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# **Analysis of FHSU Results for the 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement by Major Department**

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A Study Detailing Engagement  
Means for Seniors at the Major  
Department Level

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## **1. Analytic Parameters**

These analyses are predicated on the following parameters, unless otherwise indicated:

**Dependent measures:** 2011 NSSE indexes and questions  
**Independent variable:** Major department  
**Sample\Population:** Students with class rank of senior  
**Notations:** Top five departments are noted in green and the bottom five departments are noted in yellow for each index. Departments with percentage of completion higher than 30% noted in blue.

## **2. Results**

The sampling (n = 409) is drawn from the larger senior population (N = 1891) submitted for analysis. The sample included 255 female students and 154 male students. Of the seniors, 339 were US residents and 26 were international students. Additionally, 108 seniors began their studies at FHSU, while 257 began their college education elsewhere. Regarding enrollment, 134 are characterized as less than full-time and 275 are considered full-time. The racial composition of this sample is noted below.

<b>Native American</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>African American</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Other/Not Identified</b>
2	6	20	318	20	43

The senior sample is comprised of the following student ages:

<b>19 or younger</b>	<b>20 to 23</b>	<b>24 to 29</b>	<b>30 to 39</b>	<b>40 to 55</b>	<b>Over 55</b>
0	151	62	65	77	9

Active department recruitment of senior students to take NSSE is always helpful. The following table details the number of seniors in the sample, the number actually participating, and the response rate.

<b>Major Department</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>% Response</b>
101 Art	9	76	11.84%
104 Chemistry	4	21	19.05%
117 Communication Studies	8	21	38.10%
107 English	9	24	37.50%
120 General Studies	97	366	26.50%
105 Geosciences	3	18	16.67%

## Analysis of FHSU Results for the 2010 National Survey of Student Engagement by Major Department

109 History	8	26	30.77%
121 Justice Studies	13	87	14.94%
122 Leadership Studies	14	49	28.57%
110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	26	19.23%
108 Modern Languages	4	11	36.36%
111 Music	5	20	25.00%
112 Philosophy	1	4	25.00%
113 Physics	2	4	50.00%
114 Political Science	4	12	33.33%
115 Psychology	10	38	26.31%
116 Sociology and Social Work	13	96	13.54%
<b>COAS department average response</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>23.25%</b>
403 Economics and Finance	11	56	19.64%
407 Informatics	30	126	23.81%
401 Management and Marketing	37	202	18.32%
<b>COBL department average response</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>20.31%</b>
235 Teacher Education	41	228	17.98%
233 Technology Studies	5	33	15.15%
<b>COET department average response</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>17.62%</b>
300 Agriculture	13	51	25.49%
305 Allied Health	11	57	19.30%
302 Biological Sciences	11	48	22.92%
317 Communication Disorders	8	14	57.14%
331 Health and Human Performance	17	77	22.08%
340 Nursing	16	101	15.84%
<b>CHLS department average response</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>21.84%</b>
<b>University department average response</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>1891</b>	<b>21.62%</b>

**Analysis 2.1: Level of Academic Challenge.** This analysis explored the difference between senior students of different major departments on level of academic challenge. This index measures challenging intellectual and creative work deemed central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote high levels of student achievement by emphasizing the importance of academic effort and setting high expectations for student performance. This index includes the following items:

- Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, rehearsing, etc. related to academic program)
- Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings

- Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more; number of written papers or reports of between 5 and 19 pages; and number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages
- Coursework emphasizing analysis of the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory
- Coursework emphasizing synthesis and organizing of ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships
- Coursework emphasizing the making of judgments about the value of information or arguments
- Coursework emphasizing application of theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations
- Working harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations
- Campus environment emphasizing time studying and on academic work

FHSU Mean (unadjusted)	FHSU n	FHSU Mean (adjusted)	Peer Mean (adjusted)	NSSE Mean (adjusted)
56.7	388	56.2	57.5	57.4

