



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Mean Comparisons
Northwestern State University of Louisiana**

NSU compared with:

Bench- mark	Class	NSU		SREB Peers			Carnegie Class			ULS Peer		
		Mean ^a		Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c

In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often

1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences

a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	ACL	FY	2.85	2.85		.01	2.77		.10	2.86		-.01
			SR	3.12	3.15		-.04	3.08		.04	3.11		.02
b.	Made a class presentation	ACL	FY	2.05	2.31	***	-.30	2.33	***	-.34	2.27	***	-.25
			SR	2.43	2.93	***	-.56	2.88	***	-.52	2.90	***	-.52
c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in		FY	2.78	2.79		-.01	2.69		.10	2.81		-.02
			SR	2.67	2.68		-.01	2.52	**	.15	2.72		-.05
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources		FY	3.04	3.13	*	-.12	3.08		-.05	3.02		.02
			SR	3.23	3.32	*	-.12	3.32	*	-.12	3.28		-.07
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments		FY	2.73	2.80		-.08	2.80		-.08	2.70		.03
			SR	2.80	2.88		-.09	2.85		-.06	2.88		-.09
f.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments		FY	1.76	1.98	***	-.28	2.01	***	-.32	1.95	***	-.24
			SR	1.82	2.01	***	-.24	2.08	***	-.33	2.00	***	-.24
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	ACL	FY	2.32	2.48	**	-.18	2.44	**	-.15	2.41		-.10
			SR	2.31	2.63	***	-.36	2.60	***	-.34	2.66	***	-.39
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	ACL	FY	2.22	2.35	*	-.14	2.36	**	-.15	2.29		-.07
			SR	2.43	2.77	***	-.36	2.74	***	-.34	2.80	***	-.39
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions		FY	2.43	2.58	**	-.18	2.62	***	-.23	2.53	*	-.12
			SR	2.78	2.93	***	-.18	2.93	**	-.18	2.91	**	-.16
j.	Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	ACL	FY	1.64	1.71		-.08	1.65		-.02	1.71		-.08
			SR	1.76	1.93	**	-.17	1.84		-.09	1.95	***	-.19
k.	Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	ACL	FY	1.39	1.60	***	-.24	1.57	***	-.22	1.54	***	-.18
			SR	1.54	1.83	***	-.31	1.76	***	-.24	1.88	***	-.36
	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group,		FY	2.67	2.59		.08	2.55	*	.13	2.49	**	.17

l.	Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	EEE	SR	2.97	2.93	.04	2.82	**	.15	2.90	.07	
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor		FY	3.12	3.07	.06	3.09		.04	2.99	*	.14
			SR	3.43	3.37	.08	3.33	*	.12	3.31	**	.14
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor		FY	2.75	2.72	.03	2.60	**	.17	2.73		.02
			SR	3.04	2.95	*	.11	2.81	***	.26	2.93	*
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor		FY	2.20	2.28	-.09	2.16		.04	2.29		-.10
			SR	2.43	2.50	-.07	2.39		.04	2.55	*	-.12
p.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class		FY	1.86	1.91	-.06	1.89		-.04	1.95		-.09
			SR	2.10	2.20	-.09	2.11		.00	2.20		-.10
q.	Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance		FY	2.52	2.63	*	-.12	2.64	*	-.14	2.54	-.02
			SR	2.80	2.86	-.08	2.79		.01	2.85		-.06
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	LAC	FY	2.77	2.76	.02	2.65	*	.14	2.74		.03
			SR	2.86	2.88	-.02	2.76	*	.13	2.91		-.05
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)		FY	1.63	1.63	.00	1.63		.01	1.68		-.05
			SR	1.70	1.87	***	-.18	1.80	*	-.11	1.90	***
t.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	ACL	FY	2.74	2.72	.02	2.66		.09	2.71		.03
			SR	2.81	2.92	*	-.13	2.82		-.02	2.88	
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	EEE	FY	2.64	2.58	.05	2.59		.04	2.47	**	.16
			SR	2.67	2.72	-.05	2.66		.01	2.55	*	.12
v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	EEE	FY	2.59	2.64	-.05	2.67		-.08	2.52		.07
			SR	2.57	2.68	*	-.12	2.69	*	-.12	2.56	

During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following mental activities?

