



# Spring 2014 Exiting Learning Outcomes Assessment

## Frequency Distributions and Mean Scores

**Dates of Administration:** April to May 2014  
**Method of Administration:** Survey Monkey using student email collector  
**Participants:** 811 potential graduating and/or transferring students  
**Respondents:** 313 students representing (39% response rate)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Although students indicated critical thinking among the most frequently developed intellectual/practical skill, they reported understanding and using quantitative information as the skill they would most likely use five years from now, mainly in their profession (58%). This was closely followed by information literacy and research skills (53%, mainly in their profession).
- ✓ Effective writing was the leading communication skill students would most likely use five years from now across all their roles despite the fact that problem-solving was the most frequently developed communication skill developed in college (98%).
- ✓ There was a distinct match between a sense of vocation/career as the most frequent personal and social skill developed in college and what the student would most likely use five years from now in their professional life (42%) and across all their roles (41%).
- ✓ One-third (36%) of the students indicated the best measure of their learning as the ability to think, read, or talk about a subject outside of a class or an assignment.

### HOW OFTEN DURING COLLEGE DID YOU WORK ON DEVELOPING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INTELLECTUAL AND PRACTICAL SKILLS?

	Frequently (more than twice/week)	Sometimes (at least once/week)	Rarely (less than once/week)	Never	Not Sure	Total	Average	Frequently + Sometimes
Careful Reading	59% 182	32% 98	8% 26	1% 3	.32% 1	310	3.47	90%
Critical Thinking	76% 238	22% 68	2% 5	0% 0	0% 0	311	3.75	98%
Creative Thinking	60% 187	32% 99	7% 22	.32% 1	0% 0	309	3.53	93%
Understanding and using quantitative information	58% 179	34% 106	7% 22	.32% 1	.65% 2	310	3.48	92%
Information literacy and research skills	53% 163	39% 121	8% 24	.32% 1	.32% 1	310	3.43	92%

HOW OFTEN DURING COLLEGE DID YOU WORK ON DEVELOPING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION SKILLS?

	Frequently (more than twice/week)	Sometimes (at least once/week)	Rarely (less than once/week)	Never	Not Sure	Total	Average	Frequently + Sometimes
Effective Writing	47% 144	41% 128	11% 35	.65% 2	0% 0	309	3.34	88%
Effective Speaking	45% 139	34% 105	20% 62	1% 3	0% 0	309	3.23	79%
Teamwork	46% 142	42% 130	11% 34	.97% 3	0% 0	309	3.33	88%
<b>Problem-solving</b>	75% 233	22% 69	2% 7	0% 0	0% 0	309	3.73	98%

HOW OFTEN DURING COLLEGE DID YOU WORK ON DEVELOPING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SKILLS FOR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY?

	Frequently (more than twice/week)	Sometimes (at least once/week)	Rarely (less than once/week)	Never	Not Sure	Total	Average	Frequently + Sometimes
Local civic knowledge and engagement	26% 81	35% 107	30% 92	6% 19	3% 9	308	2.75	61%
Global civic knowledge and engagement	18% 56	37% 114	35% 107	8% 24	3% 8	309	2.60	55%
Intercultural knowledge and competence	25% 78	33% 103	33% 101	6% 18	3% 8	308	2.73	59%
Ethical reasoning and action	36% 111	38% 118	21% 64	4% 12	1% 3	308	3.05	74%
<b>A sense of vocation/career</b>	44% 137	38% 118	15% 46	3% 7	.32% 1	308	3.24	83%

HOW OFTEN DURING COLLEGE DID YOU WORK ON DEVELOPING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SKILLS FOR ADVANCED LEARNING?

	Frequently (more than twice/week)	Sometimes (at least once/week)	Rarely (less than once/week)	Never	Not Sure	Total	Average	Frequently + Sometimes
Intellectual curiosity and initiative	54% 167	36% 110	9% 26	1% 3	1% 3	309	3.41	90%
Integrative thinking	54% 166	37% 115	6% 17	.65% 2	3% 9	309	3.38	91%
<b>The ability to apply your knowledge to new situations or problems</b>	64% 198	30% 94	5% 16	.32% 1	.32% 1	310	3.57	94%

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO BE USING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INTELLECTUAL AND PRACTICAL SKILLS FIVE YEARS FROM NOW?

	Mainly in my profession	Mainly in my community	Mainly in my personal life	Across all my roles	Not much at all	Total	Average
Careful Reading	32% 98	7% 21	16% 50	43% 132	2% 7	308	2.23
Critical Thinking	34% 105	5% 15	5% 14	56% 171	.33% 1	306	2.17
Creative Thinking	28% 87	5% 16	10% 32	55% 171	.65% 2	308	2.05
Understanding and using quantitative information	58% 179	34% 106	7% 22	.32% 1	.65% 2	310	3.48
Information literacy and research skills	53% 163	39% 121	8% 24	.32% 1	.32% 1	310	3.43

HOW ARE YOU MOST LIKELY TO BE USING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION SKILLS FIVE YEARS FROM NOW?

	Mainly in my profession	Mainly in my community	Mainly in my personal life	Across all my roles	Not much at all	Total	Average
Effective Writing	39% 119	6% 19	10% 30	38% 117	7% 21	306	2.23
Effective Speaking	31% 94	5% 16	4% 11	59% 179	2% 6	306	2.04
Teamwork	27% 82	5% 16	5% 15	62% 189	1% 4	306	1.94
Problem-Solving	26% 79	3% 8	3% 10	68% 206	.33% 1	304	1.86

HOW ARE YOU MOST LIKELY TO BE USING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SKILLS FOR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FIVE YEARS FROM NOW?

