking	4.4	46%	42%	10%	0%	2%
Creative thinking	4.4	52%	34%	11%	1%	2%
Understanding and using quantitative information	3.9	33%	39%	17%	1%	11%
Information literacy and research skills	4.0	29%	41%	25%	2%	3%

3. How often during high school did you work on developing each of the following communication and collaboration skills?

	AVE	Frequently (2-3 times a week)	Sometimes (1 time a week)	Rarely (Less than 1 time a week)	Never	I’m not sure what this means
Effective writing	4.3	45%	35%	16%	1%	3%
Effective speaking	4.0	31%	32%	33%	1%	4%
Teamwork	4.2	41%	34%	20%	2%	2%
Problem-solving	4.5	54%	37%	7%	0%	3%

4. How often during high school did you work on developing the following skills for personal and social responsibility?

	AVE	Frequently (2-3 times a week)	Sometimes (1 time a week)	Rarely (Less than 1 time a week)	Never	I'm not sure what this means
Local civic knowledge and engagement	3.5	14%	44%	27%	8%	7%
Global civic knowledge and engagement	3.4	9%	38%	36%	9%	8%
Intercultural knowledge and competence	3.4	13%	35%	32%	12%	8%
Ethical reasoning and action	3.9	29%	40%	22%	3%	6%
Career/vocation knowledge	3.9	27%	43%	20%	8%	3%
Artistic knowledge and engagement	4.0	38%	30%	23%	7%	3%

5. How often during high school did you work on developing each of the following skills for advanced learning?

	AVE	Frequently (2-3 times a week)	Sometimes (1 time a week)	Rarely (Less than 1 time a week)	Never	I'm not sure what this means
Intellectual curiosity and initiative	4.0	35%	40%	17%	4%	4%
Integrative thinking	3.8	30%	41%	16%	2%	12%
The ability to apply knowledge to new situations and/or problems	4.3	47%	37%	13%	1%	3%
The scientific method in problem-solving	3.8	26%	34%	29%	9%	2%
Information literacy and research skills	4.0	30%	45%	20%	2%	3%

The next question concerns the same groups of “essential learning outcomes” your previously rated based on your high school experience. However, this time please indicate which outcomes you would like to develop MOST while in college?

6. Please indicate which “essential learning outcomes” you would like to develop most while at Snow College.

	One of my top learning priorities	NOT one of my top learning priorities
Intellectual and practical skills		
Careful reading	69%	31%
Critical thinking	86%	14%
Creative thinking	78%	22%
Understanding and using quantitative information	71%	29%
Information literacy and research skills	77%	23%
Communication and Collaboration skills		
Effective writing	83%	17%
Effective speaking	77%	23%
Teamwork	75%	25%
Problem-solving	86%	14%
Personal and social responsibility skills		
Local civic knowledge and engagement	55%	45%
Global knowledge and engagement	53%	47%
Intercultural knowledge and competence	60%	40%
A sense of vocation/career	84%	16%
Artistic knowledge and engagement	60%	40%
Advanced learning skills		
Intellectual curiosity and initiative	76%	24%
Integrative thinking	77%	23%
The ability to apply your knowledge to new situations and/or problems	88%	12%
The ability to use the scientific method to solve problems	56%	44%

7. In a few brief sentences please elaborate on ONE of your top learning priorities you identified in the previous section. Why is this outcome the #1 learning priority for you while at Snow College?

8. “Essential learning outcomes” may also be important after you graduate from college. Imagine yourself **10 years** from now and think about skills that may play a critical role in your life. Do you see yourself using these skills mainly in your professional work, in your community, (volunteerism, faith participation, political involvement), in your personal life (family, friends, hobbies, leisure)? Do you see yourself using these skills across all these roles or not at all?

	AVE	In my profession, community, and personal life	Mainly in my profession	Mainly in my community	Mainly in my personal life	Not at all
Intellectual and practical skills						
Careful reading	4.1	53%	23%	3%	18%	2%
Critical thinking	4.6	67%	22%	5%	3%	3%
Creative thinking	4.5	72%	14%	5%	7%	2%
Understanding and using quantitative information	4.1	40%	37%	9%	4%	9%
Information literacy and research skills	4.0	38%	41%	7%	7%	8%
Communication and Collaboration skills						
Effective writing	4.2	54%	27%	8%	7%	5%
Effective speaking	4.6	74%	14%	7%	4%	2%
Teamwork	4.6	74%	15%	6%	4%	1%
Problem-solving	4.6	79%	9%	5%	6%	2%
Personal and social responsibility skills						
Local civic knowledge and engagement	3.7	37%	15%	37%	2%	9%
Global knowledge and engagement	3.6	35%	22%	23%	9%	11%
Intercultural knowledge and competence	3.8	42%	19%	19%	8%	12%
A sense of vocation/career	4.1	48%	33%	7%	6%	8%
Artistic knowledge and engagement	3.8	48%	16%	9%	19%	9%
Advanced learning skills						
Intellectual curiosity and initiative	4.3	62%	18%	8%	8%	5%
Integrative thinking	4.5	66%	19%	6%	5%	4%
The ability to apply your knowledge to new situations and/or problems	4.7	76%	17%	2%	2%	3%
The ability to use the scientific method to solve problems	3.7	41%	28%	4%	7%	19%

