

News from Institutional Research

This issue of "News from Institutional Research" reports on the results of the 2011 College Student Survey completed by 566 undergraduate seniors in the spring of 2011, 92% of the traditional undergraduates eligible to graduate. A complete frequency count for each major included in each "division" (2010-11 academic year) can be found on the third page.

2011 Graduating Seniors - Comparisons by Academic Divisions

<u>"DIVISION"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>
Biological Sciences	90 (16% of total)	44 (49%)	46 (51%)
Business	93 (16% " ")	53 (57%)	40 (43%)
Humanities	63 (11% " ")	21 (33%)	42 (67%)
Nursing	62 (11% " ")	8 (13%)	54 (87%)
Physical Sciences	47 (8% " ")	30 (64%)	17 (36%)
Pre-Professional (see page three)	123 (22% " ")	26 (21%)	97 (79%)
Psychology	50 (9% " ")	11 (22%)	39 (78%)
Social Sciences (except Psychology)	38 (7% " ")	16 (42%)	22 (58%)

Career Considerations

Seniors were asked to indicate what considerations were important to them when thinking about a career path, using a 4 point scale (1 = not important, 2 = somewhat important, 3 = very important and 4 = essential).

The "career concerns" are listed in descending order of importance to survey respondents. A comparison of means using analysis of variance with post hoc tests revealed differences on seven of the ten considerations. There were no differences on work/life balance, availability of jobs and expression of personal values. In the chart below, the significantly different means are indicated by arrows (\blacktriangle = highest mean, \blacktriangledown = lowest mean).

Career Concerns:	All Seniors	Biological Sciences	COBA	Humanities	Nursing	Physical Sciences	Pre-Profess.	Psychology	Social Sciences
Work/life balance	3.37	3.26	3.32	3.37	3.38	3.36	3.46	3.47	3.41
Stable, secure future ($p < .000$)	3.25	3.32 \blacktriangle	3.39 \blacktriangle	2.88 \blacktriangledown	3.34 \blacktriangle	3.14	3.32 \blacktriangle	3.36 \blacktriangle	3.03
Availability of jobs	3.05	3.03	3.07	2.81	3.21	3.07	3.15	3.00	2.91
Ability to pay off debt ($p < .007$)	3.03	3.08	2.83 \blacktriangledown	2.79 \blacktriangledown	3.11	3.00	3.21 \blacktriangle	3.26 \blacktriangle	2.78 \blacktriangledown
Expression of personal values	2.96	2.94	2.89	3.19	2.94	2.76	2.96	3.00	3.00
Leadership potential ($p < .000$)	2.92	2.96	3.26 \blacktriangle	2.65 \blacktriangledown	2.96	2.81	2.90	2.70 \blacktriangledown	2.84
Creativity and initiative ($p < .022$)	2.72	2.53 \blacktriangledown	2.75	3.04 \blacktriangle	2.64 \blacktriangledown	2.62 \blacktriangledown	2.78	2.57 \blacktriangledown	2.84
Working for social change ($p < .000$)	2.63	2.52	2.26 \blacktriangledown	2.89	2.74	2.36 \blacktriangledown	2.66	2.87	3.16 \blacktriangle
High income potential ($p < .000$)	2.52	2.56	2.98 \blacktriangle	2.16 \blacktriangledown	2.60	2.57	2.41 \blacktriangledown	2.49	2.06 \blacktriangledown
Social recognition or status ($p < .001$)	2.19	2.22	2.55 \blacktriangle	1.96 \blacktriangledown	2.21	2.24	2.14 \blacktriangledown	2.06	1.87 \blacktriangledown

2011 Graduating Seniors - Comparisons by Academic Division

Typical Weekly Schedule

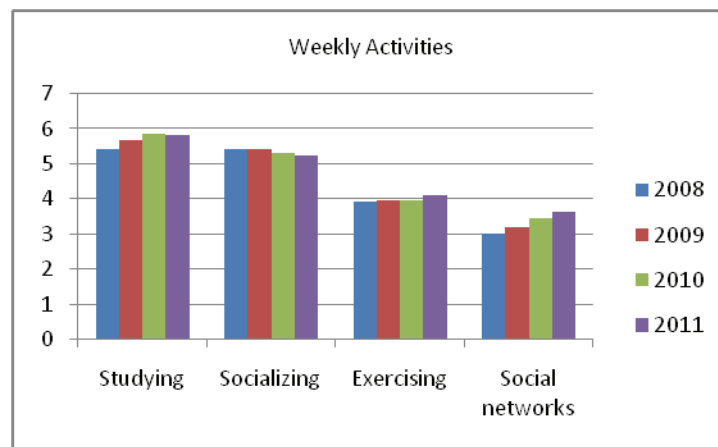
Seniors were asked to indicate how many hours they spent in the past year, during a typical week, on fourteen different activities using an 8 point scale (1 = none, 2 = less than 1 hour, 3 = 1-2 hours, 4 = 3-5 hours, 5 = 6-10 hours, 6 = 11-15 hours, 7 = 16-20 hours and 8 = over 20 hours).