1=Very little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much

2. Mental Activities

a.	Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form		FY	2.90	2.97	-.08	2.91		-.02	2.92	-.03
			SR	2.83	2.80	.03	2.77		.06	2.86	-.04
b.	Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	LAC	FY	3.00	3.04	-.04	3.06		-.08	2.96	.05
			SR	3.18	3.22	-.05	3.22		-.06	3.20	-.02
			FY	2.75	2.82	-.08	2.85	*	-.12	2.74	.01

c.	Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	LAC	SR	2.96	3.05	*	-10	3.03	-.09	3.03	-.08
			FY	2.87	2.90		-.03	2.90	-.03	2.84	.04
d.	Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions	LAC	SR	2.99	3.02		-.04	3.00	-.02	3.03	-.05
			FY	3.00	2.97		.03	2.99	.01	2.92	.09
e.	Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	LAC	SR	3.20	3.20		.01	3.18	.03	3.18	.03

*During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done?
1=None, 2=1-4, 3=5-10, 4=11-20, 5=More than 20*

3. Reading and Writing

a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	LAC	FY	3.12	3.04		.08	3.20	-.09	2.88	***	.26
			SR	3.11	3.08		.03	3.18	-.06	3.04	.07	
b.	Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment		FY	2.08	2.09		-.01	2.04	.05	2.13		-.05
			SR	2.18	2.24		-.06	2.17	.01	2.21		-.02
c.	Number of written papers or reports of <u>20 pages or more</u>	LAC	FY	1.21	1.32	**	-.15	1.27	-.09	1.40	***	-.23
			SR	1.42	1.63	***	-.26	1.63	***	-.26	1.60	***
d.	Number of written papers or reports <u>between 5 and 19 pages</u>	LAC	FY	2.00	2.11	*	-.13	2.24	***	-.30	1.94	.07
			SR	2.26	2.39	**	-.14	2.57	***	-.32	2.31	-.05
e.	Number of written papers or reports of <u>fewer than 5 pages</u>	LAC	FY	2.63	2.79	**	-.17	3.00	***	-.37	2.71	-.09
			SR	2.56	2.80	***	-.20	2.98	***	-.36	2.73	**

*In a typical week, how many homework problem sets do you complete?
1=None, 2=1-2, 3=3-4, 4=5-6, 5=More than 6*

4. Problem Sets

a.	Number of problem sets that take you more than an hour to complete		FY	2.59	2.64		-.05	2.65	-.06	2.64	-.05		
			SR	2.82	2.65	*	.13	2.65	**	.14	2.72	.08	
b.	Number of problem sets that take you less than an hour to complete		FY	2.96	2.74	**	.18	2.79	**	.15	2.77	*	.15
			SR	2.42	2.42		.00	2.42	.01	2.43	.00		

5. Examinations

1=Very little to 7=Very much

	Select the circle that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the current school year challenged you to do your best work.		FY	5.55	5.40	*	.12	5.34	**	.18	5.35	**	.16
			SR	5.64	5.58		.05	5.37	***	.20	5.61		.02

6. Additional Collegiate Experiences

During the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?
1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often

a.	Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theatre or other performance	FY	2.24	2.21	.03	2.18	.07	2.16	.08
			SR	1.92	1.96	-.05	2.01	-.10	1.99
b.	Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	FY	2.46	2.61	* -.14	2.74	*** -.26	2.46	.00
			SR	2.30	2.48	** -.17	2.58	*** -.27	2.41
c.	Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	FY	2.28	2.20	.07	1.96	*** .30	2.24	.03
			SR	2.42	2.29	* .12	2.05	*** .34	2.30
d.	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	FY	2.62	2.62	.00	2.55	.08	2.53	.10
			SR	2.68	2.71	-.03	2.65	.04	2.66
e.	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	FY	2.76	2.80	-.05	2.74	.02	2.74	.01
			SR	2.81	2.85	-.05	2.82	-.01	2.80
f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	FY	2.78	2.87	-.11	2.82	-.05	2.82	-.05
			SR	2.81	2.90	* -.11	2.87	-.07	2.86

Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution? (Recoded: 0=Have not decided, Do not plan to do, Plan to do; 1=Done. Thus, the mean is the proportion responding "Done" among all valid respondents.)