Major Department		n	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
COAS	101 Art	9	51.78	15.75	34.09	75.00
	104 Chemistry	4	56.58	7.81	49.57	67.75
	117 Communication Studies	8	53.37	13.64	34.96	69.81
	107 English	9	56.07	23.19	13.43	90.91
	120 General Studies	91	54.90	13.39	28.04	86.88
	105 Geosciences	3	40.62	2.17	38.42	42.75
	109 History	8	62.61	10.96	42.53	78.68
	121 Justice Studies	12	54.29	9.45	35.93	69.48
	122 Leadership Studies	14	59.02	13.86	29.82	79.44
	110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	48.08	12.82	38.74	69.70
	108 Modern Languages	3	51.05	4.42	46.00	54.22
	111 Music	4	52.17	9.05	43.07	60.61
	112 Philosophy	1	60.12		60.12	60.12
	113 Physics	2	58.52	10.83	50.87	66.18
	114 Political Science	4	49.23	25.57	25.01	85.32
	115 Psychology	10	62.65	8.82	49.13	74.13
	116 Sociology and Social Work	13	60.60	12.02	33.30	79.44
COB	403 Economics and Finance	10	55.09	11.94	28.90	72.08
	407 Informatics	29	58.60	12.75	39.72	92.42

	401 Management and Marketing	35	59.22	14.28	32.36	93.18
COET	235 Teacher Education	39	62.08	14.43	17.88	86.04
	233 Technology Studies	5	53.91	16.79	29.11	69.26
CHLS	300 Agriculture	13	48.41	19.14	12.96	86.36
	305 Allied Health	10	51.86	13.20	37.02	68.93
	302 Biological Sciences	10	58.54	15.48	34.96	81.82
	317 Communication Disorders	8	57.36	18.53	29.33	84.74
	331 Health and Human Performance	16	50.41	14.52	24.03	68.51
	340 Nursing	13	68.81	10.59	42.13	83.66

**Analysis 2.2: Active and Collaborative Learning.** This analysis explored the difference between senior students of different major departments. Students learn more when they are intensely involved in their education and asked to think about what they are learning in different settings. Collaborating with others in solving problems or mastering difficult material prepares students for the messy, unscripted problems they will encounter daily during and after college. This index includes the following items:

- Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions
- Made a class presentation
- Worked with other students on projects during class
- Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments
- Tutored or taught other students
- Participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)

FHSU Mean (unadjusted)	FHSU n	FHSU Mean (adjusted)	Peer Mean (adjusted)	NSSE Mean (adjusted)
45.7	408	44.5	52.1	51.3

Major Department		n	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
COAS	101 Art	9	51.76	23.24	27.78	100.00
	104 Chemistry	4	47.42	21.88	27.78	76.19
	117 Communication Studies	8	59.03	11.21	42.86	72.22
	107 English	9	62.43	18.66	33.33	90.48
	120 General Studies	96	35.36	17.94	.00	90.48
	105 Geosciences	3	41.27	7.27	33.33	47.62
	109 History	8	46.53	12.37	33.33	72.22
	121 Justice Studies	13	42.03	21.04	19.05	75.00

	122 Leadership Studies	14	58.50	23.36	28.57	100.00
	110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	54.29	11.47	38.10	66.67
	108 Modern Languages	4	57.15	10.99	47.62	66.67
	111 Music	5	46.35	15.69	28.57	66.67
	112 Philosophy	1	42.86		42.86	42.86
	113 Physics	2	50.00	10.10	42.86	57.14
	114 Political Science	4	30.95	14.81	14.29	47.62
	115 Psychology	10	55.24	14.41	33.33	76.19
	116 Sociology and Social Work	13	45.97	12.87	19.05	71.43
COBL	403 Economics and Finance	11	43.61	9.73	28.57	61.90
	407 Informatics	30	47.09	17.58	14.29	100.00
	401 Management and Marketing	37	42.69	18.97	9.52	83.33
COET	235 Teacher Education	41	46.54	20.68	14.29	100.00
	233 Technology Studies	5	48.57	11.85	28.57	57.14
CHLS	300 Agriculture	13	46.52	22.76	9.52	85.71
	305 Allied Health	11	42.21	19.92	19.05	71.43
	302 Biological Sciences	11	51.41	13.85	28.57	71.43
	317 Communication Disorders	8	41.67	20.64	23.81	90.48
	331 Health and Human Performance	17	53.36	17.64	23.81	85.71
	340 Nursing	16	64.73	23.34	19.05	100.00

