

2002 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

Mean Comparison: University of Massachusetts- Amherst and Participating Doctoral Extensives

	Variable	Class	UMass Amherst Mean	Doctoral Ext Mean	Effect Size
Academic and Intellectual Experiences in Current School Year			<i>1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often</i>		
a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST FY SR	2.59 2.87	2.58 2.89	
b.	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN FY SR	1.91 2.48	1.95 2.63	* -.19
c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP FY SR	3.08 2.47	2.60 2.39	*** .48
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT FY SR	2.95 3.25	2.92 3.24	
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments.	DIVCLASS FY SR	2.83 2.79	2.66 2.60	** ** .19 .21
f.	Came to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP FY SR	2.17 2.23	2.19 2.26	
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP FY SR	2.18 2.44	2.27 2.38	
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP FY SR	2.24 2.58	2.33 2.79	** -.23
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS FY SR	2.38 2.81	2.43 2.83	
j.	Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR FY SR	1.52 1.66	1.67 1.80	** * -.18 -.16
k.	Participated in a community-based project as a part of a regular course	COMMPROJ FY SR	1.26 1.50	1.34 1.49	* -.13
l.	Used an electronic medium (list-serv, chat group, Internet, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM FY SR	2.82 2.78	2.66 2.82	* .15
m.	Used email to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL FY SR	3.07 3.26	2.98 3.21	
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE FY SR	2.52 2.68	2.53 2.74	
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS FY SR	1.96 2.28	2.10 2.31	* -.16
p.	Discussed ideas from your reading or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS FY SR	1.73 1.88	1.69 1.96	
q.	Received prompt feedback from faculty on your academic performance (written or oral)	FACFEED FY SR	2.43 2.69	2.52 2.67	
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations.	WORKHARD FY SR	2.51 2.66	2.51 2.58	
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER FY SR	1.36 1.68	1.39 1.68	
t.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, coworkers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS FY SR	2.73 2.82	2.71 2.83	

FY = First year students, SR = Seniors; *Effect size* indicates the magnitude of the mean difference. An effect size of .20 is considered small, .50 moderate, and .80 large.

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Mean Comparison: UMass Amherst and Doctoral Extensives

	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	UMass Amherst <i>Mean</i>	Doctoral Ext <i>Mean</i>	<i>Effect Size</i>
Academic and Intellectual Experiences (Continued)			<i>1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often</i>		
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	FY 2.92	2.61 ***	.31
			SR 2.84	2.63 **	.22
v.	Had serious conversations with students who differ from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	DIFFSTU2	FY 2.92	2.72 **	.20
			SR 2.89	2.67 ***	.24
Mental Activities: Emphasis of Coursework in Current School Year			<i>1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much</i>		
a.	Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	MEMORIZE	FY 3.01	3.05	
			SR 2.70	2.82	
b.	Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its	ANALYZE	FY 3.14	3.10	
			SR 3.24	3.25	
c.	Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	SYNTHESEZ	FY 2.80	2.78	
			SR 2.91	2.99	
d.	Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data	EVALUATE	FY 2.85	2.70 **	.17
			SR 2.89	2.86	
e.	Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	FY 2.95	3.00	
			SR 3.05	3.14	
Reading and Writing in Current School Year			<i>1=none, 2=between 1 and 4, 3=between 5 and 10, 4=between 11 and 20, 5=more than 20</i>		
a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN	FY 3.62	3.43 **	.20
			SR 3.44	3.28 *	.16
b.	Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN	FY 1.85	1.97 *	-.14
			SR 2.24	2.21	
c.	Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more	WRITEMOR	FY 1.25	1.18	
			SR 1.56	1.62	
d.	Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages	WRITEMID	FY 2.51	2.37 *	.17
			SR 2.82	2.60 ***	.24
e.	Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages	WRITESML	FY 3.69	3.18 ***	.47
			SR 3.30	3.08 **	.19
Challenge of Examinations			<i>1=very little to 7=very much</i>		
	To what extent did your exams during the current school year challenge you to do your best work?	EXAMS	FY 5.50	5.60	
			SR 5.16	5.40 **	-.20
Quality of Advising			<i>1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent</i>		
	Overall how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	ADVISE	FY 2.50	2.81 ***	-.36
			SR 2.54	2.64	
Enriching Educational Experiences			<i>Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do? 0=No, 1=Yes (undecided=missing) Means are the proportion of students responding "Yes."</i>		
a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN	FY .95	.96	
			SR .68	.76 *	-.20
b.	Community service or volunteer work	VOLUNTER	FY .88	.90	
			SR .62	.69	

