



NSSE 2013
Development of Transferable Skills Module
Emporia State University

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Development of Transferable Skills Module

Adapted from the Degrees of Preparation survey (American Association of State Colleges and Universities), this module examines engagement in activities that develop useful and transferable skills for the workplace such as verbal and written fluency and analytic inquiry.

Development of Transferable Skills Comparison Group

This section summarizes how your Development of Transferable Skills 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	Not applicable; comparison group not customized.
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution did not customize this comparison group; the default group (all module participants) was used.
Group description	Default comparison group

'Transferable Skills' institutions (N=79)

Alberta College of Art + Design (Calgary, AB)	Lewis & Clark College (Portland, OR)
Armstrong Atlantic State University (Savannah, GA)	LIM College (New York, NY)
Avila University (Kansas City, MO)	Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College (Baton Rouge, LA)
Bemidji State University (Bemidji, MN)	Loyola University Chicago (Chicago, IL)
Berry College (Mount Berry, GA)	Marlboro College (Marlboro, VT)
Canadian University College (Lacombe, AB)	McPherson College (McPherson, KS)
Carthage College (Kenosha, WI)	Metropolitan State University (Saint Paul, MN)
Central College (Pella, IA)	Mississippi State University (Mississippi State, MS)
Central Methodist University (Fayette, MO)	Mount Royal University (Calgary, AB)
Chadron State College (Chadron, NE)	National American University-Sioux Falls (Sioux Falls, SD)
Chapman University (Orange, CA)	Ohio Dominican University (Columbus, OH)
Coleman University (San Diego, CA)	Ohio Northern University (Ada, OH)
College of Saint Elizabeth (Morristown, NJ)	Pacific Union College (Angwin, CA)
College of William & Mary (Williamsburg, VA)	Peru State College (Peru, NE)
Colorado Mesa University (Grand Junction, CO)	Quest University Canada (Squamish, BC)
Concord University (Athens, WV)	Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, IN)
Concordia University (Portland, OR)	Saint Mary's College of California (Moraga, CA)
Covenant College (Lookout Mountain, GA)	Saint Xavier University (Chicago, IL)
DeSales University (Center Valley, PA)	Savannah College of Art and Design (Savannah, GA)
Dominican College of Blauvelt (Orangeburg, NY)	Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, NY)
Framingham State University (Framingham, MA)	Southwestern Assemblies of God University (Waxahachie, TX)
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge, NH)	St. Bonaventure University (Saint Bonaventure, NY)
Golden Gate University-San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)	St. Mary's College of Maryland (Saint Mary's City, MD)
Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI)	Stevenson University (Stevenson, MD)
Hartwick College (Oneonta, NY)	Thiel College (Greenville, PA)
Iona College (New Rochelle, NY)	Trevecca Nazarene University (Nashville, TN)
Iowa State University (Ames, IA)	Trinity Western University (Langley, BC)
Johnson University (Knoxville, TN)	Union College (Barbourville, KY)
La Sierra University (Riverside, CA)	University of Akron (Akron, OH)
Lawrence University (Appleton, WI)	University of Colorado Denver (Denver, CO)

'Transferable Skills' institutions (N=79), continued

University of La Verne (La Verne, CA)
University of Maine at Augusta (Augusta, ME)
University of Mount Union (Alliance, OH)
University of Nebraska at Kearney (Kearney, NE)
University of Nebraska at Lincoln (Lincoln, NE)
University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)
University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)
University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)
University of Northern Iowa (Cedar Falls, IA)
University of Pikeville (Pikeville, KY)
University of South Carolina Columbia (Columbia, SC)
University of the Cumberlands (Williamsburg, KY)
University of West Florida, The (Pensacola, FL)
Walsh University (North Canton, OH)
Wartburg College (Waverly, IA)
Wilmington University (New Castle, DE)
Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC)
York College of Pennsylvania (York, PA)
Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH)

