



Western Michigan University

FSSE-NSSE Combined Report

August 2010



Interpreting the FSSE-NSSE Combined Report

Course-Based Survey Option

The course-based option asks faculty members to respond to questions about student engagement based on a course taught during the current academic year. This option is valuable for institutions that want to know more about faculty practices and student engagement tied to individual courses taught on campus.

Sample


The *FSSE-NSSE Combined Report* shows responses from both students and faculty at your institution who completed NSSE and FSSE. This report only contains responses from faculty who responded to the survey based on their experiences teaching either a lower or upper division course. Data from faculty who responded based on another type of course or who did not report a course level are not included in this report. All student responses are the same as those included in the *NSSE 2010 Frequency Distributions*.

Survey Items & Variable Names

Results from the FSSE survey appear in the shaded box on the left, and items from the NSSE survey appear in the box on the right. In each box, the leftmost column contains survey items in the same wording that appears on the FSSE and NSSE instruments. The second column in each box contains the name of each variable for easy reference to your FSSE and NSSE data files and your *2010 Frequency Distributions* reports.

Faculty Responses

This column shows the percentage of faculty who responded at or above the indicated response category. To match the response categories provided on the FSSE instrument, the heading of this column varies throughout the report.



Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses			
Percentage of faculty who reported that more than half of students from their courses do the following			
FSSE Item	Variable	Class	50% or Higher
Frequently ask questions in class or contribute to class discussions	FCLQUEST	LD	29%
		UD	35%
Frequently come to class without completing readings or assignments	FCLUNPRE	LD	22%
		UD	15%
Frequently work harder than they usually do to meet your standards	FWORKHARD	LD	27%
		UD	34%

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Student Responses						
Distribution of student responses to how often they did the following at their institution during the current school year						
NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Often	Often	Sometimes	Never
Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	FY	32%	41%	27%	0%
		SR	53%	32%	15%	1%
Come to class without completing assignments	CLUNPREP	FY	5%	12%	48%	35%
		SR	4%	13%	56%	27%
Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	FY	19%	42%	30%	8%
		SR	28%	35%	31%	6%

Student Responses

Response categories are listed just as they appear on the NSSE instrument. The distribution of student responses match those in your *NSSE 2010 Frequency Distributions*.

Class Level

Frequency distributions are reported separately for faculty who reported teaching a course of mostly first-year and sophomore students (LD) or of mostly juniors and seniors (UD). Student responses are reported separately for first-year students (FY) and seniors (SR). Institution-reported class ranks are used for the student data.

Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses

Percentage of faculty who reported that more than half of students from their courses do the following

<i>FSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>50% or Higher</i>
Frequently ask questions in class or contribute to class discussions	FCLQUEST	LD	23%
		UD	36%
Frequently come to class without completing readings or assignments	FCLUNPRE	LD	31%
		UD	23%
Frequently work harder than they usually do to meet your standards	FWORKHRD	LD	25%
		UD	36%
Occasionally use e-mail to communicate with you	FEMAIL	LD	34%
		UD	44%
Occasionally discuss grades or assignments with you	FGRADE	LD	16%
		UD	33%
At least once, talk about career plans with you	FPLANS	LD	12%
		UD	25%
At least once, discuss ideas from readings or classes with you outside of class	FIDEAS	LD	8%
		UD	16%

Percentage of faculty who reported that students from their courses do the following often or very often

<i>FSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Very Often or Often</i>
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Student Responses

Distribution of student responses to how often they did the following at their institution during the current school year

<i>NSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Very Often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	FY	17%	31%	47%	5%
		SR	37%	34%	27%	2%
Come to class without completing assignments	CLUNPREP	FY	7%	15%	57%	20%
		SR	8%	18%	57%	17%
Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	FY	18%	40%	36%	6%
		SR	19%	40%	35%	7%
Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL	FY	45%	37%	18%	1%
		SR	57%	31%	12%	0%
Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE	FY	18%	31%	42%	8%
		SR	26%	34%	36%	4%
Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS	FY	14%	22%	46%	18%
		SR	15%	22%	43%	20%
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS	FY	6%	14%	36%	44%
		SR	8%	16%	40%	36%

Distribution of student responses to how often they did the following at their institution during the current school year

