

CCSSE Indicators of GELO Assessment

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Background

CCSSE: Community College Survey of Student Engagement

- CCSSE is a nationwide survey of the level of engagement of community college students in their learning experiences.
- 2016 was the 5th CCSSE conducted at SCC. The survey was administered in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016.
- The survey was administered in classrooms between March and May 2016. (Note: online-only classes were not included; this was required by the design of the survey.)
- Over 1300 students responded to the 2016 CCSSE.

From 2010-2012, the GELO assessment was conducted using CCSSE data. Later that approach was discontinued because SCC was switching to a course-embedded assessment of General Education Student Learning Outcomes (GELOs). In Fall 2016, however, the SLO Coordinator indicated that the use of the CCSSE data for GELO analysis would be helpful for the current SLO report. The analysis includes the 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016 CCSSE data.

We report the 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016 mean values of responses to CCSSE questions that were mapped to the SCC GELO areas. Both core measures of the GELOs and additional related items have been identified. The mean score of SCC survey respondents for each of the core items was used to determine the level of achievement of GELOs reported by students. Related items were used to suggest ways in which achievement of GELOs could be enhanced.

The two most commonly used scales for the CCSSE items that map to the GELOs are shown below:

- Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much
- Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often

We use these scales to indicate the level of GELO achievement reported by students as shown below:

Mean item score (CSSSE items mapped to GELOs)	Indication of GELO achievement
Less than 1.5	GELO not achieved
1.5 – 2.4	Low achievement of GELO
2.5 – 3.4	Moderate achievement of GELO
3.5 – 4.0	High achievement of GELO
<i>Note: The CCSSE weighted means were used</i>	

As students move through their work at SCC they are expected to increase their mastery of the GELOs. Thus, the mean item scores for students who have completed 30 or more units are compared to the mean scores for students who have fewer units. The completion of 30 units has been recognized as a significant milestone by the California Community College Chancellor's Office (see the state Scorecard metrics). However, most of these students have not completed their educational programs at SCC, and so will continue to increase their achievement of GELOs as they complete more courses. Thus, we expect to see an average score indicating moderate achievement of the GELOs among students with 30 or more units.

Summary of Results from the main CCSSE general education indicators

In 2016, students completing over 30 units showed moderate achievement on nearly all of the main CCSSE indicators in all GELO areas. However students report low achievement of one item - “contributing to the welfare of your community.”

In 2016, for all GELO areas, CCSSE item mean scores were higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.

For all GELO areas, the overall means for the CCSSE items have varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Several of the main CCSSE general education indicators had 2016 mean scores greater than 3 out of 4 for students who have taken over 30 units:

Q 12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?	
Item	2016 mean -students with 30+ units
12c. Writing clearly and effectively (GE Area 1 - Communication)	3.04
12a. Acquiring a broad general education (GELO AREA III: Depth and Breadth)	3.23
12e. Thinking critically and analytically (GELO AREA VI: Critical Thinking)	3.24
12i. Learning effectively on your own (GELO AREA VII: Life Skills)	3.05

Only one of the main CCSSE general education indicators had a 2016 mean score of less than 2.5 for students who had taken over 30 units:

Q 12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?	
Item	2016 mean -students with 30+ units
12m. Contributing to the welfare of your community	2.33

GELO AREA I: Communication--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate effective reading, writing, and speaking skills.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall means for these items have varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q 12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean - students with < 30 units	2016 mean - students with 30+ units
12c. Writing clearly and effectively	2.75 (moderate)	2.71 (moderate)	2.82 (moderate)	2.76 (moderate)	2.62 (moderate)	3.04 (moderate)
12d. Speaking clearly and effectively	2.68 (moderate)	2.68 (moderate)	2.72 (moderate)	2.7 (moderate)	2.6 (moderate)	2.89 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: The items below show achievement in the low range. This suggests that we may be able to enhance the achievement of this GELO by encouraging students to (1) make more class presentations, (2) discuss the ideas from their classes with others outside of class, and (3) do more reading and writing.

Q4. In your experiences at this college during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
4b. Made a class presentation	2.11	2.01	2.09	2.02
4n. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	2.68	1.72	1.81	1.73

Q6. During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done at this college?				
<i>Scale: 1 = None, 2 = Between 1 and 4, 3 = Between 5 and 10, 4 = Between 11 and 20, 5 = More than 20</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
6b. Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	2.19	2.12	2.07	2.06
6c. Number of written papers or reports of any length	3.01	2.77	2.88	2.72

GELO AREA II: Quantitative Reasoning--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of quantitative methods and skills in quantitative reasoning.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall mean for this items have varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean students with < 30 units	2016 mean students with 30+ units
12f. Solving numerical problems	2.58 (moderate)	2.62 (moderate)	2.54 (moderate)	2.68 (moderate)	2.53 (moderate)	2.97 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: None available from CCSSE

GELO AREA III: Depth and Breadth of Understanding--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate content knowledge and fluency with the fundamental principles of the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall mean of this item has varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean students with < 30 units	2016 mean students with 30+ units
12a. Acquiring a broad general education	2.99 (moderate)	3.01 (moderate)	3.00 (moderate)	2.97 (moderate)	2.83 (moderate)	3.23 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: These items show achievement in the moderate range.

Q5. During the current school year, how much has your coursework at this college emphasized the following mental activities?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
5a. Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	2.88	2.91	2.88	2.92
5b. Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	2.96	2.95	3.02	2.94

GELO AREA IV: Cultural Competency--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate awareness of the various ways that culture and ethnicity shape and impact individual experience and society as a whole.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall mean for this item has varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12 How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean students with < 30 units	2016 mean students with 30+ units
12k. Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	2.64 (moderate)	2.59 (moderate)	2.65 (moderate)	2.66 (moderate)	2.58 (moderate)	2.82 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: These items show achievement in the low to moderate range. Means on these items suggest that we may be able to enhance student achievement of this GELO by continuing to develop opportunities for students to have conversations with others unlike themselves.

