



General Education Assessment Student Survey Results

Background

During the spring of 2009, the CRC Research Office, as part of their ongoing effort to help the College assess its Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), invited current students who had completed 56 or more units at the college to participate in a survey. This survey asked students to assess how their experience at the college had impacted their ability to demonstrate the skills outlined in the College's general education SLOs.

Over 500 students were invited via email to participate in the web-based survey. At the end of the three-week survey period, 23% of the invited students (n = 115) completed the survey.

Caveats

Although each respondent had completed 56 or more units at CRC, it is possible that some participants have not completed all of their general education requirements. In addition, there is a possibility that the respondents who chose to participate did not accurately reflect the entire sample, given inequities that exist with respect to comfort with, and access to, technology. In addition, the Research Office was not able to validate that the demographics of the respondents reflected the demographics of the sample group.

Key Findings

The Research Office was pleased to learn that conducting an online survey by inviting participants to participate via their i-mail accounts, a process that can be automated and extended to other cohorts of students, was a viable methodology for collecting information.

In addition, the Research Office was pleased to learn that most respondents indicated that their experience at the College contributed to acquisition of the abilities outlined in our general education student learning outcomes.

In particular:

- Nearly 80% of the respondents felt that their experience at CRC helped them **to be a better citizen.**
- Nearly 90% of the respondents felt that their experience at CRC helped them to **present information in an organized way.**
- Over 90% of the respondents felt that their experience at CRC helped them to **use knowledge appropriately.**
- Over 80% of the respondents felt that their experience at CRC helped them to **use their understanding of what is morally right or wrong in a specific situation.**
- Nearly 80% of the respondents felt that their experience at CRC helped them to **evaluate information to determine if it is objective.**

Forty-one of the respondents took the time to provide comments. A review of these comments revealed the following:

- Several respondents indicated they could not attribute the acquisition of these skills exclusively to their experiences at the college.
- Several respondents made comments about the nature of the survey – expressing that the survey did not ask about what they felt was most important about their experience at the college.
- Several respondents made comments about how happy they were with their experience at the College, citing the quality of instruction, sharing how their experience at the college has contributed to their personal and professional life, or extolling the quality of their interactions with faculty and staff.
- Several respondents identified areas of improvement in areas not related to the survey items. There were several comments related to instruction, including issues related to scheduling and the expectations and teaching styles of instructors. Several students raised issues related to counseling services, including issues related to scheduling, organization and accuracy of information, and the adequacy of the transfer/career center. Other students mentioned being dissatisfied with the staffing levels in offices at peak time, the cost of textbooks, and the timing and/or duration of facilities projects.

A summary of the responses for each question in the survey follow on the next page.

Distinguish opinion from facts			
		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	39	34.5
	Agree	47	41.6
	Neutral	21	18.6
	Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	5	4.4
	Total	113	100.0
Did not respond		1	
Total		114	

Distinguish interpretations from facts			
		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	38	33.9
	Agree	49	43.8
	Neutral	19	17.0
	Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	5	4.5
	Total	112	100.0
Did not respond		2	
Total		114	

Present information in an organized way

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	44	38.6
	Agree	55	48.2
	Neutral	9	7.9
	Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	5	4.4
	Total	114	100.0

Evaluate Information to determine if it is objective

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	37	33.0
	Agree	52	46.4
	Neutral	19	17.0
	Not Applicable	4	3.6
	Total	112	100.0
Did not respond		2	
Total		114	100.0

Access and evaluate information using a variety of resources

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	51	44.7
	Agree	50	43.9
	Neutral	8	7.0
	Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	4	3.5
	Total	114	100.0

Utilize technology to gather and present information

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	52	45.6
	Agree	46	40.4
	Neutral	9	7.9
	Disagree	1	.9
	Strongly Disagree	2	1.8
	Not Applicable	4	3.5
	Total	114	100.0

Evaluate information and its sources critically

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	43	37.7
	Agree	56	49.1
	Neutral	9	7.9
	Strongly Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	5	4.4
	Total	114	100.0

Determine what I think is morally right or wrong

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	52	46.0
	Agree	38	33.6
	Neutral	15	13.3
	Disagree	2	1.8
	Not Applicable	6	5.3
	Total	113	100.0
Did not respond		1	
Total		114	

Use my understanding of what I think is right or wrong in a specific situation

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	55	48.7
	Agree	39	34.5
	Neutral	13	11.5
	Not Applicable	6	5.3
	Total	113	100.0
Did not respond		1	
Total		114	

Use knowledge appropriately

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	58	51.3
	Agree	45	39.8
	Neutral	6	5.3
	Not Applicable	4	3.5
	Total	113	100.0
Did not respond		1	
Total		114	

Be a better citizen

		Number of students	Percent
Response	Strongly Agree	50	43.9
	Agree	41	36.0
	Neutral	14	12.3
	Disagree	1	.9
	Not Applicable	8	7.0
	Total	114	100.0