

College Outcomes Survey (COS) Report Spring 2005

The College Outcomes Survey was administered in May to a representative sample of undergraduate course sections in the classrooms. The breakdown of the sample of 1035 students by faculty and GPA is reported in Table 1. A group of students n=133 (13%) opted not to provide major. 51% of sample was male vs 49% female.

Table 1 Breakdown of Sample by Faculty and GPA

	FAS		FAFS		FEA		FHS		OSB		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Total Group	399	39%	20	2%	212	20%	61	6%	210	20%	1035
GPA 3.0-4.0	156	39%	5	25%	75	36%	33	54%	62	30%	362
GPA 2.0-2.9	128	32%	6	30%	51	24%	20	33%	66	31%	309
GPA < 2.0	12	3%	2	10%	10	5%	2	3%	11	5%	39

Breakdown of sample by level and number of credits earned is reported in Table 2.

Table 2. Breakdown of Sample by Credits Earned

Credits	N	%
1-35	263	35
36-59	234	31
60-95	151	20
96- 108 or more	97	13
Blank	290	28

I. Graphic Report

SUMMARY FOR SECTION II : COLLEGE OUTCOMES

A: IMPORTANCE TO ATTAINING OUTCOMES AT THIS COLLEGE

Highest Five Items:

- Same outcomes and rankings for 04 and 05, except for 'speaking more effectively' which joined top 5 in lieu of 'drawing conclusions after weighing evidence.

Lowest Five Items

- Same set of items as 04 and same magnitude, except for 'improving my writing skills' which joined lowest five in importance.

A: Progress Made Toward Attaining Outcomes

Highest Five Items:

- #1 is still same 'Learning to Think and reason'.
- The two social outcomes 'listening and understanding to what others say' and 'developing openness to new ideas and practices' have gone up to rank 2.
- 'Effectively using technology' has entered top five in progress made, while 'drawing conclusions after weighing evidence/facts/ideas' has dropped from second position and out of top five.

Lowest Five Items:

- Lowest are still 'developing effective job-seeking skills' and 'learning about career options'.
- Also development of affective outcomes is still lowest like 'Discovering productive and rewarding uses of my talents and leisure time' or 'Learning principles for improving physical and mental health or global environment'

B: Views of Required Courses Outside of Major

- Same outcomes were stressed in 04 and 05 with same average top being 'develop as whole person', 'Broaden my awareness of diversity among people/their values/cultures.' And 'become a more independent and self-directed learner'.

C: Agreement with Statements about this college

- Ranking of all top and bottom statements is same like 04, highest score went for 'This college is equally supportive of women and men' and lowest for 'This college welcomes/uses feedback from students to improve college'.
- There were slight increases in mean of 'I am proud of my accomplishments at this college' (3.9 vs 3.8) and 'This College welcomes/uses feedback from students to improve college' (3.5 vs 3.4), however tests of significance showed that the former was not significant. So there was only a significant improvement on welcoming and using feedback.
- AUB means seem to be lower in comparison to national norms on 'I am proud of my accomplishments at this college' (3.9 vs. 4.2) and 'This College has helped me meet the goals I came here to achieve' (3.7 vs. 4.0).

D: Personal Growth Since Entering This College

Highest Five Items:

- #1 is still same 'Taking responsibility for my own behavior' followed by 'Interacting well with people from cultures other than my own' and both have gone up from 04, however difference is not statistically significant. All other outcomes are same.

Lowest Five Items:

- No change in lowest rated items.

D: College Contribution to Your Growth

Highest Five Items:

- Highest rated items same 'acquiring a well-rounded General Education'.
- 'Becoming academically competent' and 'Interacting well with people from cultures other than my own' have increased in magnitude but not significantly.
- 'Taking responsibility for my own behavior' entered top five'
- AUB means seem to be higher than national norms on 'interacting with people from cultures other than my own' (3.8 vs 3.5) and 'Taking responsibility for my own behavior' (3.7 vs 3.4).

Lowest Five Items:

- No change.

SUMMARY FOR SECTION III : COLLEGE OUTCOMES

Satisfaction with Given Aspects of this College

Highest Five Items:

- The first three highest aspects were same as last year (library, security, college in general). Satisfaction with college in general is higher than last year's but not significantly so.
- 'College social activities' entered the top 5 replacing class size.

Lowest Five Items:

- 'Quality of academic advising' is lowest followed by financial aid and concern for me as individual.
- 'Informal contact with faculty in non-academic settings' and 'Campus AIDS education program' entered the lowest five aspects of satisfaction.
- AUB means are much lower than national norms on academic advising (3.1 vs. 3.7), financial aid (3.2 vs. 3.5), 'concern for me as individual' (3.2 vs 3.8), and 'informal contact in non-academic settings' (3.2 vs 3.7).

Satisfaction with Given Aspects of this College: Largest Positive & Largest Negative Differences between your Institution's Averages & National Averages.

Highest and lowest Five Items to AUB Advantage:

- Same items that exhibited differences before showed difference this year with higher mean differences than last year.
- Class size entered the lowest five category with largest differences instead of program of study. AUB mean was 3.7 vs. 4.1 for national norms.

II. Summary Comparison Report.

With respect to summary comparison report (Excel Sheet), changes in ranking are highlighted by various colors. White indicates no change; yellow indicates improved rankings and green shows lower rankings than 2004. Rank and mean ratings of various types of growth (intellectual, social, personal, preparation for further study, preparation for a career' remained the same.

III. Additional Items

The 17 additional items involved instructional activities of instructor. Of these six showed improvement, 4 mean ratings went down and remaining 7 did not change. Statistical tests of significance on changed mean ratings revealed that change was not significant except on number 1 'The objectives of the courses that I have taken were clearly stated' which went down from 4.2 to 4.1.