

College Outcomes Survey (COS) Report Spring 2007

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 777 students by faculty and GPA is reported in Table 1. A group of students n=63 (8%) opted not to provide major. 54% of sample was female vs. 46% male.

Table 1 Breakdown of Sample by Faculty

	FAS		FAFS		FEA		FHS		OSB		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total Group	226	29	50	6	178	23	58	7	173	22	777	

Table 2 Breakdown of Sample by GPA

GPA	Total	%
GPA 3.0-4.0	239	31
GPA 2.0-2.9	207	27
GPA < 2.0	14	2
Did not specify	317	40

Breakdown of sample by level and number of credits earned is reported in Table 3.

Table3. Breakdown of Sample by Credits Earned

Credits	N	%
0	20	3
1-35	209	27
36-59	121	16
60-95	104	13
96- 108 or more	59	8
Blank	264	34

I. Graphic Report

SUMMARY FOR SECTION II : COLLEGE OUTCOMES

A: IMPORTANCE TO ATTAINING OUTCOMES AT THIS COLLEGE

Highest Five Items:

- Most important outcomes to attain: 'learning to think and reason' and 'acquiring knowledge and skills needed for a career'.
- Same outcomes and rankings for 05-07, except for 'speaking more effectively' which dropped from top five last year but rejoined again this year.
- Lebanese averages quite similar to national norms, except on 'becoming competent in my major' which is slightly lower.

- Five items maintained rank, while 3 significantly improved and 2 slightly went down.

Lowest Five Items

- Same set of items as previous two years and same magnitude, except for 'improving my writing skills' which lost its place to 'Learning principles for improving physical and mental health' (as in 04).
- Most of items kept rank, except 3 that went down and one that went up.

A: Progress Made Toward Attaining Outcomes

Highest Five Items:

- #1 is still same 'Learning to Think and reason' together with the two social outcomes 'listening and understanding to what others say' and 'developing openness to new ideas and practices'.
- Cognitive outcomes 'drawing conclusions after weighing evidence/facts/ideas', and 'effectively using technology' and problem solving rank 2.
- Local norms are quite equivalent to national norms.
- Four items improved in rank, while 3 dropped and 3 kept their rank.

Lowest Five Items:

- Lowest is still 'developing effective job-seeking skills' though 'learning about career options' has dropped from lowest five list.
- 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'.
- Local averages are lower than American norms.
- Four items improved their rank, 4 went down and 2 kept their ranking.

B: Views of Required Courses Outside of Major

- Same outcomes were stressed in 05-07 with respect to role of required courses outside major 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'.
- Similar to American norms on most of the outcomes.
- Three items went up in their ranking, while 2 remained same and 2 dropped down.

C: Agreement with Statements about this college

- Ranking of all top statements is same like 05-06; 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', although later has improved from 3.4 to 3.6.
- There were slight improvements in most of items especially in 'If choosing a college again, I would choose this one' (from 3.7-3.9), and this was also higher than national norms (3.7), and in 'This college helped me meet the goals I came here to achieve'.

- 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' (3.9 vs. 4.1). It is higher on 'This College is equally supportive of women and men' (4.3 vs. 4.1).
- Most of items kept rank, only 1 went up and another went down.

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 'Developing self-confidence', 'acquiring a well-rounded general education'. All of them have maintained their average as in previous years.
- A new personal outcome emerged this year 'becoming more willing to change and learn new things'
- All local averages are slightly higher than national norms, especially for 'Interacting well with people from cultures other than my own'.
- Four items went up in their rank, 4 other went down and 2 remained same.

Lowest Five Items:

- Little change in lowest rated items and quite equivalent to national norms.
- Five items went down, 3 went up and 1 remained same.

D: College Contribution to Your Growth

Highest Five Items:

- Highest rated items same 'acquiring a well-rounded General Education' and 'interacting well with people from cultures other than my own'. 'Taking responsibility for my own behavior' and 'Improving my ability to stay with projects until they are finished' remained in top five.
- 'Increasing my intellectual curiosity' rejoined top 5.
- AUB means seem to be higher than national norms on 'interacting with people from cultures other than my own' (3.9 vs. 3.6), 'Taking responsibility for my own behavior' (3.8 vs. 3.5) and 'Improving my ability to stay with projects until they are finished'.
- Five items went down in their ranking while 3 went up and 2 remained same.

Lowest Five Items:

- No change in lowest three with two new additions in # 4 and 5.
- Five items went down in their ranking while 3 went up and 2 remained same.

SUMMARY FOR SECTION III : COLLEGE OUTCOMES

Satisfaction with Given Aspects of this College

Highest Five Items:

- The highest items were same as last year (library, security, college in general, campus and social activities).
- All averages were higher than national norms especially social activities, campus security and library.

- New Student Orientation and 'sense of belonging' showed significant improvement in rank and averages.
- Five items went up in ranking while 2 went down and 3 remained same.

Lowest Five Items:

- 'Quality of academic advising' is lowest together with concern for me as individual and informal contact with faculty in non-academic settings.
- Financial aid services, job placement and career planning services are not anymore within lowest five items.
- AUB means are much lower than national norms on academic advising (3.2 vs. 3.8), 'concern for me as individual' (3.2 vs. 3.9), and 'informal contact in non-academic settings' (3.3 vs. 3.8).
- Seven items went down in ranking, some quite significantly like 'residence hall services and programs' and 'student mental health services'. Three items went up in ranking.

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

Highest and lowest Five Items:

- Highest differences to AUB advantage were on college social activities and job placement services (+.3), followed by security/safety, involvement in campus activities, rules governing student conduct, (+.2).
- With respect to largest differences to AUB's disadvantage, they remained quite same with class size emerging as one.

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 2006. Rank and mean ratings of various types of growth (intellectual, social, personal, preparation for further study, preparation for a career) remained the same. Notes summarize results of every section highlighting major changes.

Detailed results are also reported by gender, major, and GPA and they reveal considerable differences by these variables

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III. Additional Items

The 17 additional items involved instructional activities of instructor. Of these, 7 showed improvement (vs. 8 last year), 4 mean ratings went down (vs. 1 last year) and remaining 6 did not change.