The “activities” are listed in descending order of time spent. A comparison of means using analysis of variance with post hoc tests revealed differences on nine of the fourteen activities. There were no differences in the time spent with online social networks, student clubs/groups, housework/childcare, commuting or prayer/meditation. In the chart below, the significantly different means are indicated by arrows (▲ = highest mean, ▼ = lowest mean).

The question asking the amount of time spent with “online social networks” has been included in the survey since 2008. In 2008, the mean score (using the identical scale) was 3.0 and the mean ranked 10th in the list. In 2009, the amount of time spent with “online social networks” ranked 7th with a mean of 3.20. Last year, the amount of time spent with “online social networks” also ranked 7th but the mean score rose to 3.44. As indicated below, the amount of time spent with “online social networks” now ranks 5th with a mean score of 3.64.

The graph at the top of the following page shows changes in the amount of time spent studying, socializing, exercising and using social networks over the past four years.

Mean Scores	All Seniors	Biological Science	COBA	Humanities	Nursing	Physical Science	Pre-Profess	Psychology	Social Science
Attending classes/labs (p<.000)	6.35	6.67▲	6.19	6.25	6.57	6.78▲	6.11▼	6.06▼	6.37
Studying/homework (p<.000)	5.82	6.55▲	5.24▼	5.52▼	6.00	6.37	5.70▼	5.71▼	5.63▼
Socializing with friends (p<.000)	5.25	5.52	5.65▲	5.23	4.55▼	5.50	4.99▼	5.27	5.29
Exercising/sports (p<.024)	4.10	4.27	4.47▲	3.80▼	4.13	4.00	4.11	3.73▼	3.80▼
Online social networks (MySpace, Facebook, etc.)	3.64	3.64	3.91	3.57	3.38	3.26	3.71	3.90	3.46
Watching TV (p<.014)	3.54	3.26▼	3.98▲	3.20▼	3.65	3.37▼	3.64	3.54	3.34▼
Working for pay off campus (p<.000)	3.52	2.37▼	4.22▲	3.85	3.22	2.78	4.26▲	3.63	2.91
Partying (p<.000)	3.43	3.39▼	4.19▲	3.33▼	2.98▼	3.15▼	3.35▼	3.33▼	3.20▼
Student clubs/groups	3.33	3.51	3.54	3.42	2.82	3.39	3.35	3.04	3.29
Working for pay on campus (p<.000)	3.23	3.82▲	2.79▼	2.93	2.22▼	3.76	3.02	4.21▲	3.83▲
Career Planning (job searches, internships, etc.) (p<.003)	3.05	2.74▼	3.15	2.65▼	3.03	2.89	3.44▲	3.19	3.00
Housework/childcare	2.61	2.60	2.43	2.63	3.28	2.24	2.66	2.52	2.34
Commuting	2.59	2.31	2.49	2.77	2.93	2.37	2.74	2.50	2.54
Prayer/meditation	2.25	1.99	2.33	2.42	2.35	2.13	2.35	2.25	2.03



The following details the number of students completing the survey by major field of study.

	Biological Science	COBA	Humanities	Nursing	Physical Science	Pre-Profess.	Psychology	Social Science
Biology	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Environmental Science	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emergency Medical Services	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Economics	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1
Accounting	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finance	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
International Business	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marketing	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Management	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Management Information Systems	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Communication Studies	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0
English	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0
Fine Arts	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Language	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Philosophy	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Theology	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Nursing	0	0	0	62	0	0	0	0
Atmospheric Science	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Biochemistry	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
Chemistry	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0
Computer Science	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Math	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
Physics	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
Elementary Education	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
Exercise Science	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0
Health Administration Policy	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0
Journalism	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0
Pharmacy/Therapy	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0
Social Work	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Psychology	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Anthropology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
History	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Justice and Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Political Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Sociology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	90	93	63	62	47	123	50	38