
NSSE 2019 Topical Module Report

Development of Transferable Skills

Miami University-Middletown

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About This Topical Module

Adapted from a pilot survey that was developed by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, this module examines activities that develop useful and transferable skills for the workplace (such as verbal and written fluency and analytic inquiry). The module complements questions on the core survey about higher-order learning, reflective and integrative learning, and students' perceptions of their development in a variety of areas. Complementary FSSE set available.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Transferable Skills' column of this report.

Group label	Transferable Skills
Date submitted	Not applicable; comparison group not customized.
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution did not customize this comparison group; the default group (all module participants) was used.
Group description	Default comparison group

Transferable Skills (N=64)

Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA)	Murray State University (Murray, KY)*
American InterContinental University-Online (Schaumburg, IL)	Nichols College (Dudley, MA)*
ASU Online (Scottsdale, AZ)	North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC)*
Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)	Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ)*
Bellevue University (Bellevue, NE)	Purdue University Global (Davenport, IA)
Bentley University (Waltham, MA)	Quest University Canada (Squamish, BC)
Brenau University (Gainesville, GA)*	Reinhardt University (Waleska, GA)
Cameron University (Lawton, OK)	Roanoke College (Salem, VA)*
Carson-Newman University (Jefferson City, TN)	Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing (Peoria, IL)
Catawba College (Salisbury, NC)	Savannah College of Art and Design (Savannah, GA)
Clemson University (Clemson, SC)*	Southeast Missouri State University (Cape Girardeau, MO)*
Columbia College (Columbia, MO)	Southwestern Assemblies of God University (Waxahachie, TX)*
Covenant College (Lookout Mountain, GA)*	Tennessee Technological University (Cookeville, TN)
CUNY Hunter College (New York, NY)	Truman State University (Kirksville, MO)
Drury University (Springfield, MO)*	Tyndale University College (Toronto, ON)
Eastern Connecticut State University (Willimantic, CT)	Union College (Barbourville, KY)
Emmanuel College (Boston, MA)*	Union College (NE) (Lincoln, NE)
Ferris State University (Big Rapids, MI)*	Universidad Adventista de las Antillas (Mayaguez, PR)
Florida International University (Miami, FL)*	University of Houston-Clear Lake (Houston, TX)
Goucher College (Baltimore, MD)*	University of Illinois Springfield (Springfield, IL)*
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology (Harrisburg, PA)	University of Missouri-Kansas City (Kansas City, MO)
Lakehead University (Thunder Bay, ON)	University of Nebraska at Omaha (Omaha, NE)
Liberty University (Lynchburg, VA)	University of New England (Biddeford, ME)*
Lourdes University (Sylvania, OH)*	University of New Hampshire at Manchester (Manchester, NH)
Lynn University (Boca Raton, FL)*	University of Phoenix - Arizona/ONLINE (Tempe, AZ)
Lyon College (Batesville, AR)	University of Pittsburgh-Bradford (Bradford, PA)*
Miami University-Hamilton (Hamilton, OH)	University of Providence (Great Falls, MT)*
Missouri State University (Springfield, MO)	University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, IN)
Monmouth University (West Long Branch, NJ)*	University of the Cumberland (Williamsburg, KY)
Mount St. Mary's University (Emmitsburg, MD)	Utah Valley University (Orem, UT)*

Transferable Skills (N=64), continued

Utica College (Utica, NY)*
Washington Adventist University (Takoma Park, MD)
Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia (Macon, GA)
Wilkes University (Wilkes-Barre, PA)

*2018 participant

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Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