7. Enriching Educational Experiences

a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	EEE	FY	.08	.09	-.03	.08	.02	.09	-.04
				SR	.39	.46	** -.14	.48	*** -.18	.46
b.	Community service or volunteer work	EEE	FY	.28	.37	*** -.18	.36	** -.16	.32	-.09
				SR	.44	.54	*** -.20	.55	*** -.22	.56
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two	EEE	FY	.12	.19	*** -.18	.15	* -.10	.14	-.07
				SR	.26	.27	-.02	.25	.03	.26
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	SFI	FY	.06	.07	-.03	.05	.02	.07	-.05
				SR	.12	.17	* -.11	.16	-.09	.15
e.	Foreign language coursework	EEE	FY	.08	.14	*** -.19	.18	*** -.26	.15	*** -.21
				SR	.29	.30	-.04	.34	* -.12	.27
f.	Study abroad	EEE	FY	.07	.04	* .17	.03	** .26	.06	.04
				SR	.06	.09	* -.10	.10	** -.12	.08
g.	Independent study or self-designed major	EEE	FY	.07	.06	.01	.04	* .16	.08	-.05
				SR	.18	.15	.07	.15	.07	.16
h.	Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	EEE	FY	.02	.03	-.05	.02	-.01	.04	* -.11
				SR	.21	.25	* -.11	.30	*** -.20	.22

8. Quality of Relationships

Select the circle that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution.

1=Unfriendly, Unsupportive, Sense of alienation to 7=Friendly, Supportive, Sense of belonging

a.	Relationships with <u>other students</u>	SCE	FY	5.61	5.46	.11	5.43	*	.12	5.39	**	.14	
			SR	5.61	5.70	-.07	5.58		.02	5.74		-.10	
<i>1=Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic to 7=Available, Helpful, Sympathetic</i>													
b.	Relationships with <u>faculty members</u>	SCE	FY	5.39	5.18	*	.15	5.16	**	.18	5.19	*	.14
			SR	5.44	5.50	-.05	5.40		.03	5.50		-.04	
<i>1=Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid to 7=Helpful, Considerate, Flexible</i>													
c.	Relationships with <u>administrative personnel and offices</u>	SCE	FY	5.03	4.62	***	.25	4.59	***	.28	4.63	***	.24
			SR	4.83	4.68	.09	4.50	***	.19	4.74		.05	

About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following?

1=0 hrs/wk, 2=1-5 hrs/wk, 3=6-10 hrs/wk, 4=11-15 hrs/wk, 5=16-20 hrs/wk, 6=21-25 hrs/wk, 7=26-30 hrs/wk,

8=More than 30 hrs/wk

9. Time Usage

a.	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	LAC	FY	3.77	3.65	.08	3.84		-.05	3.57	*	.14	
			SR	4.26	4.00	**	.14	4.03	*	.13	3.97	**	.16
b.	Working for pay <u>on campus</u>		FY	1.31	1.50	**	-.14	1.50	***	-.16	1.48	**	-.14
			SR	1.38	1.60	***	-.15	1.63	***	-.17	1.70	***	-.20
c.	Working for pay <u>off campus</u>		FY	3.23	3.49		-.10	2.73	**	.21	3.71	**	-.17
			SR	4.35	4.45		-.04	4.28		.02	4.44		-.03
d.	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	EEE	FY	1.92	1.99		-.04	2.15	**	-.15	2.03		-.06
			SR	1.78	1.82		-.02	1.93		-.10	1.87		-.06
e.	Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)		FY	3.44	3.58		-.08	3.76	**	-.19	3.54		-.06
			SR	3.26	3.29		-.02	3.40		-.09	3.23		.02
f.	Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)		FY	2.91	2.47	**	.19	1.87	***	.61	2.81		.04
			SR	4.03	3.32	***	.25	2.63	***	.57	3.50	**	.19
g.	Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)		FY	2.38	2.60	**	-.17	2.32		.05	2.73	***	-.25
			SR	2.50	2.63		-.10	2.46		.03	2.59		-.07

To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?

1=Very little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much

10. Institutional Environment

a.	Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	LAC	FY	3.06	3.13		-.09	3.10		-.05	3.10		-.04
			SR	3.23	3.16		.08	3.10	**	.16	3.17		.07

b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	SCE	FY	2.96	3.05		-1.11	3.04		-0.09	3.02		-0.08
			SR	2.87	2.97	*	-1.12	2.90		-0.03	2.97	*	-0.12
c.	Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	EEE	FY	2.54	2.65		-1.11	2.67	*	-1.13	2.56		-0.02
			SR	2.48	2.58		-1.10	2.49		-0.01	2.53		-0.05
d.	Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	SCE	FY	2.23	2.22		.00	2.26		-0.03	2.24		-0.01
			SR	2.05	2.04		.01	1.97		.08	2.12		-0.07
e.	Providing the support you need to thrive socially	SCE	FY	2.37	2.43		-0.07	2.47		-0.11	2.44		-0.08
			SR	2.21	2.26		-0.05	2.19		.02	2.31		-0.10
f.	Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)		FY	2.66	2.79	*	-1.14	2.77	*	-1.12	2.71		-0.06
			SR	2.34	2.59	***	-1.25	2.51	**	-1.18	2.57	***	-1.23
g.	Using computers in academic work		FY	3.33	3.36		-0.04	3.27		.08	3.32		.02
			SR	3.43	3.45		-0.03	3.43		.00	3.48		-0.06