<i>NSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Very Often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
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Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses			
Have class discussions or writing assignments that include diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.)	FDIVCLAS	LD	36%
		UD	48%
Work with other students on projects during class	FCLASSGR	LD	50%
		UD	56%
Participate in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of your course	FCOMMPRO	LD	7%
		UD	15%
Use an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	FITICADE	LD	38%
		UD	44%
Receive prompt written or oral feedback from you on their academic performance	FFEED	LD	91%
		UD	91%
Have serious conversations in your course with students of a different race or ethnicity than their own	FDIVRSTU	LD	23%
		UD	25%
Have serious conversations in your course with students who are very different from them in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	FDIFFSTU	LD	24%
		UD	28%

Percentage of faculty who reported that it is important or very important that their students do the following

FSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Important or Important
Prepare two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	FREWROPA	LD	37%
		UD	53%

Student Responses						
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS	FY	22%	35%	33%	11%
		SR	25%	34%	32%	8%
Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP	FY	16%	38%	39%	7%
		SR	19%	36%	37%	8%
Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ	FY	4%	10%	30%	57%
		SR	5%	11%	31%	52%
Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM	FY	22%	30%	30%	18%
		SR	29%	27%	31%	13%
Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FACFEED	FY	13%	38%	39%	10%
		SR	15%	44%	35%	6%
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	FY	23%	28%	34%	15%
		SR	23%	25%	39%	13%
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	DIFFSTU2	FY	26%	30%	34%	10%
		SR	25%	28%	38%	10%

Distribution of student responses to how often they did the following at their institution during the current school year

NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Often	Often	Sometimes	Never
Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP	FY	19%	34%	32%	15%
		SR	14%	26%	42%	18%

Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses			
Work on a paper or project that requires integrating ideas or information from various sources	FINTEGRA	LD	62%
		UD	79%
Work with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	FOCCGRP	LD	37%
		UD	55%
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	FINTIDEA	LD	43%
		UD	62%
Discuss ideas or readings from class with others outside of class (other students, family members, coworkers, etc.)	FOOCID05	LD	44%
		UD	53%
Tutor or teach other students (paid or voluntary)	FTUTOR	LD	23%
		UD	25%
Examine the strengths and weaknesses of their views on a topic or issue	FOWNVIEW	LD	59%
		UD	72%
Try to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from that person's perspective	FOTHRVW	LD	60%
		UD	73%
Learn something that changes the way they understand an issue or concept	FCHNGVW	LD	90%
		UD	93%

Percentage of faculty who reported that their evaluations of student performance are quite challenging for students

FSSE Item	Variable	Class	Quite Challenging
Select the response that represents the extent to which your evaluations of student performance (e.g., examinations, portfolio)	FEEXAMS	LD	83%

Student Responses						
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT	FY	32%	45%	20%	3%
		SR	48%	39%	12%	1%
Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP	FY	13%	30%	41%	16%
		SR	24%	36%	32%	8%
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS	FY	12%	40%	41%	7%
		SR	28%	44%	25%	3%
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, coworkers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS	FY	22%	33%	38%	7%
		SR	27%	37%	33%	4%
Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR	FY	3%	9%	29%	59%
		SR	9%	10%	35%	45%
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW	FY	17%	33%	37%	13%
		SR	20%	35%	36%	9%
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	OTHRVIEW	FY	23%	38%	32%	7%
		SR	25%	39%	31%	6%
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW	FY	24%	40%	32%	4%
		SR	25%	40%	31%	3%

Distribution of student responses to how much their examinations during the current school year challenged them to do their best work

NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Quite Challenging	Not as Challenging
Mark the box that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the	FEEXAMS	FY	85%	15%

Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses		
challenge students in your selected course section to do their best work	UD	88%

Note: Faculty responded to this item on a 7-point scale (1 = Very little to 7 = Very much). Responses of 5, 6, or 7 are coded as quite challenging.