**Analysis 2.3: Student-Faculty Interaction.** This analysis explored the difference between senior students of different major departments. Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve practical problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside the classroom. As a result, their teachers become role models, mentors, and guides for continuous, life-long learning. This index includes the following items:

- Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor
- Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class
- Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student-life activities, etc.)
- Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance
- Worked with a faculty member on a research project outside of course or program requirements

FHSU Mean (unadjusted)	FHSU n	FHSU Mean (adjusted)	Peer Mean (adjusted)	NSSE Mean (adjusted)
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# Analysis of FHSU Results for the 2010 National Survey of Student Engagement by Major Department

44.59	394	38.4	41.6	42.0
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Major Department		n	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
COAS	101 Art	9	45.19	23.04	26.67	100.00
	104 Chemistry	4	45.00	37.07	20.00	100.00
	117 Communication Studies	8	49.17	21.36	6.67	73.33
	107 English	9	56.30	22.39	20.00	100.00
	120 General Studies	95	37.07	18.13	6.67	93.33
	105 Geosciences	3	44.44	10.18	33.33	53.33
	109 History	8	55.83	19.50	26.67	86.67
	121 Justice Studies	12	43.33	20.20	20.00	93.33
	122 Leadership Studies	14	48.10	30.06	6.67	100.00
	110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	44.00	14.61	26.67	66.67
	108 Modern Languages	3	48.89	19.25	26.67	60.00
	111 Music	5	57.78	20.06	40.00	88.89
	112 Philosophy	1	53.33		53.33	53.33
	113 Physics	2	76.67	33.00	53.33	100.00
	114 Political Science	4	43.33	27.49	13.33	66.67
	115 Psychology	10	62.67	13.41	40.00	80.00
	116 Sociology and Social Work	13	45.64	19.41	13.33	73.33
COBL	403 Economics and Finance	10	44.00	17.83	20.00	73.33
	407 Informatics	29	38.39	19.89	13.33	100.00
	401 Management and Marketing	36	42.96	20.25	13.33	100.00
COET	235 Teacher Education	39	43.68	22.95	13.33	100.00
	233 Technology Studies	5	45.67	10.78	33.33	60.00
CHLS	300 Agriculture	13	44.62	24.86	13.33	100.00
	305 Allied Health	10	48.67	18.61	26.67	86.67
	302 Biological Sciences	10	50.00	15.79	26.67	80.00
	317 Communication Disorders	8	44.17	26.89	20.00	100.00
	331 Health and Human Performance	16	48.75	21.46	.00	73.33
	340 Nursing	13	61.41	19.48	33.33	100.00

**Analysis 2.4: Enriching Educational Experiences.** This analysis explored the difference between senior students of different major departments. Complementary learning opportunities enhance academic programs. Diversity experiences teach students valuable things about themselves and others.

Technology facilitates collaboration between peers and instructors. Internships, community service, and senior capstone courses provide opportunities to integrate and apply knowledge. This index includes the following items:

- Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, publications, student government, sports)
- Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment
- Community service or volunteer work
- Foreign language coursework & study abroad
- Independent study or self-designed major
- Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)
- Serious conversations with students of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values
- Serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity
- Using electronic technology to discuss or complete an assignment
- Campus environment encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together

FHSU Mean (unadjusted)	FHSU n	FHSU Mean (adjusted)	Peer Mean (adjusted)	NSSE Mean (adjusted)
32.30	380	32.7	38.4	40.5

Major Department		n	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
COAS	101 Art	9	33.07	11.47	13.49	50.00
	104 Chemistry	4	31.75	17.71	15.08	48.41
	117 Communication Studies	7	39.97	9.44	28.97	53.97
	107 English	9	47.55	16.66	20.00	76.19
	120 General Studies	90	28.66	14.24	.00	66.27
	105 Geosciences	3	18.96	5.97	13.89	25.54
	109 History	8	39.78	15.13	22.22	65.87
	121 Justice Studies	12	35.07	12.24	15.08	61.11
	122 Leadership Studies	14	36.85	18.20	3.97	69.44
	110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	30.40	9.94	16.67	42.46
	108 Modern Languages	4	52.58	13.68	34.92	67.06
	111 Music	3	34.13	4.47	31.35	39.29
	112 Philosophy	1	37.23		37.23	37.23
	113 Physics	2	37.90	1.40	36.90	38.89



