

NSSE 2003 Results

University of Nevada, Reno

Office of University Assessment
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<http://www.unr.edu/assess>



NSSE Response Rate

UNR response rate = 48% (651 of 1344, moe 2.8%)

FSSE Pilot Response Rate

UNR response rate = 35% (235 of 600, moe 5%)

NSSE?

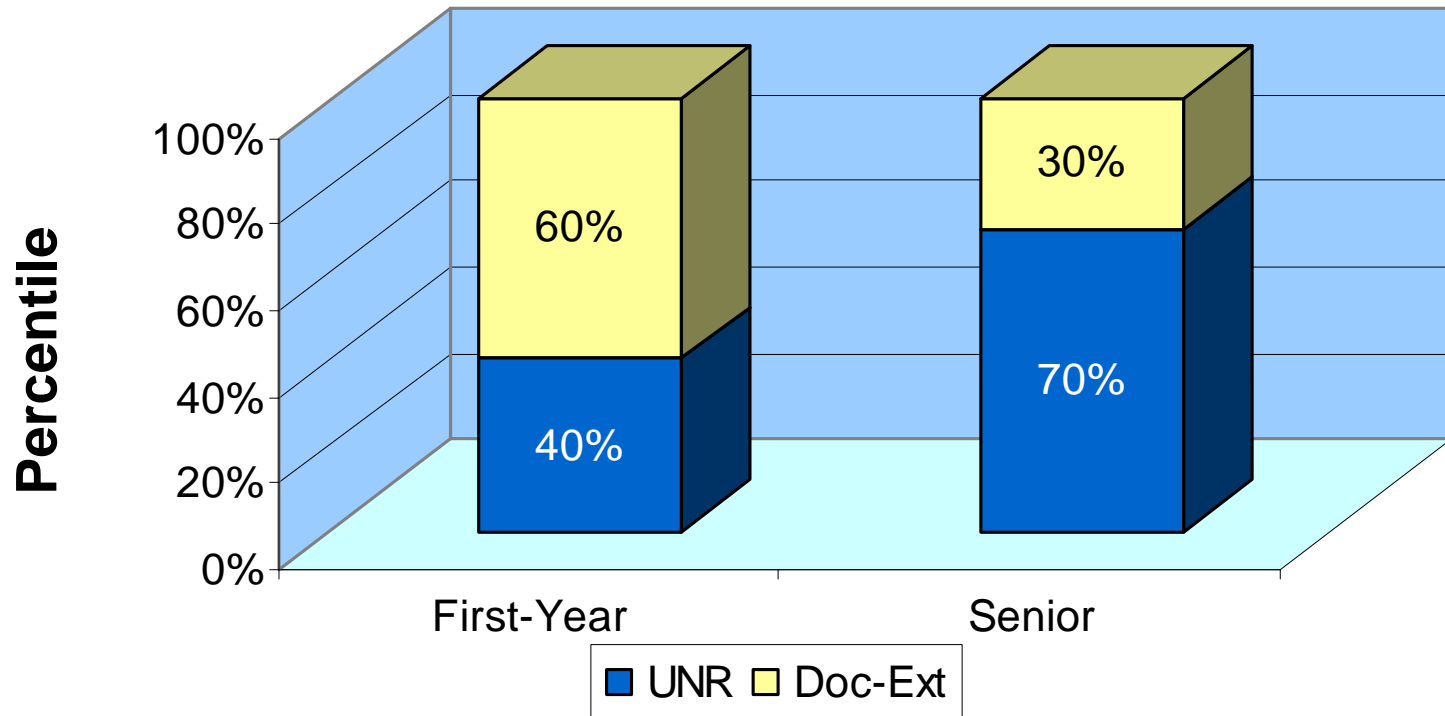
- Norm reference (NSSE Institutional Reports)
 - Compares UNR to other institutions
- Criterion reference (FSSE comparison Reports)
 - Compares UNR student to faculty responses
- What is important to UNR?
 - Are we able (resources) to do
 - Are we willing (effort) to do

NSSE BENCHMARK AREAS

- Level of Academic Challenge
- Active & Collaborative Learning
- Student Faculty Interaction
- Enriching Educational Experiences
- Supportive Campus Environment