Miami University-Middletown

First-Year Students

Frequency Distributions ^a								Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Miami-Middletown		Transferable Skills		Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Discussed or debated an issue of social, political, or philosophical importance	TRN01a	1	Never	17	18	1,964	16	2.3	2.5	-.17
		2	Sometimes	29	43	4,743	39			
		3	Often	20	30	3,548	28			
		4	Very often	8	9	2,208	18			
		Total	74	100	12,463	100				
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	23	27	3,778	35	2.0	2.1	-.04
		2	Sometimes	33	46	4,671	35			
		3	Often	15	25	2,689	20			
		4	Very often	2	2	1,332	10			
		Total	73	100	12,470	100				
c. Worked in a group with people who differed from you in terms of background, political orientation, points of view, etc.	TRN01c	1	Never	10	11	1,128	10	2.5	2.7	-.14
		2	Sometimes	25	36	4,282	34			
		3	Often	27	39	4,499	34			
		4	Very often	12	13	2,556	22			
		Total	74	100	12,465	100				
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	15	17	1,853	15	2.2	2.4 *	-.28
		2	Sometimes	39	57	4,975	40			
		3	Often	12	16	3,868	30			
		4	Very often	8	10	1,758	15			
		Total	74	100	12,454	100				
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	3	3	664	6	2.7	2.8	-.13
		2	Sometimes	25	39	4,032	32			
		3	Often	33	45	4,946	38			
		4	Very often	12	13	2,822	24			
		Total	73	100	12,464	100				
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	5	5	663	5	2.7	2.8	-.17
		2	Sometimes	24	36	4,107	32			
		3	Often	35	48	5,054	39			
		4	Very often	10	11	2,633	23			
		Total	74	100	12,457	100				
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	5	5	1,013	8	2.6	2.7	-.09
		2	Sometimes	30	45	4,497	36			
		3	Often	27	37	4,618	36			
		4	Very often	11	13	2,325	20			
		Total	73	100	12,453	100				

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Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

Miami University-Middletown

First-Year Students

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Miami-Middletown		Transferable Skills		Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	Effect size ^d
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you written something (paper, report, article, blog, etc.) that:										
a. Used information from a variety of sources (books, journals, Internet, databases, etc.)	TRN02a	1	Never	1	1	423	3	3.1	3.1	.06
		2	Sometimes	16	21	2,968	24			
		3	Often	33	45	4,825	38			
		4	Very often	24	33	4,229	35			
		Total		74	100	12,445	100			
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	6	7	1,553	13	2.8	2.6	.17
		2	Sometimes	26	35	4,372	34			
		3	Often	25	32	4,092	32			
		4	Very often	17	26	2,390	21			
		Total		74	100	12,407	100			
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	4	4	1,182	9	2.8	2.7	.09
		2	Sometimes	28	38	4,368	35			
		3	Often	28	37	4,387	35			
		4	Very often	14	22	2,477	21			
		Total		74	100	12,414	100			
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	3	5	823	7	2.8	2.7	.09
		2	Sometimes	23	31	4,449	36			
		3	Often	31	41	4,592	35			
		4	Very often	15	23	2,551	22			
		Total		72	100	12,415	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

Miami University-Middletown

Seniors

Frequency Distributions ^a								Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Miami-Middletown		Transferable Skills		Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Discussed or debated an issue of social, political, or philosophical importance	TRN01a	1	Never	7	16	3,281	15	2.2	2.6 **	-0.37
		2	Sometimes	24	52	7,971	35			
		3	Often	14	28	6,660	28			
		4	Very often	2	4	4,832	21			
			Total	47	100	22,744	100			
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	7	15	6,424	30	2.3	2.2	.16
		2	Sometimes	23	47	8,278	36			
		3	Often	12	27	4,851	20			
		4	Very often	5	11	3,217	14			
			Total	47	100	22,770	100			
c. Worked in a group with people who differed from you in terms of background, political orientation, points of view, etc.	TRN01c	1	Never	2	5	1,871	8	2.9	2.8	.15
		2	Sometimes	8	17	7,042	30			
		3	Often	26	56	7,987	35			
		4	Very often	11	22	5,853	27			
			Total	47	100	22,753	100			
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	2	5	2,593	12	2.7	2.6	.11
		2	Sometimes	18	40	7,742	34			
		3	Often	17	35	7,704	33			
		4	Very often	10	21	4,719	21			
			Total	47	100	22,758	100			
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	1	3	904	5	2.9	3.0	-0.05
		2	Sometimes	15	32	5,439	24			
		3	Often	16	35	9,393	40			
		4	Very often	15	31	7,006	31			
			Total	47	100	22,742	100			
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	1	3	845	4	3.1	3.0	.12
		2	Sometimes	11	23	5,442	24			
		3	Often	17	36	9,440	41			
		4	Very often	18	38	7,023	31			
			Total	47	100	22,750	100			
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	2	4	1,422	7	2.9	2.9	.01
		2	Sometimes	12	25	6,127	27			
		3	Often	22	48	8,840	38			
		4	Very often	11	23	6,337	29			
			Total	47	100	22,726	100			