	Mainly in my profession	Mainly in my community	Mainly in my personal life	Across all my roles	Not much at all	Total	Average
Local civic knowledge and engagement	20% 60	34% 104	7% 22	33% 101	7% 20	307	2.27
Global civic knowledge and engagement	21% 65	27% 82	8% 26	31% 94	13% 40	307	2.12
Intercultural knowledge and competence	28% 84	16% 50	8% 24	40% 122	8% 25	305	2.15
Ethical Reasoning and action	24% 73	10% 31	7% 20	56% 170	4% 12	306	1.94
A sense of vocation/career	42% 129	7% 20	7% 21	41% 127	3% 10	307	2.43

## HOW ARE YOU MOST LIKELY TO BE USING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SKILLS FOR ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW?

	Mainly in my profession	Mainly in my community	Mainly in my personal life	Across all my roles	Not much at all	Total	Average
Intellectual curiosity and initiative	23% 71	5% 14	10% 32	61% 187	1% 4	308	1.87
Integrative Thinking	26% 80	4% 13	4% 12	63% 195	3% 8	308	1.88
The ability to apply your knowledge to new situations or problems	24% 73	4% 12	4% 11	68% 208	1% 3	307	1.82

## OFTEN WE HAVE ONE TIME LEARNING EXPERIENCES THAT ARE VERY POWERFUL AND MEMORABLE. HOW DO YOU MEASURE YOU ARE LEARNING?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Good Grades	21%	62
Written comments from one or more of my teachers	6%	17
Verbal comments from one or more of my teachers	9%	28
Results from rubrics used by one or more of my teachers to evaluate my work	2%	5
My Ability to understand readings, prepare for tests and/or complete assignments more easily than I could previously.	27%	80
My tendency to think, read, or talk about the subject even when I don't have to for a class or for an assignment.	36%	109
<b>Total</b>		<b>301</b>

## OPEN-TEXT RESPONSES

When asked about the qualities of their ideal professor . . .

57%

*The ideal professor is one that cares about students and does his or her best to help students succeed, not fail.*

**Student-Centered**

19%

*Teachers should be punctual and lectures should be well prepared and tailored to benefit the students and maximize the class experience.*

**Organized**

17%

*My ideal professor would actually teach and be passionate about their given subject—they should enjoy what they do!*

**Love Teaching**



15%

*The teacher would focus on teaching techniques that appeal to all learning types—visual-tech, lecture, writing as well as interaction with others in the class. They would make the subject fun and interesting.*

**Good Presenter**

9%

*My ideal professor would challenge me to learn and study the material in a way that would further my interest in the subject.*

**Challenging**

9%

*He/She would be super experienced in the field he/she is teaching—able to use real-life application rather than reading and relying what is writteng in a textbook.*

**Relevant/Knowledgeable**

2%

*This is a teacher who thinks outside the box—creative, fun, interactive. This is a teacher who teaches with excitement!*

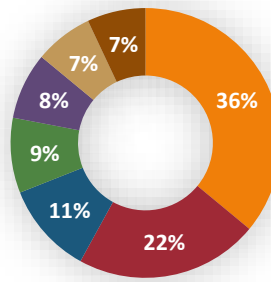
**Innovative**

The area of greatest uncertainty upon leaving Snow College . . .

Lack of Future Plans—36%

Transfer Success—22%

Life Change in General—11%



Lack of Preparation—9%

Financial Concerns—8%

Employment Success—7%

Nothing/Feeling Fully Prepared—7%

The most important outcomes of GE work . . .

38% **Being an Educated Person**

*“General Education courses help you become more knowledgeable about multiple subjects, not just your career.”*

*“Much of GE work coincides with common knowledge a person should have—they provide a healthy, well-rounded education.”*

*“They were very useful in helping me become a more productive and well-adjusted individual citizen.”*

*“I did not learn a thing in GE classes that will help me in my career. All useful information I got from my major classes.”*

30% **Nothing, GE is Irrelevant**

*“I learned some interesting things in my GE classes, but overall they had nothing to do with my future and were hoops to jump through—I felt like I was in high school again.”*

*“Very few of the GE classes help me for my major. Most were frustrating and a waste of time. If anything, they just helped me appreciate my major and I enjoyed my elective classes that much more.”*

22% **Finding/Supporting a Major**

*“I think the most important outcome was that I was able to use the knowledge gained in my GE classes to do things for the classes related to my major.”*

*“My advice would be to take a lot of GE classes and get a better feel for things you enjoy doing so you can more easily decide what you want as your major.”*

5% **Career Preparation**

*“They (GE classes) all mix together to help you in the greater goal of your long-term career.”*

2% **Review of Prior Learning**

*“If the student was smart, he or she would have realized that GE credits are basically what you already learned in high school just crunched down into a smaller time frame. So take as many college credits you can to get done with GE and move on to what actually interests you.”*

1% **Learning a specific outcome**

*“The most important outcome I can think of is the ability to write effectively. Try to connect the GE courses as best you can to help make it more meaningful.”*

*“Math. Get on the math as much as possible. It is so helpful. I would have liked to have had trigonometry.”*