Percentage of faculty who reported that they place quite a bit or very much emphasis on the following in their courses

FSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much or Quite a Bit
Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your course and readings	FMEMORIZ	LD	40%
		UD	25%
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	FANALYZE	LD	86%
		UD	91%
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences	FSYNTHES	LD	79%
		UD	87%
Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods	FEVALUAT	LD	62%
		UD	74%
Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	FAPPLYIN	LD	76%
		UD	86%

Percentage of faculty who structured their courses quite a bit or very much so that students learn and develop in the following areas

FSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much or Quite a Bit
Writing clearly and effectively	FGNWRITE	LD	54%
		UD	70%

Student Responses			
current school year challenged you to do your best work	SR	84%	16%

Note: Students responded to this item on a 7-point scale (1 = Very little to 7 = Very much). Responses of 5, 6, or 7 are coded as quite challenging and responses of 1, 2, 3, and 4 are coded as not as challenging.

Distribution of student responses to how much their coursework during the current school year emphasized the following

NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much	Quite a Bit	Some	Very Little
Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your course and readings	MEMORIZE	FY	34%	42%	21%	3%
		SR	27%	41%	25%	7%
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	ANALYZE	FY	28%	46%	24%	2%
		SR	39%	45%	15%	2%
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences	SYNTHESZ	FY	22%	40%	33%	5%
		SR	32%	39%	25%	4%
Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods	EVALUATE	FY	26%	42%	26%	6%
		SR	33%	37%	25%	5%
Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	FY	30%	46%	21%	3%
		SR	44%	34%	18%	3%

Distribution of student responses to the extent that their college experience contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas

NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much	Quite a Bit	Some	Very Little
Writing clearly and effectively	GNWIRTE	FY	29%	44%	21%	5%
		SR	31%	43%	21%	5%

Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses			
Speaking clearly and effectively	FGNSPEAK	LD	33%
		UD	58%
Thinking critically and analytically	FGNANALY	LD	89%
		UD	95%
Analyzing quantitative problems	FGNQUANT	LD	41%
		UD	40%
Using computing and information technology	FGNCMPTS	LD	36%
		UD	46%
Working effectively with others	FGNOTHER	LD	45%
		UD	63%
Learning effectively on their own	FGNINQ	LD	86%
		UD	83%

Student Responses						
Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK	FY	26%	34%	28%	11%
		SR	27%	39%	28%	6%
Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY	FY	35%	48%	14%	3%
		SR	45%	40%	13%	2%
Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT	FY	26%	41%	27%	6%
		SR	33%	39%	22%	6%
Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS	FY	33%	39%	22%	6%
		SR	40%	38%	17%	5%
Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS	FY	36%	38%	21%	5%
		SR	37%	38%	21%	4%
Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ	FY	28%	42%	25%	5%
		SR	32%	40%	22%	7%

Percentage of faculty who structured their courses quite a bit or very much so that students learn and develop in the following areas

FSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much or Quite a Bit
Understanding themselves	FGNSELF	LD	49%
		UD	57%
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	FGNDIVER	LD	37%
		UD	47%
Solving complex real-world problems	FGNPROBS	LD	44%

Distribution of student responses to the extent that their college experience contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas

NSSE Item	Variable	Class	Very Much	Quite a Bit	Some	Very Little
Understanding yourself	GNSSELF	FY	30%	34%	27%	9%
		SR	25%	34%	26%	15%
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS	FY	22%	36%	30%	12%
		SR	18%	30%	36%	16%
Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV	FY	21%	39%	30%	10%

Faculty classroom practices and student responses:

Faculty Responses			
Solving complex real-world problems	FSRPROB	UD	66%
Developing a personal code of values and ethics	FVALUES	LD	36%
		UD	54%
Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	FSPIRIT	LD	9%
		UD	11%
Acquiring a broad general education	FGNGENLE	LD	54%
		UD	51%
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	FGNWORK	LD	62%
		UD	79%

Student Responses						
Solving complex real-world problems	FSRPROB	SR	25%	36%	27%	12%
Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS	FY	25%	34%	29%	12%
		SR	21%	34%	27%	17%
Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	GNSPIRIT	FY	14%	19%	27%	40%
		SR	7%	12%	22%	59%
Acquiring a broad general education	GNGENLED	FY	34%	46%	18%	2%
		SR	37%	43%	17%	3%
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK	FY	27%	43%	23%	6%
		SR	39%	36%	20%	5%

Importance faculty place on campus-facilitated activities and student participation:

Faculty Responses

Percentage of faculty who reported that it is important or very important that students at their institution do the following