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

Miami University-Middletown

Seniors

Frequency Distributions ^a								Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Miami-Middletown		Transferable Skills		Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you written something (paper, report, article, blog, etc.) that:										
a. Used information from a variety of sources (books, journals, Internet, databases, etc.)	TRN02a	1	Never	0	0	750	4	3.4	3.2	.14
		2	Sometimes	8	18	3,801	17			
		3	Often	13	29	7,170	31			
		4	Very often	26	53	11,000	48			
		Total	47	100	22,721	100				
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	2	4	2,452	12	2.9	2.8	.17
		2	Sometimes	11	27	6,468	29			
		3	Often	18	38	6,983	30			
		4	Very often	14	30	6,763	29			
		Total	45	100	22,666	100				
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	0	0	1,679	8	3.1	2.9	.21
		2	Sometimes	11	24	6,320	28			
		3	Often	21	46	7,602	33			
		4	Very often	15	30	7,066	31			
		Total	47	100	22,667	100				
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	1	2	1,429	7	3.0	2.9	.17
		2	Sometimes	12	26	6,690	29			
		3	Often	19	41	8,251	36			
		4	Very often	15	31	6,326	28			
		Total	47	100	22,696	100				

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Detailed Statistics^e

Miami University-Middletown

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Miami- Middletown	Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	Miami- Middletown	Transferable Skills	Miami- Middletown	Transferable Skills	Comparisons with: Transferable Skills		
TRN01a	74	2.30	2.47	.101	.010	0.87	0.96	10,108	.144	-.17
TRN01b	74	2.02	2.06	.091	.010	0.78	0.98	74	.693	-.04
TRN01c	74	2.54	2.67	.101	.009	0.87	0.93	10,114	.240	-.14
TRN01d	74	2.18	2.44	.097	.009	0.84	0.92	75	.011	-.28
TRN01e	74	2.69	2.81	.086	.009	0.74	0.87	10,115	.250	-.13
TRN01f	74	2.66	2.80	.086	.009	0.74	0.86	10,109	.142	-.17
TRN01g	74	2.59	2.67	.091	.009	0.78	0.89	10,101	.455	-.09
TRN02a	74	3.10	3.05	.088	.008	0.76	0.85	10,096	.594	.06
TRN02b	74	2.77	2.61	.106	.010	0.92	0.96	10,071	.151	.17
TRN02c	74	2.76	2.68	.097	.009	0.83	0.91	10,074	.424	.09
TRN02d	73	2.81	2.73	.100	.009	0.85	0.88	10,075	.437	.09

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Detailed Statistics^e

Miami University-Middletown

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Miami- Middletown	Miami-Middletown	Transferable Skills	Miami- Middletown	Transferable Skills	Miami- Middletown	Transferable Skills	Comparisons with: Transferable Skills		
TRN01a	47	2.19	2.55	.109	.007	0.75	0.99	47	.002	-.37
TRN01b	47	2.34	2.17	.126	.007	0.87	1.01	20,168	.259	.16
TRN01c	47	2.95	2.81	.114	.007	0.78	0.93	47	.239	.15
TRN01d	47	2.72	2.62	.123	.007	0.85	0.95	20,156	.459	.11
TRN01e	47	2.94	2.98	.125	.006	0.86	0.86	20,151	.727	-.05
TRN01f	47	3.09	2.99	.123	.006	0.85	0.85	20,160	.411	.12
TRN01g	47	2.89	2.89	.117	.006	0.81	0.90	20,128	.954	.01
TRN02a	47	3.35	3.23	.112	.006	0.77	0.86	20,113	.333	.14
TRN02b	45	2.94	2.77	.130	.007	0.87	1.00	44	.195	.17
TRN02c	47	3.06	2.87	.108	.007	0.74	0.94	47	.077	.21
TRN02d	47	3.01	2.86	.118	.006	0.81	0.91	20,107	.244	.17

See the endnotes on the last page of this report.

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t -tests uses Cohen's d ; z -tests use Cohen's h .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests or z -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:



Your students' average was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.



Your students' average was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.