

NSSE Benchmark Questions - Seniors	2005				2006				2007				Combined			
	Mac	QC	Ext	Total	Mac	QC	Ext	Total	Mac	QC	Ext	Total	Mac	QC	Ext	Total
Level of Academic Challenge	54.69	54.77	58.00	54.85	55.13	56.85	52.17	55.18	53.50	54.14	50.84	53.48	54.59	55.24	55.42	54.67
¹ Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	2.78	2.74	2.95	2.78	2.73	2.83	2.88	2.74	2.61	2.69	2.30	2.61	2.72	2.76	2.83	2.73
² Coursework emphasized: ANALYZING the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	3.10	3.14	3.36	3.11	3.16	3.15	2.94	3.16	3.01	2.91	3.00	3.00	3.10	3.09	3.20	3.10
² Coursework emphasized: SYNTHESIZING and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	2.85	2.90	3.15	2.87	2.90	3.00	2.63	2.90	2.81	2.76	2.70	2.80	2.86	2.90	2.95	2.87
² Coursework emphasized: MAKING JUDGMENTS about the value of information, arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions	2.86	2.81	3.05	2.86	2.97	2.85	2.94	2.96	2.87	2.91	2.80	2.87	2.90	2.84	2.98	2.90
² Coursework emphasized: APPLYING theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	3.17	3.14	3.41	3.18	3.19	3.15	2.75	3.18	3.11	3.06	2.80	3.10	3.16	3.12	3.15	3.16
³ Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	3.08	3.10	3.00	3.08	3.17	3.00	2.81	3.15	3.16	2.94	2.70	3.13	3.13	3.04	2.91	3.11
³ Number of written papers or reports of 20 PAGES OR MORE	1.58	1.54	1.58	1.57	1.52	1.68	1.38	1.53	1.60	1.65	1.30	1.60	1.56	1.60	1.48	1.56
³ Number of written papers or reports BETWEEN 5 AND 19 PAGES	2.66	2.56	2.66	2.65	2.70	2.79	2.56	2.70	2.78	2.35	2.20	2.73	2.70	2.58	2.56	2.69
³ Number of written papers or reports of FEWER THAN 5 PAGES	3.41	3.38	3.00	3.39	3.37	3.28	2.56	3.34	3.24	3.38	2.80	3.24	3.36	3.35	2.86	3.34
⁸ Hours per 7-day week spent preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	3.85	3.96	3.89	3.86	3.81	3.93	3.88	3.82	3.84	4.30	4.50	3.89	3.83	4.03	3.98	3.85
⁹ Institutional emphasis: Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	2.95	2.98	3.00	2.96	2.95	3.13	3.13	2.97	2.92	3.09	3.30	2.94	2.94	3.04	3.08	2.96
Active and Collaborative Learning	49.79	49.72	50.83	49.83	51.61	51.46	36.90	51.26	49.90	49.65	42.86	49.74	50.46	50.20	46.43	50.30
¹ Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	3.11	3.05	2.98	3.09	3.07	3.29	2.69	3.08	3.08	3.38	2.67	3.10	3.09	3.19	2.87	3.09
¹ Made a class presentation	2.69	2.79	2.74	2.70	2.80	3.06	2.31	2.81	2.78	2.89	2.11	2.78	2.75	2.89	2.55	2.76

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¹ Worked with other students on projects DURING CLASS	2.58	2.67	2.74	2.60	2.61	2.69	2.31	2.61	2.56	2.51	2.33	2.55	2.59	2.64	2.58	2.59
¹ Worked with classmates OUTSIDE OF CLASS to prepare class assignments	2.63	2.54	2.60	2.62	2.81	2.63	2.00	2.78	2.72	2.41	2.33	2.68	2.71	2.53	2.42	2.69
¹ Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	1.87	1.90	1.85	1.87	1.95	1.77	1.38	1.93	1.82	1.75	1.90	1.82	1.89	1.83	1.75	1.88
¹ Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course	1.76	1.85	1.83	1.78	1.76	1.49	1.44	1.74	1.72	1.61	1.70	1.71	1.75	1.70	1.72	1.75
¹ Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	2.80	2.74	2.95	2.80	2.80	2.87	2.63	2.80	2.71	2.78	2.78	2.72	2.78	2.79	2.85	2.78
Student-Faculty Interaction	50.34	50.16	48.77	50.24	51.35	44.26	37.92	50.53	49.52	43.52	48.50	48.99	50.52	47.03	46.14	50.07
¹ Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	2.91	2.93	3.00	2.92	2.99	2.74	2.63	2.96	2.91	2.92	3.20	2.91	2.94	2.87	2.94	2.93
¹ Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	2.57	2.61	2.29	2.56	2.59	2.17	1.88	2.54	2.52	2.22	2.60	2.49	2.57	2.40	2.24	2.54
¹ Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	2.09	1.95	2.00	2.08	2.19	2.17	1.81	2.18	2.11	2.06	2.00	2.11	2.13	2.04	1.95	2.12
¹ Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	2.98	3.07	3.03	2.99	2.87	2.87	2.81	2.87	2.83	2.78	3.10	2.83	2.91	2.95	2.98	2.91
¹ Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	2.00	1.99	1.95	1.99	2.07	1.68	1.56	2.03	2.04	1.56	1.33	1.98	2.03	1.80	1.77	2.00
⁴ Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	0.16	0.14	0.16	0.16	2.30	2.28	2.06	2.29	2.29	2.03	2.11	2.26	1.41	1.14	0.92	1.37
Enriching Educational Experiences	35.69	31.11	34.67	35.17	35.90	32.32	31.80	35.55	34.47	26.96	34.52	33.84	35.50	30.60	33.92	35.02
¹ Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	2.75	3.02	2.98	2.79	2.90	2.98	2.81	2.91	2.68	2.64	3.40	2.69	2.79	2.93	3.00	2.81
¹ Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	2.57	2.48	2.50	2.55	2.65	2.49	2.38	2.64	2.51	2.28	2.67	2.49	2.58	2.44	2.49	2.57
¹ Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	2.69	2.58	2.65	2.68	2.74	2.43	2.38	2.71	2.66	2.42	2.56	2.64	2.70	2.50	2.57	2.68
⁴ Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	0.47	0.33	0.42	0.45	3.06	3.00	2.75	3.05	3.08	2.52	2.67	3.03	1.99	1.55	1.33	1.93
⁴ Community service or volunteer work	0.63	0.60	0.53	0.62	3.24	3.04	3.31	3.23	3.17	2.79	3.11	3.14	2.14	1.76	1.60	2.09