<i>FSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Important or Important</i>
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	FINTERN	LD	82%
		UD	88%
Community service or volunteer work	FVOLUNTR	LD	56%
		UD	60%
Participation in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	FLERNCOM	LD	48%
		UD	58%
Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	FIMPR05	LD	50%
		UD	55%
Foreign language coursework	FFORLANG	LD	55%
		UD	61%
Study abroad	FSTUDYAB	LD	45%
		UD	50%
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	FSENIOR	LD	84%
		UD	88%

Student Responses

Distribution of student responses to whether they had done or plan to do the following before graduating

<i>NSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Done</i>	<i>Plan to do</i>	<i>Do not plan to do</i>	<i>Have not decided</i>
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN04	FY	5%	79%	3%	13%
		SR	49%	28%	15%	7%
Community service or volunteer work	VOLNTR04	FY	37%	41%	8%	14%
		SR	60%	15%	15%	10%
Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	LRNCOM04	FY	16%	27%	20%	36%
		SR	25%	8%	51%	15%
Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESRCH04	FY	4%	31%	23%	42%
		SR	18%	12%	53%	17%
Foreign language coursework	FORLNG04	FY	17%	27%	33%	22%
		SR	34%	6%	51%	9%
Study abroad	STDABR04	FY	3%	38%	27%	32%
		SR	12%	6%	69%	13%
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, thesis, project, comprehensive exam, etc.)	SNRX04	FY	1%	48%	11%	40%
		SR	30%	27%	31%	12%

Faculty and student perceptions of the campus environment:

Faculty Responses

Percentage of faculty who reported that their institution emphasizes each of the following quite a bit or very much

<i>FSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Very Much or Quite a Bit</i>
Requiring students to spend significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	FENVSCO	LD	59%
		UD	58%
Providing students the support they need to help them succeed academically	FENVSUPR	LD	68%
		UD	67%
Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social and racial or ethnic backgrounds	FENVDIVR	LD	44%
		UD	48%
Helping students cope with their non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	FENVNACA	LD	30%
		UD	33%
Providing students the support they need to thrive socially	FENVSOCA	LD	39%
		UD	37%
Encouraging students to attend campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	FENVVEEN	LD	61%
		UD	57%
Encouraging students to use computers in their academic work	FENVCOMP	LD	86%
		UD	91%

Percentage of faculty who reported that students at their institution have positive relationships with the following groups

<i>FSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Positive Quality</i>
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Student Responses

Distribution of student responses to the extent that their institution emphasizes each of the following

<i>NSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Very Much</i>	<i>Quite a Bit</i>	<i>Some</i>	<i>Very Little</i>
Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL	FY	33%	47%	18%	1%
		SR	33%	46%	18%	2%
Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT	FY	33%	44%	20%	3%
		SR	20%	47%	29%	5%
Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	FY	23%	33%	32%	13%
		SR	14%	28%	36%	22%
Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	FY	12%	25%	38%	25%
		SR	5%	13%	34%	48%
Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	FY	13%	36%	37%	14%
		SR	7%	22%	42%	29%
Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT	FY	27%	40%	25%	8%
		SR	17%	36%	33%	14%
Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT	FY	47%	35%	16%	3%
		SR	59%	31%	8%	2%

Distribution of student ratings of the quality of their relationships with the following groups

<i>NSSE Item</i>	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Positive Quality</i>	<i>Neutral or Negative</i>
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Faculty and student perceptions of the campus environment:

Faculty Responses			
With other students	FENVSTU	LD	77%
		UD	86%
With faculty members	FENVFAC	LD	75%
		UD	79%
With administrative personnel and offices	FENVADM	LD	49%
		UD	48%

Note: Faculty responded to the items above on 7-point scales (e.g., 1 = Unfriendly, Unsupportive, Sense of Alienation to 7 = Friendly, Supportive, Sense of Belonging). Responses of 5, 6, or 7 are coded as positive quality.

Student Responses					
With other students	ENVSTU	FY	78%	22%	
		SR	82%	18%	
With faculty members	ENVFAC	FY	70%	30%	
		SR	74%	26%	
With administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM	FY	62%	38%	
		SR	53%	47%	

Note: Students responded to the items above on 7-point scales (e.g., 1 = Unfriendly, Unsupportive, Sense of Alienation to 7 = Friendly, Supportive, Sense of Belonging). Responses of 5, 6, or 7 are coded as positive quality and responses of 1, 2, 3, and 4