Level of Academic Challenge

**Benchmark Score Percentile
UNR/Doc-Ext Comparisons for First-Year & Seniors**

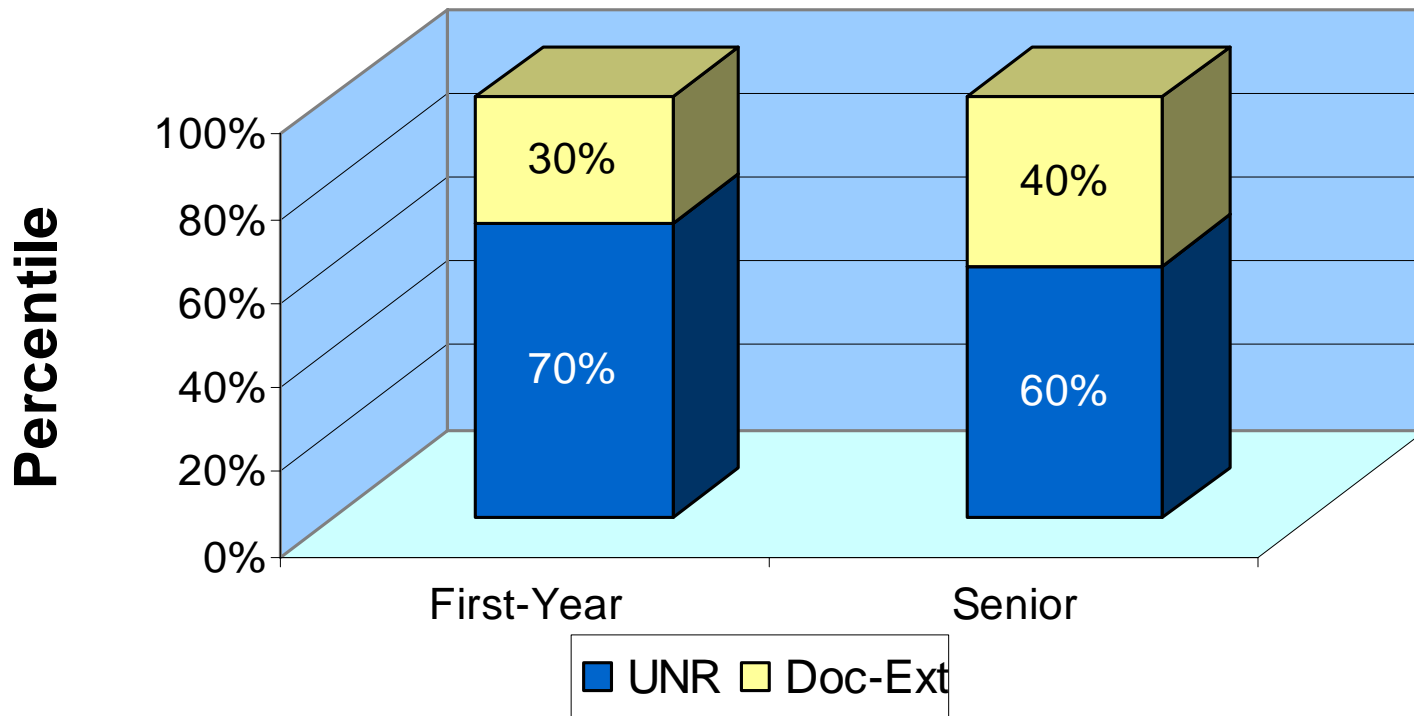


FINDINGS

1. Students and faculty agree that most of their coursework emphasized analysis, synthesis and making judgments. (2b-e)
2. Significantly more students (especially seniors) than faculty thought most coursework also emphasized memorizing facts, ideas or methods.(2a)
3. More students indicated the University emphasized spending significant amounts of time on academic work than do faculty. (10a)
4. Approximately half of students worked harder than they thought they could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations.(1r)

