

2015 Alumni Survey

Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

Importance of Critical and Creative Thinking Skills

Imp: Problem solving skills overall

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	89.7%	88.6%	90.6%	86.8%	90.7%	89.7%	89.2%
3: Somewhat important	9.5%	10.4%	8.7%	12.1%	8.6%	9.5%	9.0%
2: Not very important	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	1.1%	0.7%	0.8%	1.8%
Total (N)	2,464	1,157	1,307	91	140	2,067	166

Imp: Defining problems

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	80.4%	79.0%	81.8%	77.8%	85.8%	80.1%	81.2%
3: Somewhat important	18.0%	19.3%	16.9%	20.0%	13.5%	18.4%	17.0%
2: Not very important	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	2.2%	0.7%	1.4%	1.8%
1: Not at all important	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Total (N)	2,460	1,155	1,305	90	141	2,064	165

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Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

Imp: Examining problems from multiple perspectives

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	77.4%	77.5%	77.3%	83.3%	82.3%	76.7%	78.8%
3: Somewhat important	19.7%	19.6%	19.9%	16.7%	15.6%	20.3%	18.2%
2: Not very important	2.7%	2.9%	2.6%	0.0%	2.1%	2.9%	3.0%
1: Not at all important	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Total (N)	2,457	1,153	1,304	90	141	2,061	165

Imp: Breaking down complex topics to enhance understanding

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	70.3%	68.9%	71.5%	75.6%	74.5%	69.5%	72.7%
3: Somewhat important	23.5%	23.3%	23.6%	20.0%	19.1%	24.1%	21.8%
2: Not very important	5.5%	6.8%	4.3%	4.4%	5.7%	5.6%	4.8%
1: Not at all important	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,458	1,154	1,304	90	141	2,062	165

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Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

Imp: Identifying relevant ideas/information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	74.3%	73.5%	74.9%	77.8%	80.9%	73.5%	75.8%
3: Somewhat important	22.7%	22.7%	22.7%	20.0%	16.3%	23.4%	21.2%
2: Not very important	2.8%	3.6%	2.1%	2.2%	2.8%	2.8%	3.0%
1: Not at all important	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Total (N)	2,455	1,151	1,304	90	141	2,059	165

Imp: Using information technologies and search strategies to access information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	62.0%	62.6%	61.5%	65.6%	67.9%	61.0%	67.7%
3: Somewhat important	28.7%	28.9%	28.5%	23.3%	26.4%	29.4%	24.4%
2: Not very important	8.4%	7.3%	9.3%	10.0%	4.3%	8.7%	7.3%
1: Not at all important	0.9%	1.1%	0.7%	1.1%	1.4%	0.9%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,456	1,151	1,305	90	140	2,062	164

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Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

Imp: Critically analyzing and evaluating ideas/information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	74.7%	73.1%	76.1%	80.0%	82.1%	74.0%	73.9%
3: Somewhat important	20.8%	20.8%	20.9%	17.8%	15.0%	21.3%	22.4%
2: Not very important	4.0%	5.3%	2.8%	2.2%	1.4%	4.3%	3.0%
1: Not at all important	0.4%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	1.4%	0.4%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,456	1,153	1,303	90	140	2,061	165

Imp: Integrating ideas/information from multiple sources

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	68.5%	68.8%	68.2%	76.7%	72.3%	67.7%	70.7%
3: Somewhat important	25.6%	25.4%	25.8%	18.9%	21.3%	26.2%	25.6%
2: Not very important	5.3%	5.0%	5.4%	3.3%	5.0%	5.6%	2.4%
1: Not at all important	0.7%	0.8%	0.5%	1.1%	1.4%	0.5%	1.2%
Total (N)	2,453	1,150	1,303	90	141	2,058	164

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Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

Imp: Constructing clear, precise, and accurate arguments

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	63.4%	61.5%	65.2%	65.6%	67.9%	62.0%	76.8%
3: Somewhat important	26.9%	27.0%	26.9%	22.2%	21.4%	28.2%	18.9%
2: Not very important	8.3%	9.9%	6.8%	11.1%	7.1%	8.6%	3.0%
1: Not at all important	1.3%	1.7%	1.1%	1.1%	3.6%	1.2%	1.2%
Total (N)	2,453	1,150	1,303	90	140	2,059	164

Imp: Combining/synthesizing existing ideas/information in original ways

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	58.2%	57.7%	58.5%	57.8%	63.6%	56.7%	71.5%
3: Somewhat important	29.5%	29.1%	29.8%	27.8%	23.6%	30.6%	21.8%
2: Not very important	11.1%	11.7%	10.6%	13.3%	11.4%	11.5%	4.8%
1: Not at all important	1.3%	1.5%	1.1%	1.1%	1.4%	1.2%	1.8%
Total (N)	2,450	1,150	1,300	90	140	2,055	165

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Imp: Generating innovative solutions

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Very important	63.0%	60.1%	65.7%	57.8%	64.5%	62.7%	68.3%
3: Somewhat important	28.8%	30.6%	27.1%	33.3%	25.5%	29.1%	25.0%
2: Not very important	7.1%	8.4%	5.8%	5.6%	8.5%	7.2%	4.3%
1: Not at all important	1.1%	0.9%	1.4%	3.3%	1.4%	0.9%	2.4%
Total (N)	2,451	1,149	1,302	90	141	2,056	164

NCSU Contribution to Development of Critical and Creative Thinking Skills

NCSU Contrib: Problem solving skills overall

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	53.7%	50.7%	56.3%	52.3%	66.9%	53.0%	52.3%
3: Average preparation	41.0%	44.0%	38.5%	43.0%	27.8%	41.8%	41.3%
2: Fair preparation	4.7%	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%	3.8%	4.7%	5.8%
1: Poor preparation	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,343	1,087	1,256	86	133	1,969	155