Q 4 In your experiences at this college during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
4s. Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity other than your own	2.67	2.66	2.70	2.58
4t. Had serious conversations with students who differ from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	2.53	2.49	2.53	2.36
Q9 How much does this college emphasize each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little to 4 = Very Much</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
9c. Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	2.69	2.64	2.70	2.68

GELO AREA V: Information Competency--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of information needs and resources and the necessary skills to use these resources effectively.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall mean for this item has varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12 How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean students with < 30 units	2016 mean students with 30+ units
12g. Using computing and information technology	2.61 (moderate)	2.57 (moderate)	2.61 (moderate)	2.6 (moderate)	2.46 (moderate)	2.88 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: These items show achievement in the moderate range.

Q4 In your experiences at this college during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
4j. Used the Internet or instant messaging to work on an assignment	3.07	3.02	3.13	3.01

Q9 How much does this college emphasize each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
9g. Using computers in academic work	3.10	3.08	3.10	3.04

GELO AREA VI: Critical Thinking--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree students will be able to demonstrate skills in problem solving, critical reasoning and the examination of how personal ways of thinking influence these abilities.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measure shows moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall mean for this item has varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12 How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean for students with < 30 units	2016 mean for students with 30+ units
12e. Thinking critically and analytically	2.92 (moderate)	2.97 (moderate)	2.98 (moderate)	3.0 (moderate)	2.89 (moderate)	3.24 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: These items show achievement in the moderate range.

Q4 In your experiences at this college during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?					
<i>Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often</i>					
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	
4d. Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	2.86	2.70	2.84	2.67	

Q5 During the current school year, how much has your coursework at this college emphasized the following mental activities?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
5c. Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences in new ways	2.82	2.80	2.80	2.77
5d. Making judgments about the value or soundness of information, arguments, or methods	2.55	2.65	2.72	2.65
5e. Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	2.68	2.78	2.77	2.67
5f. Using information you have read or heard to perform a new skill.	2.80	2.83	2.81	2.76

GELO AREA VII: Life Skills and Personal Development--Upon completion of the AA or AS degree, students will be able to demonstrate growth and lifelong learning skills in the personal, academic, and social domains of their lives.

Main indicators: The primary CCSSE measures show generally moderate achievement of the GELO for students with 30 or more units completed. However students report low achievement of one item - “contributing to the welfare of your community.” We also noted that:

- Item mean scores are higher for students who have taken more than 30 units than for those who have completed fewer units.
- The overall means for these items have varied only slightly over time (2010-2016).

Q12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?						
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>						
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016	2016 mean for students with < 30 units	2016 mean for students with 30+ units
12h. Working effectively with others	2.73 (moderate)	2.71 (moderate)	2.75 (moderate)	2.74 (moderate)	2.69 (moderate)	2.82 (moderate)
12i. Learning effectively on your own	2.93 (moderate)	2.96 (moderate)	2.92 (moderate)	2.95 (moderate)	2.89 (moderate)	3.05 (moderate)
12j. Understanding yourself	2.73 (moderate)	2.61 (moderate)	2.74 (moderate)	2.71 (moderate)	2.65 (moderate)	2.82 (moderate)
12l. Developing a personal code of values and ethics	2.50 (moderate)	2.42 (low)	2.53 (moderate)	2.53 (moderate)	2.45 (low)	2.71 (moderate)
12m. Contributing to the welfare of your community	2.06 (low)	2.05 (low)	2.05 (low)	2.06 (low)	1.92 (low)	2.33 (low)
12n. Developing clearer career goals	2.73 (moderate)	2.62 (moderate)	2.66 (moderate)	2.64 (moderate)	2.52 (moderate)	2.86 (moderate)
12o. Gaining information about career opportunities	2.50 (moderate)	2.43 (low)	2.45 (low)	2.45 (low)	2.35 (low)	2.63 (moderate)

Related CCSSE items: These items show achievement in the low to moderate range. Scores on these items suggest that we may be able to enhance student achievement of this GELO by further encouraging students to (1) use tutoring services, (2) participate in community based projects, and (3) work with instructors on activities other than coursework. It may also be valuable to assist students in finding help in coping with nonacademic responsibilities.

Q4. In your experiences at this college during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
4a. Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	2.79	2.73	2.81	2.69
4e. Come to class without completing readings or assignments (Note: Low value is "good" on this item)	1.95	1.93	1.9	1.94
4f. Worked with other students on projects during class	2.63	2.44	2.52	2.51
4g. Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	2.01	1.93	1.89	1.88
4h. Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	1.48	1.38	1.38	1.39
4i. Participated in a community-based project as a part of a regular course	1.39	1.29	1.32	1.23
4k. Used email to communicate with an instructor	2.84	2.81	2.84	2.82

4l. Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	2.56	2.49	2.58	2.44
4m. Talked about career plans with an instructor or advisor	2.03	1.96	2.02	2.01
4q. Worked with instructors on activities other than coursework	1.41	1.36	1.39	1.41

Q9. How much does this college emphasize each of the following?				
<i>Scale: 1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much</i>				
Item	Item mean 2010	Item mean 2012	Item mean 2014	Item mean 2016
9a. Encouraging you to spend significant amounts of time studying	3.02	3.04	3.09	3.07
9b. Providing the support you need to help you succeed at this college	2.97	2.9	3.00	2.99
9d. Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	2.01	1.89	2.7	1.92
9e. Providing the support you need to thrive socially	2.24	2.13	1.98	2.2
9f. Providing the financial support you need to afford your education	2.54	2.39	2.23	2.5