Active & Collaborative Learning

Benchmark Score Percentile
UNR/Doc-Ext Comparisons for First-Year & Seniors

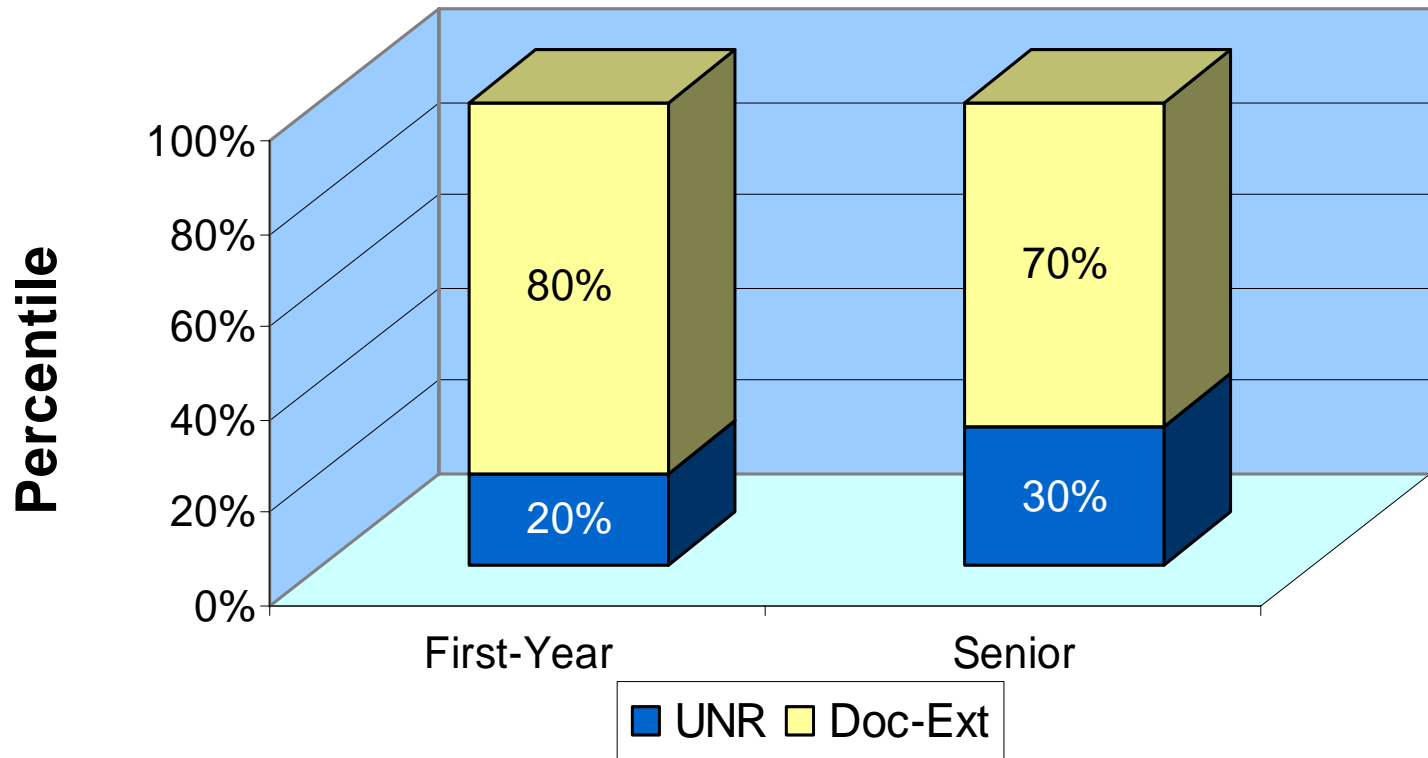


FINDINGS

1. Very few students participate in community-based projects as part of a course.
2. Significantly more students than faculty state that students ask questions and participate in class discussion. (1a)
3. The vast majority of students report making class presentations. (1b)
4. Students tutoring other students (paid or voluntary) is uncommon.(1j)
5. However, it is fairly common for students to discuss ideas from class or readings outside of class with students, family members, co-workers, etc.(1t)