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⁴ Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together									2.28	2.18	1.78	2.26	2.28	2.18	1.78	2.26
⁴ Foreign (additional) language coursework	0.21	0.11	0.26	0.20	2.42	2.30	2.13	2.41	2.34	2.03	1.89	2.30	1.49	1.14	0.97	1.44
⁴ Study abroad	0.06	0.05	0.08	0.06	2.09	2.04	2.06	2.08	2.08	1.70	1.78	2.04	1.25	0.96	0.83	1.21
⁴ Independent study or self-designed major	0.23	0.14	0.18	0.22	2.31	2.70	3.38	2.36	2.30	2.66	3.00	2.35	1.45	1.38	1.42	1.44
⁴ Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	0.14	0.11	0.16	0.14	2.46	2.33	2.06	2.44	2.39	1.91	1.89	2.34	1.48	1.12	0.89	1.43
⁸ Hours per 7-day week spent participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	2.28	1.96	1.97	2.24	2.54	1.67	1.75	2.46	2.57	1.33	1.20	2.43	2.44	1.75	1.79	2.36
⁹ Institutional emphasis: Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	2.39	2.31	2.51	2.39	2.55	2.16	2.50	2.53	2.49	2.50	2.50	2.49	2.47	2.31	2.51	2.46
Supportive Campus Environment	59.74	57.35	62.94	59.64	61.51	59.81	54.69	61.23	59.72	57.55	63.33	59.63	60.39	58.10	60.84	60.21
⁵ Quality: Your relationships with other students	5.64	5.54	5.81	5.64	5.71	6.00	5.81	5.73	5.76	5.94	5.40	5.77	5.69	5.76	5.75	5.70
⁶ Quality: Your relationships with faculty members	5.60	5.62	5.54	5.60	5.57	5.80	5.19	5.58	5.54	5.64	5.90	5.56	5.58	5.68	5.51	5.58
⁷ Quality: Your relationships with administrative personnel and offices	4.84	5.09	4.97	4.87	4.89	4.89	4.56	4.88	4.84	4.97	6.10	4.88	4.86	5.01	5.05	4.88
⁹ Institutional emphasis: Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	2.95	2.75	3.06	2.94	2.99	2.91	2.81	2.98	2.89	3.13	3.10	2.91	2.95	2.87	3.00	2.95
⁹ Institutional emphasis: Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	2.01	1.81	2.17	1.99	2.12	1.91	1.69	2.10	2.01	1.69	2.10	1.98	2.05	1.82	2.03	2.03
⁹ Institutional emphasis: Providing the support you need to thrive socially	2.26	2.15	2.46	2.26	2.37	2.04	2.06	2.34	2.29	1.84	2.00	2.25	2.31	2.06	2.28	2.29

¹During the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? 1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often

²During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following mental activities? 1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much

³During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done? 1=none, 2=1-4, 3=5-10, 4=11-20, 5=more than 20

⁴Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution? 1=done, thus the mean is the proportion responding "done"

⁵What best represents the quality of relationships with people at your institution? 1=unfriendly, unsupportive, sense of alienation to 7=friendly, supportive, sense of belonging

⁶What best represents the quality of relationships with people at your institution? 1=unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic to 7=available, helpful, sympathetic

⁷What best represents the quality of relationships with people at your institution? 1=unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid to 7=helpful, considerate, flexible

⁸About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following? 1=0 hrs/wk, 2=1-5 hrs/wk, 3=6-10 hrs/wk, 4=11-15 hrs/wk, 5=16-20 hrs/wk, 6=21-25 hrs/wk, 7=26-30 hrs/wk, 8=more than 30 hrs/wk

⁹To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following? 1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much