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Gender and Racial/Ethnic Comparisons of Undergraduate Education Goals Critical and Creative Thinking Skills Frequency Distributions

NCSU Contrib: Defining problems

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	46.5%	44.2%	48.5%	43.0%	60.9%	45.4%	50.0%
3: Average preparation	46.0%	48.0%	44.4%	46.5%	32.3%	47.5%	39.6%
2: Fair preparation	6.9%	7.4%	6.5%	9.3%	5.3%	6.7%	9.1%
1: Poor preparation	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	1.2%	1.5%	0.4%	1.3%
Total (N)	2,341	1,086	1,255	86	133	1,968	154

NCSU Contrib: Examining problems from multiple perspectives

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	47.0%	48.0%	46.1%	44.2%	53.0%	46.4%	50.3%
3: Average preparation	44.2%	43.9%	44.4%	41.9%	39.4%	44.8%	41.2%
2: Fair preparation	8.0%	7.6%	8.4%	12.8%	6.8%	8.0%	5.9%
1: Poor preparation	0.9%	0.6%	1.1%	1.2%	0.8%	0.7%	2.6%
Total (N)	2,335	1,084	1,251	86	132	1,964	153

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NCSU Contrib: Breaking down complex topics to enhance understanding

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	45.7%	45.2%	46.1%	44.2%	51.9%	44.9%	51.0%
3: Average preparation	45.2%	45.8%	44.8%	47.7%	41.2%	45.9%	39.2%
2: Fair preparation	8.2%	8.2%	8.2%	7.0%	6.1%	8.5%	7.2%
1: Poor preparation	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	1.2%	0.8%	0.7%	2.6%
Total (N)	2,336	1,083	1,253	86	131	1,966	153

NCSU Contrib: Identifying relevant ideas/information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	45.5%	47.0%	44.3%	40.2%	56.4%	44.9%	47.4%
3: Average preparation	46.6%	46.4%	46.8%	52.9%	34.6%	47.2%	46.1%
2: Fair preparation	7.0%	5.9%	8.0%	5.7%	8.3%	7.1%	5.2%
1: Poor preparation	0.9%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%
Total (N)	2,340	1,086	1,254	87	133	1,966	154

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NCSU Contrib: Using information technologies and search strategies to access information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	46.6%	48.3%	45.3%	50.6%	59.4%	45.6%	47.4%
3: Average preparation	40.5%	40.1%	41.0%	39.1%	33.8%	41.3%	37.7%
2: Fair preparation	11.3%	10.4%	12.1%	9.2%	5.3%	11.7%	13.0%
1: Poor preparation	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	1.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.9%
Total (N)	2,341	1,086	1,255	87	133	1,967	154

NCSU Contrib: Critically analyzing and evaluating ideas/information

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	50.1%	50.0%	50.2%	51.2%	57.5%	49.4%	51.9%
3: Average preparation	42.8%	43.5%	42.2%	41.9%	35.8%	43.5%	40.3%
2: Fair preparation	6.5%	6.1%	7.0%	7.0%	6.0%	6.5%	7.1%
1: Poor preparation	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,336	1,086	1,250	86	134	1,962	154

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NCSU Contrib: Integrating ideas/information from multiple sources

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	47.2%	50.0%	44.8%	44.2%	56.7%	46.5%	50.0%
3: Average preparation	44.0%	42.3%	45.4%	45.3%	35.1%	45.0%	38.3%
2: Fair preparation	7.8%	7.2%	8.4%	9.3%	6.7%	7.7%	9.7%
1: Poor preparation	0.9%	0.5%	1.4%	1.2%	1.5%	0.8%	1.9%
Total (N)	2,335	1,084	1,251	86	134	1,961	154

NCSU Contrib: Constructing clear, precise, and accurate arguments

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	40.6%	43.2%	38.4%	41.9%	44.8%	39.9%	44.8%
3: Average preparation	46.6%	44.6%	48.4%	46.5%	44.0%	46.7%	47.4%
2: Fair preparation	11.7%	11.0%	12.3%	9.3%	9.7%	12.3%	7.1%
1: Poor preparation	1.1%	1.2%	1.0%	2.3%	1.5%	1.0%	0.6%
Total (N)	2,339	1,086	1,253	86	134	1,965	154

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NCSU Contrib: Combining/synthesizing existing ideas/information in original ways

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	38.3%	40.6%	36.2%	39.5%	44.0%	37.4%	43.5%
3: Average preparation	47.8%	46.8%	48.6%	48.8%	46.3%	48.0%	45.5%
2: Fair preparation	12.1%	10.6%	13.5%	9.3%	6.7%	12.9%	8.4%
1: Poor preparation	1.8%	1.9%	1.8%	2.3%	3.0%	1.7%	2.6%
Total (N)	2,332	1,083	1,249	86	134	1,958	154

NCSU Contrib: Generating innovative solutions

	NCSU	Women	Men	Asian	AfAm	White	Other
4: Good preparation	37.8%	38.1%	37.6%	43.0%	44.8%	36.8%	40.9%
3: Average preparation	47.0%	47.1%	46.8%	47.7%	41.8%	47.4%	45.5%
2: Fair preparation	13.1%	13.0%	13.2%	8.1%	9.7%	13.8%	9.7%
1: Poor preparation	2.1%	1.9%	2.4%	1.2%	3.7%	1.9%	3.9%
Total (N)	2,331	1,080	1,251	86	134	1,957	154