
NSSE 2019 Topical Module Report

Development of Transferable Skills

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

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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	5/16/19
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all module participants).
Group description	All other current- and prior-year (if applicable) NSSE institutions who administered module "Development of Transferable Skills"

Transferable Skills (N=64)

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

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

First-Year Students

Frequency Distributions ^a								Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UNH Manchester		Transferable Skills		UNH Manchester	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	3	20	1,978	16	2.7	2.5	.21
		2	Sometimes	3	20	4,769	39			
		3	Often	5	33	3,563	28			
		4	Very often	4	27	2,212	17			
		Total	15	100	12,522	100				
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	3	21	3,798	35	2.4	2.1	.38
		2	Sometimes	4	29	4,700	35			
		3	Often	5	36	2,699	20			
		4	Very often	2	14	1,332	10			
		Total	14	100	12,529	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	1	7	1,137	10	3.0	2.7	.36
		2	Sometimes	1	7	4,306	34			
		3	Often	10	67	4,516	34			
		4	Very often	3	20	2,565	21			
		Total	15	100	12,524	100				
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	0	0	1,868	15	3.0	2.4 *	.62
		2	Sometimes	5	33	5,009	40			
		3	Often	5	33	3,875	30			
		4	Very often	5	33	1,761	15			
		Total	15	100	12,513	100				
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	0	0	667	6	3.4	2.8 **	.68
		2	Sometimes	0	0	4,057	32			
		3	Often	9	60	4,970	38			
		4	Very often	6	40	2,828	24			
		Total	15	100	12,522	100				
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	0	0	668	5	3.1	2.8 *	.31
		2	Sometimes	1	7	4,130	32			
		3	Often	12	80	5,077	39			
		4	Very often	2	13	2,641	23			
		Total	15	100	12,516	100				
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	0	0	1,018	8	3.2	2.7 **	.60
		2	Sometimes	1	7	4,526	36			
		3	Often	10	67	4,635	36			
		4	Very often	4	27	2,332	20			
		Total	15	100	12,511	100				

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Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

First-Year Students

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UNH Manchester		Transferable Skills		UNH Manchester	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	0	0	424	3	3.3	3.1	.33
		2	Sometimes	2	13	2,982	24			
		3	Often	6	40	4,852	38			
		4	Very often	7	47	4,246	35			
		Total		15	100	12,504	100			
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	1	7	1,558	13	2.9	2.6	.27
		2	Sometimes	3	20	4,395	34			
		3	Often	8	53	4,109	32			
		4	Very often	3	20	2,404	21			
		Total		15	100	12,466	100			
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	0	0	1,186	9	2.9	2.7	.21
		2	Sometimes	5	33	4,391	35			
		3	Often	7	47	4,408	35			
		4	Very often	3	20	2,488	21			
		Total		15	100	12,473	100			
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	0	0	826	7	3.1	2.7 *	.45
		2	Sometimes	2	13	4,470	36			
		3	Often	9	60	4,614	35			
		4	Very often	4	27	2,562	22			
		Total		15	100	12,472	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

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UNH Manchester		Transferable Skills		UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	Effect size ^d
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
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	4	8	3,284	15	2.7	2.6	.12
		2	Sometimes	22	43	7,973	35			
		3	Often	11	22	6,663	28			
		4	Very often	13	26	4,821	21			
		Total		50	100	22,741	100			
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	10	20	6,421	30	2.4	2.2	.18
		2	Sometimes	19	39	8,282	36			
		3	Often	14	28	4,849	20			
		4	Very often	7	14	3,215	14			
		Total		50	100	22,767	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	5	10	1,868	8	2.5	2.8 **	-.38
		2	Sometimes	20	42	7,030	30			
		3	Often	20	40	7,993	35			
		4	Very often	4	8	5,860	27			
		Total		49	100	22,751	100			
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	8	16	2,587	12	2.5	2.6	-.13
		2	Sometimes	18	36	7,742	34			
		3	Often	16	31	7,705	33			
		4	Very often	8	17	4,721	21			
		Total		50	100	22,755	100			
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	1	2	904	5	3.0	3.0	-.03
		2	Sometimes	9	18	5,445	24			
		3	Often	29	61	9,380	40			
		4	Very often	9	18	7,012	31			
		Total		48	100	22,741	100			
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	0	0	846	4	2.9	3.0	-.09
		2	Sometimes	15	30	5,438	24			
		3	Often	23	48	9,434	41			
		4	Very often	11	22	7,030	31			
		Total		49	100	22,748	100			
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	1	2	1,423	7	2.7	2.9	-.15
		2	Sometimes	16	33	6,123	27			
		3	Often	26	53	8,836	38			
		4	Very often	6	12	6,342	29			
		Total		49	100	22,724	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