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Emporia State		Transferable Skills		Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Effect size ^d
				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	37	13	2,055	13	2.6	2.6	-.04
		2	Sometimes	102	37	6,001	36			
		3	Often	82	31	5,270	31			
		4	Very often	44	19	3,367	20			
		Total		265	100	16,693	100			
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	29	10	3,907	24	2.5	2.2 ***	.34
		2	Sometimes	119	45	7,308	43			
		3	Often	78	29	3,688	22			
		4	Very often	37	16	1,734	10			
		Total		263	100	16,637	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	8	3	1,079	7	2.8	2.7 *	.13
		2	Sometimes	99	37	6,045	37			
		3	Often	102	38	6,286	37			
		4	Very often	56	22	3,244	19			
		Total		265	100	16,654	100			
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	34	12	2,478	15	2.5	2.4	.02
		2	Sometimes	114	43	6,734	40			
		3	Often	84	33	5,180	31			
		4	Very often	29	12	2,261	14			
		Total		261	100	16,653	100			
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	12	4	923	6	2.8	2.8	-.02
		2	Sometimes	98	36	5,233	31			
		3	Often	96	37	6,571	39			
		4	Very often	58	23	3,896	24			
		Total		264	100	16,623	100			
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	13	5	987	6	2.8	2.8	-.01
		2	Sometimes	95	35	5,521	33			
		3	Often	105	41	6,551	39			
		4	Very often	49	19	3,535	22			
		Total		262	100	16,594	100			
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	22	8	1,391	9	2.7	2.7	.01
		2	Sometimes	101	37	6,015	36			
		3	Often	95	35	5,944	35			
		4	Very often	47	20	3,230	20			
		Total		265	100	16,580	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Emporia State		Transferable Skills		Emporia State	Transferable Skills	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
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	8	3	590	4	3.2	3.0 **	.19
		2	Sometimes	49	19	3,712	24			
		3	Often	92	34	6,244	37			
		4	Very often	116	44	6,154	35			
			Total	265	100	16,700	100			
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	46	17	2,184	14	2.6	2.6	.03
		2	Sometimes	76	29	5,682	35			
		3	Often	87	33	5,438	32			
		4	Very often	55	21	3,359	20			
			Total	264	100	16,663	100			
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	24	9	1,751	12	2.7	2.6	.11
		2	Sometimes	88	33	5,581	34			
		3	Often	89	34	5,779	34			
		4	Very often	63	24	3,542	20			
			Total	264	100	16,653	100			
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	22	8	1,344	9	2.8	2.7	.11
		2	Sometimes	81	31	5,662	34			
		3	Often	95	36	5,997	35			
		4	Very often	66	25	3,620	21			
			Total	264	100	16,623	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Emporia State		Transferable Skills		Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Effect size ^d
				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	36	12	2,179	11	2.5	2.7 *	-.15
		2	Sometimes	124	41	6,904	34			
		3	Often	75	26	6,162	30			
		4	Very often	54	20	5,123	25			
		Total		289	100	20,368	100			
b. Made a speech to a group	TRN01b	1	Never	45	16	2,794	14	2.5	2.5	-.05
		2	Sometimes	109	40	7,933	39			
		3	Often	81	28	5,913	29			
		4	Very often	51	16	3,660	18			
		Total		286	100	20,300	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	18	6	1,007	5	2.8	2.9	-.02
		2	Sometimes	79	29	6,155	30			
		3	Often	109	39	7,732	38			
		4	Very often	80	26	5,430	27			
		Total		286	100	20,324	100			
d. Discussed the ethical consequences of a course of action	TRN01d	1	Never	36	12	2,141	11	2.6	2.6	-.02
		2	Sometimes	107	37	7,536	37			
		3	Often	90	32	6,724	33			
		4	Very often	56	19	3,901	19			
		Total		289	100	20,302	100			
e. Creatively thought about new ideas or about ways to improve things	TRN01e	1	Never	15	5	711	4	3.0	3.0	-.02
		2	Sometimes	60	21	4,785	24			
		3	Often	119	42	7,919	39			
		4	Very often	95	32	6,869	34			