	114 Political Science	4	22.82	11.00	8.33	33.33
	115 Psychology	10	39.64	14.98	25.00	70.24
	116 Sociology and Social Work	13	35.10	17.72	.00	65.08
COBL	403 Economics and Finance	8	23.85	11.92	5.16	41.67
	407 Informatics	29	36.07	15.73	5.56	67.86
	401 Management and Marketing	35	32.65	16.88	8.33	72.22
COET	235 Teacher Education	37	35.44	15.76	8.33	86.11
	233 Technology Studies	5	30.40	19.99	13.49	59.52
CHLS	300 Agriculture	12	26.80	10.63	8.33	51.19
	305 Allied Health	10	28.23	12.94	5.56	52.38
	302 Biological Sciences	10	39.37	14.95	19.44	62.30
	317 Communication Disorders	8	22.77	19.41	2.78	62.30
	331 Health and Human Performance	15	35.99	22.73	2.78	78.57
	340 Nursing	13	41.92	15.95	20.63	65.08

**Analysis 2.5: Supportive Campus Environment.** This analysis explored the difference between senior students. Students perform better and are more satisfied at colleges that are committed to their success and cultivate positive working and social relations among different groups on campus. This index includes the following items:

- Campus environment provides the support you need to help you succeed academically
- Campus environment helps you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)
- Campus environment provides the support you need to thrive socially
- Quality of relationships with other students
- Quality of relationships with faculty members
- Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices

FHSU Mean (unadjusted)	FHSU n	FHSU Mean (adjusted)	Peer Mean (adjusted)	NSSE Mean (adjusted)
60.62	372	59.8	59.6	59.1

Major Department		n	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
COAS	101 Art	9	63.27	18.20	41.67	100.00
	104 Chemistry	4	56.94	21.46	36.11	80.56
	117 Communication Studies	7	51.98	17.03	30.56	77.78
	107 English	8	71.53	21.40	36.11	100.00
	120 General Studies	88	57.65	17.10	16.67	97.22

Analysis of FHSU Results for the 2010 National Survey of Student Engagement by Major Department

	105 Geosciences	3	81.48	8.49	72.22	88.89
	109 History	8	62.15	22.81	30.56	100.00
	121 Justice Studies	12	63.10	22.05	27.78	91.67
	122 Leadership Studies	14	58.93	17.74	22.22	83.33
	110 Mathematics and Computer Science	5	54.44	32.49	2.78	86.11
	108 Modern Languages	4	51.39	3.59	47.22	55.56
	111 Music	3	64.44	17.10	50.00	83.33
	112 Philosophy	0				
	113 Physics	2	79.17	29.46	58.33	100.00
	114 Political Science	4	53.47	21.68	22.22	72.22
	115 Psychology	10	65.83	13.29	36.11	80.56
	116 Sociology and Social Work	13	60.17	14.13	38.89	77.78
COBL	403 Economics and Finance	8	59.03	10.47	47.22	77.78
	407 Informatics	28	58.92	15.41	30.56	94.44
	401 Management and Marketing	35	56.83	19.13	11.11	91.67
COET	235 Teacher Education	37	60.29	19.25	33.33	100.00
	233 Technology Studies	5	79.44	9.74	69.44	94.44
CHLS	300 Agriculture	11	59.60	28.04	11.11	100.00
	305 Allied Health	10	65.56	16.78	41.67	100.00
	302 Biological Sciences	10	66.67	20.37	22.22	100.00
	317 Communication Disorders	8	58.68	18.02	30.56	83.33
	331 Health and Human Performance	13	60.90	19.09	33.33	88.89
	340 Nursing	13	62.18	17.99	41.67	100.00