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<i>Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do? 0=No, 1=Yes (undecided=missing) Means are the proportion of students responding "Yes."</i>							
Enriching Educational Experiences (Continued)							
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	LEARNCOM	FY SR	.63 .27	.50 .25	**	.26
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESEARCH	FY SR	.57 .39	.54 .30	*	.19
e.	Foreign language coursework	FORLANG	FY SR	.58 .45	.57 .43		
f.	Study abroad	STUDYABR	FY SR	.75 .25	.55 .18	*** *	.41 .20
g.	Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTUDY	FY SR	.32 .38	.20 .26	** **	.28 .26
h.	Culminating senior experience (comprehensive exam, capstone course, thesis, project, etc.)	SENIORX	FY SR	.75 .31	.70 .53	***	- .44
<i>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</i>							
Time Usage in a Typical Week							
a.	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, rehearsing, and other activities related to your academic program)	ACADPR01	FY SR	4.18 4.06	4.16 4.15		
b.	Working for pay on campus	WORKON01	FY SR	1.56 2.24	1.50 1.96	*	.16
c.	Working for pay off campus	WORKOF01	FY SR	1.58 2.45	1.88 3.34	** ***	-.17 -.34
d.	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, etc.)	COCURR01	FY SR	1.90 2.10	2.09 2.01	*	-.14
e.	Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, exercising, etc.)	SOCIAL01	FY SR	4.75 4.23	4.38 3.94	** *	.20 .17
f.	Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01	FY SR	1.18 1.25	1.30 1.93	* ***	-.12 -.35
g.	Commuting to class	COMMUTE	FY SR	1.81 1.93	1.88 2.14	***	-.23

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	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Class</i>	UMass Amherst <i>Mean</i>	Doctoral Ext <i>Mean</i>	<i>Effect Size</i>
College Education Contributed to Educational and Personal Growth			<i>1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much</i>		
a.	Acquiring a broad general education	GNGENLED FY SR	3.12 3.20	3.07 3.17	
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK FY SR	2.24 2.97	2.48 *** 2.94	-.26
c.	Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE FY SR	2.84 2.97	2.72 * 2.94	.13
d.	Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK FY SR	2.38 2.75	2.40 2.81	
a.	Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY FY SR	2.94 3.26	3.08 ** 3.28	-.17
b.	Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT FY SR	2.51 2.85	2.67 * 2.92	-.18
c.	Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS FY SR	2.51 2.73	2.71 ** 3.05 ***	-.21 -.35
d.	Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS FY SR	2.56 3.09	2.71 * 3.08	-.16
e.	Voting in local, state, or national elections	GNCITIZN FY SR	1.68 1.82	1.51 ** 1.69	.21
f.	Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ FY SR	3.02 3.18	3.00 3.08	
g.	Understanding yourself	GNSELF FY SR	2.91 3.20	2.85 2.94 ***	.27
h.	Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS FY SR	2.76 2.94	2.61 * 2.64 ***	.16 .30
i.	Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV FY SR	2.40 2.85	2.47 2.69 *	.18
j.	Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS FY SR	2.58 2.81	2.61 2.64 *	.16
k.	Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN FY SR	2.05 2.23	2.12 2.25	

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Institutional Environment: Institutional Emphasis				<i>1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much</i>			
a.	Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL	FY	2.81	3.07	***	-.33
			SR	2.80	3.02	***	-.28
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT	FY	2.64	2.88	***	-.30
			SR	2.50	2.65	*	-.18
c.	Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	FY	2.47	2.51		
			SR	2.38	2.28		
d.	Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	FY	1.82	1.99	**	-.19
			SR	1.76	1.77		
e.	Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	FY	2.24	2.32		
			SR	2.14	2.04		
f.	Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT	FY	2.51	2.78	***	-.29
			SR	2.52	2.50		
Quality of Relationships				<i>1=unfriendly, unsupportive, sense of alienation to 7=friendly, supportive, sense of belonging</i>			
a.	Relationships with other students	ENVSTU	FY	5.67	5.70		
			SR	5.73	5.65		
				<i>1=unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic to 7=available, helpful, sympathetic</i>			
b.	Relationships with faculty members	ENVFAC	FY	5.08	5.11		
			SR	5.28	5.24		
				<i>1=unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid to 7=helpful, considerate, flexible</i>			
c.	Relationships with administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM	FY	4.24	4.70	***	-.32
			SR	3.71	4.37	***	-.40
Satisfaction				<i>1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent</i>			
	How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP	FY	2.95	3.17	***	-.32
			SR	3.17	3.16		
				<i>1=definitely no, 2=probably no, 3=probably yes, 4=definitely yes</i>			
	If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	SAMECOLL	FY	2.91	3.24	***	-.42
			SR	2.99	3.14	*	-.18

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