9. Sometimes we have one-time learning experiences that are very powerful and memorable, but most of our learning involves many experiences over a longer period of time such as semesters (15 weeks) or over the length of a year. When you are in a longer time-frame learning experience, how do you know that you are learning? Listed below are several ways by which long-term learning is measured, please rank each method in terms of personal importance.

	AVE	Very meaningful	Meaningful	Not sure	Not very meaningful	Not meaningful at all
Good grades	4.6	33%	2%	1%	62%	2%
Written comments from one or more of my teachers	4.3	51%	3%	4%	39%	2%
Verbal comments from one or more of my teachers	4.4	37%	3%	7%	50%	3%
Results from rubrics used by one or more of by teachers to evaluate my work	4.0	37%	7%	22%	32%	3%
My ability to understand readings, prepare for tests, and/or complete assignments more easily than I could do before	4.8	16%	1%	2%	80%	2%
My tendency to think, read, or talk about the subject even when I don't have to for a class or an assignment	4.4	27%	3%	10%	58%	3%
My ability to apply what I have learned in a practical setting	4.7	24%	0%	3%	70%	3%
My ability to integrate what I have learned in one class with what I have learned in another class or with general common sense	4.7	28%	0%	3%	67%	2%
Other	4.4	8%	1%	7%	23%	61%

10. What does "other" mean from the previous question (please describe).

11. As you have thought and prepared for your first year of college, what has given you the most uncertainty or greatest concern (this can relate to classes or any other issue)?

Able Amount College Concern Expect
Family Friends Getting Good
Grades Hard Classes Harder Classes
Homework Love Making Money
Not Knowing Paying Prepared Ready Roommates
Social Staying Stress Study Teachers Test
Work Load

Top 10 Words (by frequency)
 154 students answered the question

Able	14%
Getting	11%
Money	8%
Concern	7%
Making	7%
Friends	6%
Homework	6%
Study	6%
Good Grades	5%
Teachers	4%

12. What are you looking forward to the most during your first year at Snow College in terms of classes and other academic experiences?

Able to Learn Academic Career Class
Sizes Creative Degree Excited
Experience Figuring Forward to
Learning Friends Fun Getting
Interested Knowledge Level Life Love
Learning Meeting New People
Music Professors Program Setting Start Study
Taking Taught Writing

Top 10 Words (by frequency)
 156 students answered the question

Getting	16%
Taking	12%
Friends	7%
Meeting People	7%
Excited	7%
Career	7%
Experience	6%
Able to Learn	5%
Forward to Learn	5%
Life	5%

13. What are you looking forward to the most during your first year at Snow College in terms of friends and other social experiences?

Able Activities Clubs Dances
Experiences Finding Forward Fun
Getting Going Good Friends Growing
Hanging Kind Live Lots Making
Meeting New People
Relationships Roommates School Social Sporting
Events Team

Top 10 Words (by frequency)

154 students answered the question

Making	30%
Meeting New People	25%
Getting	11%
Lots	8%
Fun	7%
Experiences	6%
Social	5%
Forward	5%
Activities	5%
Clubs	5%

Essay Question:

Sometime in the next few years you will be transferring to another institution or applying for your first full-time job. Write a paragraph that explains to the new school or your new employer the abilities and values you would bring as a result of your Snow College experience. Include examples from your general education experience and other courses as well as out-of-class experiences that will convince the transfer school and/or employer that you actually have these abilities and values. If it is helpful to specify a hypothetical program/job for which you are transferring/applying, feel free to do so; otherwise, you can write more general statements.

Able Ask for Help BYU Deal Dedication
Education English Classes
Environment Excited Field Floral Given Good
Grades Hard Independent Live
Problem Qualities School Skills
Snow College Speaking Start Stress
Survey Think Transferring

Top 10 Words (by frequency)

113 students answered the question

Snow College	30%
School	17%
Skills	15%
Able	14%
Education	12%
Hard	12%
Think	9%
Problem	6%
Good Grades	4%
Speaking	4%