To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

1=Very little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much

11. Educational and Personal Growth

a.	Acquiring a broad general education		FY	3.17	3.17		.00	3.17		-0.01	3.16		.01
			SR	3.29	3.31		-0.02	3.26		.04	3.32		-0.04
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills		FY	2.91	2.75	**	.17	2.75	**	.18	2.81		.11
			SR	3.14	3.16		-0.03	3.08		.06	3.21		-0.09
c.	Writing clearly and effectively		FY	3.08	3.11		-0.04	3.02		.07	3.10		-0.03
			SR	3.10	3.17		-0.08	3.11		-0.02	3.23	**	-0.17
d.	Speaking clearly and effectively		FY	2.89	2.94		-0.05	2.89		.00	2.99		-0.11
			SR	2.97	3.10	**	-1.14	3.02		-0.06	3.15	***	-1.20
e.	Thinking critically and analytically		FY	3.21	3.19		.02	3.17		.05	3.18		.04
			SR	3.32	3.35		-0.03	3.31		.01	3.36		-0.05
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems		FY	3.02	2.96		.06	2.92	*	.12	2.96		.07
			SR	3.10	3.13		-0.03	3.06		.05	3.16		-0.07
g.	Using computing and information technology		FY	3.12	3.12		.00	3.01	*	.12	3.15		-0.03
			SR	3.35	3.30		.06	3.21	**	.16	3.35		-0.01
h.	Working effectively with others		FY	3.04	2.99		.05	2.98		.07	3.00		.04
			SR	3.14	3.23		-0.09	3.17		-0.03	3.27	*	-0.15
			FY	2.09	2.36	***	-1.24	2.24	*	-1.14	2.44	***	-1.31

i.	Voting in local, state, or national elections	SR	2.02	2.21	**	-.17	2.10	-.07	2.43	***	-.36	
		FY	2.99	2.95		.04	2.92	.08	2.98		.01	
j.	Learning effectively on your own	SR	3.12	3.09		.03	3.00	*	.13	3.16	-.05	
		FY	2.74	2.80		-.06	2.79	-.04	2.84		-.10	
k.	Understanding yourself	SR	2.83	2.84		-.01	2.78	.05	2.92		-.08	
		FY	2.60	2.69		-.09	2.68	-.08	2.72		-.11	
l.	Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	SR	2.62	2.73	*	-.11	2.66	-.04	2.81	**	-.19	
		FY	2.59	2.68		-.09	2.66	-.08	2.70		-.12	
m.	Solving complex real-world problems	SR	2.71	2.81		-.10	2.75	-.04	2.87	**	-.16	
		FY	2.62	2.67		-.04	2.67	-.05	2.71		-.09	
n.	Developing a personal code of values and ethics	SR	2.80	2.74		.05	2.68	*	.11	2.83	-.03	
		FY	2.38	2.41		-.04	2.42	-.04	2.50		-.11	
o.	Contributing to the welfare of your community	SR	2.47	2.51		-.04	2.44	.03	2.61	*	-.13	
		FY	2.15	2.18		-.02	2.12	.03	2.33	*	-.16	
p.	Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	SR	2.04	2.04		-.01	1.93	.10	2.19	*	-.14	
12. Academic Advising			<i>1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent</i>									
	Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	FY	3.15	2.99	**	.18	2.96	***	.22	2.99	**	.19
		SR	2.94	2.94		.00	2.81	**	.15	2.94		.01
13. Satisfaction			<i>1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent</i>									
	How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	FY	3.29	3.14	***	.22	3.14	***	.21	3.10	***	.26
		SR	3.11	3.18		-.09	3.14		-.05	3.14		-.04
14.			<i>1=Definitely no, 2=Probably no, 3=Probably yes, 4=Definitely yes</i>									
	If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	FY	3.37	3.15	***	.26	3.17	***	.24	3.18	***	.23
		SR	3.13	3.16		-.04	3.15		-.02	3.14		-.01