Student Faculty Interaction

Benchmark Score Percentile
UNR/Doc-Ext Comparisons for First-Year & Seniors

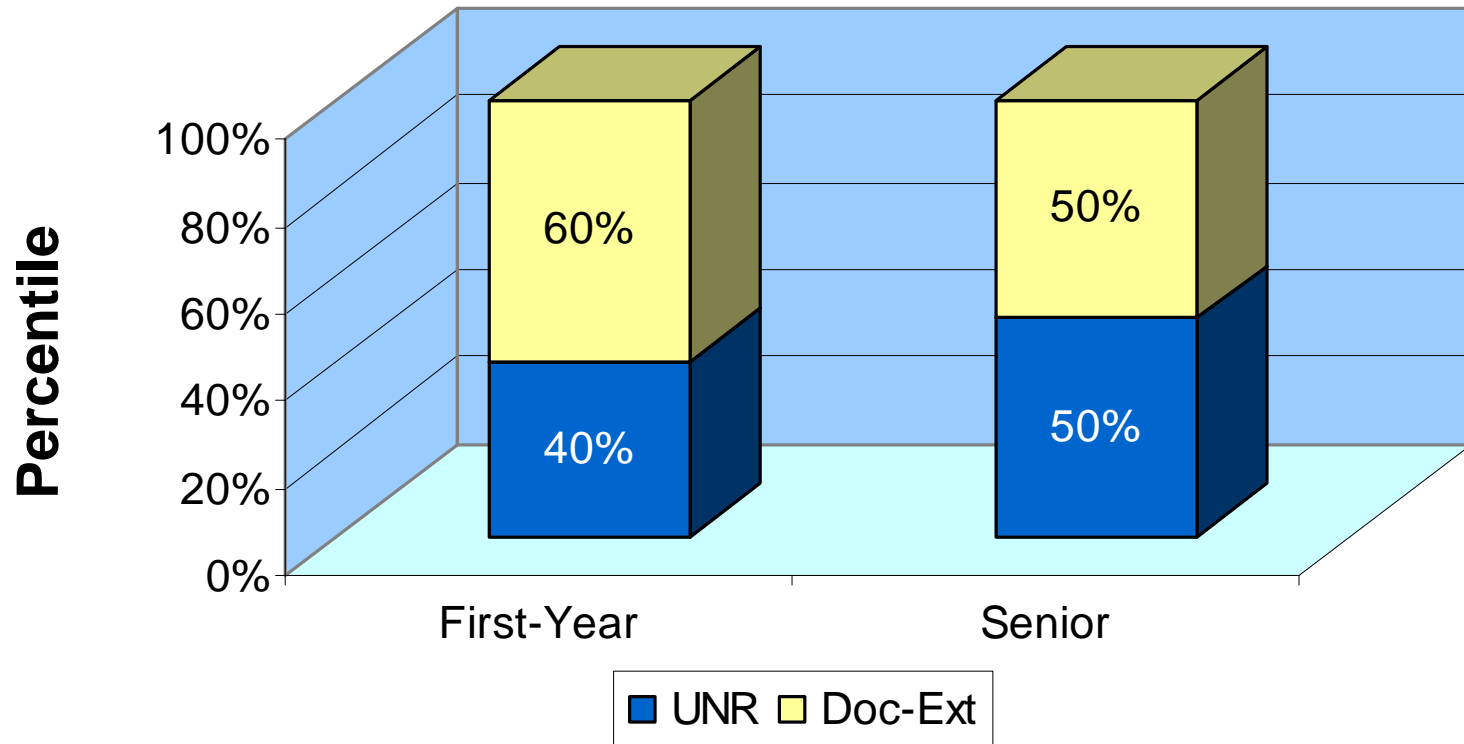


FINDINGS

1. Approximately half of first year and senior students said they talk with faculty about their grades and assignments. The proportion of faculty reporting such discussions, however, is far smaller.(1n)
2. Almost half of first-year students and over a third of seniors said they **NEVER** discussed ideas from a class or readings with faculty.(1p)
3. More than half of faculty teaching both lower division and upper division classes indicated they are very good about giving prompt feedback to students on their academic performance; **however**, students reported otherwise.(1q)