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UNH Manchester		Transferable Skills		UNH Manchester	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	2	749	4	3.2	3.2	-.01
		2	Sometimes	8	17	3,801	17			
		3	Often	18	37	7,165	31			
		4	Very often	22	44	11,004	48			
		Total		49	100	22,719	100			
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	9	19	2,445	12	2.8	2.8	-.02
		2	Sometimes	8	18	6,471	29			
		3	Often	16	33	6,985	30			
		4	Very often	15	30	6,762	29			
		Total		48	100	22,663	100			
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	4	9	1,675	8	2.9	2.9	-.02
		2	Sometimes	12	25	6,319	28			
		3	Often	19	39	7,604	33			
		4	Very often	14	28	7,067	31			
		Total		49	100	22,665	100			
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	3	6	1,427	7	2.6	2.9	-.24
		2	Sometimes	20	41	6,682	29			
		3	Often	17	34	8,253	36			
		4	Very often	9	18	6,332	28			
		Total		49	100	22,694	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

University of New Hampshire at Manchester

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	UNH Manchester	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	Comparisons with: Transferable Skills		
TRN01a	15	2.67	2.47	.287	.006	1.11	0.96	25,880	.420	.21
TRN01b	14	2.43	2.06	.272	.006	1.02	0.98	25,898	.156	.38
TRN01c	15	3.00	2.67	.195	.006	0.76	0.93	14	.112	.36
TRN01d	15	3.00	2.43	.218	.006	0.85	0.92	25,838	.017	.62
TRN01e	15	3.40	2.81	.131	.005	0.51	0.87	25,898	.008	.68
TRN01f	15	3.07	2.80	.118	.005	0.46	0.86	14	.043	.31
TRN01g	15	3.20	2.67	.145	.006	0.56	0.89	14	.003	.60
TRN02a	15	3.33	3.05	.187	.005	0.72	0.85	25,849	.198	.33
TRN02b	15	2.87	2.61	.215	.006	0.83	0.96	25,787	.295	.27
TRN02c	15	2.87	2.68	.192	.006	0.74	0.91	25,793	.418	.21
TRN02d	15	3.13	2.74	.165	.005	0.64	0.88	14	.030	.45

NSSE 2019 Development of Transferable Skills

Detailed Statistics^e

University of New Hampshire at Manchester





Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	UNH Manchester	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	UNH Manchester	Transferable Skills	Comparisons with: Transferable Skills		
TRN01a	50	2.67	2.55	.136	.006	0.96	0.99	28,427	.399	.12
TRN01b	50	2.36	2.17	.136	.006	0.96	1.01	28,451	.200	.18
TRN01c	49	2.46	2.81	.112	.006	0.79	0.93	28,439	.007	-.38
TRN01d	50	2.49	2.62	.135	.006	0.96	0.95	28,434	.343	-.13
TRN01e	48	2.96	2.98	.098	.005	0.68	0.86	47	.827	-.03
TRN01f	49	2.92	2.99	.104	.005	0.73	0.85	28,439	.523	-.09
TRN01g	49	2.75	2.89	.099	.005	0.69	0.90	48	.176	-.15
TRN02a	49	3.22	3.23	.116	.005	0.81	0.86	28,373	.950	-.01
TRN02b	48	2.75	2.77	.158	.006	1.09	1.00	28,308	.888	-.02
TRN02c	49	2.85	2.87	.134	.006	0.94	0.94	28,329	.895	-.02
TRN02d	49	2.64	2.86	.122	.005	0.85	0.91	28,365	.096	-.24

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.