		Total		289	100	20,284	100			
f. Critically evaluated multiple solutions to a problem	TRN01f	1	Never	10	3	721	4	3.0	3.0	.01
		2	Sometimes	75	26	4,857	24			
		3	Often	106	38	8,292	41			
		4	Very often	97	33	6,415	32			
		Total		288	100	20,285	100			
g. Discussed complex problems with others to develop a better solution	TRN01g	1	Never	17	6	998	5	2.9	2.9	-.04
		2	Sometimes	85	30	5,579	28			
		3	Often	102	36	7,698	38			
		4	Very often	82	29	5,948	29			
		Total		286	100	20,223	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Emporia State		Transferable Skills		Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Effect size ^d
				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	14	5	613	3	3.1	3.2 *	-.12
		2	Sometimes	67	22	3,655	19			
		3	Often	91	33	6,440	32			
		4	Very often	116	40	9,654	45			
		Total		288	100	20,362	100			
b. Assessed the conclusions of a published work	TRN02b	1	Never	46	16	2,257	12	2.6	2.7 **	-.17
		2	Sometimes	105	37	6,006	31			
		3	Often	68	24	6,185	30			
		4	Very often	70	24	5,875	27			
		Total		289	100	20,323	100			
c. Included ideas from more than one academic discipline	TRN02c	1	Never	22	7	1,583	8	2.8	2.8	-.02
		2	Sometimes	100	35	5,875	30			
		3	Often	84	28	6,745	33			
		4	Very often	83	30	6,119	29			
		Total		289	100	20,322	100			
d. Presented multiple viewpoints or perspectives	TRN02d	1	Never	27	10	1,505	8	2.7	2.8	-.06
		2	Sometimes	100	34	6,352	32			
		3	Often	90	32	6,843	34			
		4	Very often	71	25	5,584	26			
		Total		288	100	20,284	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Emporia State	Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Comparisons with: Transferable Skills		
TRN01a	264	2.6	2.6	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	21,566	.485	-.04
TRN01b	262	2.5	2.2	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	21,503	.000	.34
TRN01c	264	2.8	2.7	.05	.01	0.8	0.9	270	.023	.13
TRN01d	260	2.5	2.4	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	21,511	.699	.02
TRN01e	262	2.8	2.8	.05	.01	0.8	0.9	21,473	.692	-.02
TRN01f	260	2.8	2.8	.05	.01	0.8	0.9	21,441	.873	-.01
TRN01g	264	2.7	2.7	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	21,424	.866	.01
TRN02a	264	3.2	3.0	.05	.01	0.8	0.9	21,570	.002	.19
TRN02b	262	2.6	2.6	.06	.01	1.0	1.0	21,520	.666	.03
TRN02c	263	2.7	2.6	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	21,495	.065	.11
TRN02d	263	2.8	2.7	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	21,461	.074	.11

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Emporia State	Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Emporia State	Transferable Skills	Emporia State	Transferable Skills			
TRN01a	287	2.5	2.7	.06	.01	0.9	1.0	24,983	.010	-.15
TRN01b	284	2.5	2.5	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	24,898	.387	-.05
TRN01c	284	2.8	2.9	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	24,930	.679	-.02
TRN01d	287	2.6	2.6	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	24,905	.730	-.02
TRN01e	287	3.0	3.0	.05	.01	0.9	0.8	24,881	.745	-.02
TRN01f	287	3.0	3.0	.05	.01	0.8	0.8	24,879	.831	.01
TRN01g	284	2.9	2.9	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	24,802	.464	-.04
TRN02a	287	3.1	3.2	.05	.01	0.9	0.9	24,971	.042	-.12
TRN02b	287	2.6	2.7	.06	.01	1.0	1.0	24,921	.004	-.17
TRN02c	287	2.8	2.8	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	24,921	.772	-.02
TRN02d	287	2.7	2.8	.06	.01	0.9	0.9	24,873	.290	-.06

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by gender 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 gender 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*.
- e. Statistics are weighted by gender 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 Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the comparison group is due to chance.