Enriching Educational Experiences

Benchmark Score Percentile
UNR/Doc-Ext Comparisons for First-Year & Seniors

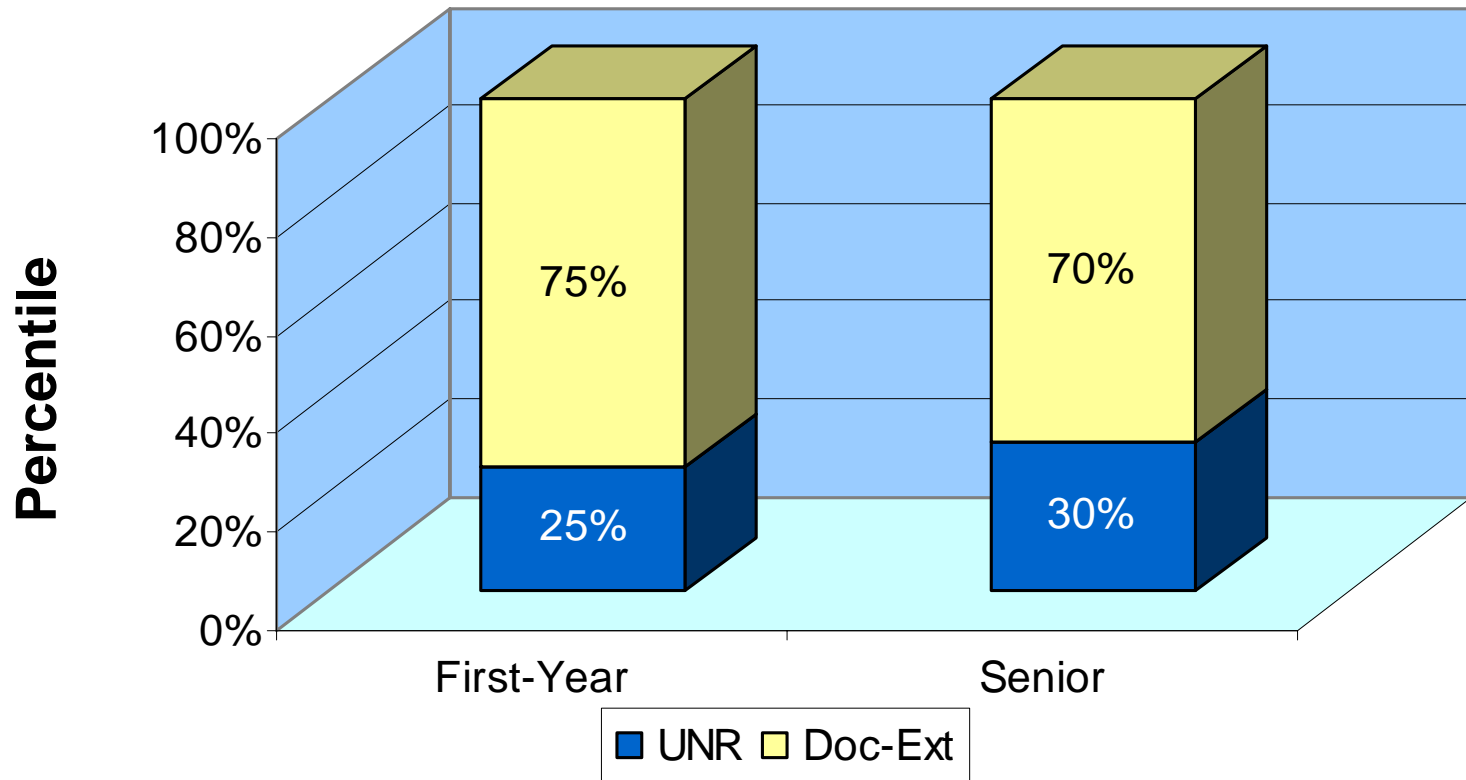


FINDINGS

1. Compared with faculty perceptions, a much higher proportion of students report having serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than their own, and with students who differ from them in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions or personal values.(1u &1v)
2. The vast majority of students reported to have participated in an internship or field experience, and most students participate in community service or volunteer work (significantly fewer faculty believed students did).(7a & 7b)
3. Fewer than half the students reported having taken or plan to take any foreign language coursework.(7e)
4. Although fewer than half of first year students believe the University encourages contact among students from different economic, social and racial or ethnic backgrounds; the proportion seniors seeing such encouragement is significantly smaller.(10c)

Supportive Campus Environment

Benchmark Score Percentile
UNR/Doc-Ext Comparisons for First-Year & Seniors



FINDINGS

1. Students reported having good relationships overall with faculty, administrative staff and other students. (8a, b, & c)
2. How helpful is the University in helping students thrive and succeed? Students said:
 - a) UNR does a **GOOD** job with academic support.(10b)
 - b) UNR does **NOT** offer much non-academic or social support. (10d & 10e)

“Peer Group” Comparison

- University of Arizona
- Colorado State University
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- Iowa State University
- Washington State University
- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of California, Davis (non-NSSE participant)

What to do?

- Remember:
 - “Engagement differences between students at an institution are usually greater than engagement differences between institutions.”
- Can we use these results to:
 - Develop Collaborative Programs?
 - Supplement Current Programs?
 - Modify Existing Programs?
 - Target Staff Development?
 - Target Students?

Let's Check Your Predictions

- Locus of Control
 - Faculty
 - Student
 - Institution/Program