



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

# SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

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Mean Comparisons

August 2008



# Interpreting the Mean Comparisons Report

## Sample

The *Mean Comparisons* report is based on information from all randomly selected students for both your institution and your comparison institutions. Targeted oversamples and other non-randomly selected students are not included in this report.

## Variables

The items from the NSSE survey appear in the left column in the same order and wording as they appear on the instrument. The name of each variable appears in the second column for easy reference to your data file and the summary statistics at the end of this section. Response options are also provided to help you interpret the statistics.

## Benchmark

Items that make up the five “Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice” are indicated by the following:

LAC=Level of Academic Challenge

ACL=Active and Collaborative Learning

SFI=Student-Faculty Interaction

EEE=Enriching Educational Experiences

SCE=Supportive Campus Environment

Mean

The mean is the *weighted* arithmetic average of student responses on a particular item.

Means are provided for your institution and all comparison groups. For more information about weighting go to:

[www.nsse.iub.edu/2008\\_Institutional\\_Report/NSSE\\_2008\\_Weighting.cfm](http://www.nsse.iub.edu/2008_Institutional_Report/NSSE_2008_Weighting.cfm).

Class

Results are reported separately for first-year students (FY) and seniors (SR). Institution-reported class ranks are used.

## Statistical Significance

Items with mean differences that are larger than would be expected by chance alone are noted with one, two, or three asterisks, referring to three significance levels ( $p < .05$ ,  $p < .01$ , and  $p < .001$ ). The smaller the significance level, the smaller the likelihood that the difference is due to chance. *Statistical significance does not guarantee the result is substantive or important.* Large sample sizes (like those produced by NSSE) tend to generate more statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may be inconsequential. It is recommended to consult effect sizes (see below) to judge the practical meaning of the results.

## Effect Size

Effect size indicates the “practical significance” of the mean difference. It is calculated by dividing the mean difference by the pooled standard deviation. In practice, an effect size of .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large. A positive sign indicates that your institution's mean was greater, thus showing an affirmative result for your institution. A negative sign indicates the institution lags behind the comparison group, suggesting that the student behavior or

NSSE 2008 Mean Comparisons  
NSSEville State University

*NSSEville State compared with:*

Variable	Benchmark	Class	NSSEville State			Mid East Public			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008										
			Mean*	SD*	Rank*	Mean*	SD*	Rank*	Mean*	SD*	Rank*	Mean*	SD*	Effect Size*								
<i>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</i>																						
<b>1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences</b>																						
a	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	FY 2.84	2.65	***	.23	2.62	***	.27	2.74	**	.12	SR 3.27	2.90	***	.43	2.91	***	.41	3.03	***	.27
b	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN	FY 2.33	2.09	***	.33	2.08	***	.33	2.21	***	.15	SR 2.85	2.62	***	.27	2.65	***	.24	2.77	*	.10
c	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP	FY 2.59	2.53		.07	2.53		.06	2.64		-.05	SR 2.57	2.30	***	.28	2.37	***	.20	2.47	*	.10
d	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT	FY 3.04	2.96	**	.11	2.95	**	.11	3.03		.02	SR 3.34	3.22	**	.15	3.24	**	.13	3.29		.06
e	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS	FY 2.84	2.71	***	.14	2.72	**	.13	2.75	*	.09	SR 2.88	2.73	***	.17	2.73	***	.16	2.80	*	.09
f	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP	FY 1.97	2.07	**	-.12	2.09	***	-.15	2.02		-.06	SR 1.95	2.23	***	-.36	2.22	***	-.33	2.11	***	-.20

institutional practice represented by the item may warrant attention. An exception to this interpretation is the “coming to class unprepared” item (item 1f.) where a negative sign is preferred (i.e., meaning fewer students reporting coming to class unprepared).



SUNY ESF compared with:

Variable	Benchmark	Class	SUNY Sector									NSSE 2008		
			SUNY ESF			Peers			Carnegie Class			Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
			Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>			
<i>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</i>														
<b>1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences</b>														
a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	ACL	FY	2.45	2.73	***	-.34	2.67	**	-.27	2.78	***	-.39
				SR	2.83	3.13	**	-.36	2.96		-.15	3.07	*	-.28
b.	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN	ACL	FY	2.00	2.27	***	-.35	2.15	*	-.20	2.27	***	-.34
				SR	2.77	2.79		-.02	2.71		.08	2.80		-.03
c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP		FY	2.43	2.55		-.12	2.61		-.18	2.65	*	-.23
				SR	2.25	2.43		-.18	2.43		-.19	2.47	*	-.22
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT		FY	3.24	3.05	*	.25	3.01	**	.30	3.06	*	.23
				SR	3.41	3.33		.11	3.25	*	.22	3.30		.15
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS		FY	2.70	2.80		-.11	2.75		-.05	2.78		-.09
				SR	2.54	2.84	**	-.33	2.72		-.19	2.81	**	-.29
f.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP		FY	2.03	1.99		.05	2.07		-.04	2.01		.03
				SR	1.86	1.98		-.15	2.17	***	-.39	2.10	**	-.31
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP	ACL	FY	2.39	2.39		.01	2.41		-.02	2.41		-.02
				SR	2.45	2.51		-.07	2.49		-.05	2.52		-.08
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP	ACL	FY	2.62	2.33	**	.33	2.43		.22	2.40	*	.25
				SR	3.04	2.57	***	.51	2.82	*	.25	2.75	**	.33
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS		FY	2.80	2.61	*	.24	2.62		.22	2.63		.21
				SR	3.30	2.92	***	.47	2.94	***	.44	2.94	***	.44
j.	Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR	ACL	FY	1.75	1.57	*	.22	1.74		.02	1.70		.06
				SR	2.10	1.82	**	.29	1.91		.20	1.88	*	.23
k.	Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ	ACL	FY	2.18	1.54	***	.77	1.64	***	.63	1.60	***	.69
				SR	1.89	1.70	*	.21	1.70	*	.21	1.74		.17

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Mean Comparisons  
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

*SUNY ESF compared with:*

	Variable	Bench- mark	Class	SUNY Sector				Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008			
				SUNY ESF		Peers								
				Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	
l.	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM	EEE	FY	2.54	2.56		-0.02	2.64		-0.10	2.59		-0.05
				SR	2.66	2.78		-0.12	2.83		-0.17	2.82		-0.16
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL		FY	3.01	3.15		-0.17	3.11		-0.12	3.11		-0.12
				SR	3.37	3.37		.00	3.37		.00	3.38		-0.01
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE	SFI	FY	2.46	2.59		-0.15	2.57		-0.13	2.62		-0.18
				SR	2.59	2.83	*	-0.28	2.79	*	-0.23	2.81	*	-0.25
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS	SFI	FY	2.11	2.21		-0.10	2.15		-0.04	2.19		-0.08
				SR	2.71	2.50	*	.22	2.36	***	.37	2.42	**	.30
p.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS	SFI	FY	1.86	1.93		-0.08	1.86		.00	1.91		-0.06
				SR	2.23	2.14		.10	2.07		.18	2.12		.12
q.	Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FACFEED	SFI	FY	2.33	2.67	***	-0.41	2.60	**	-0.32	2.65	***	-0.39
				SR	2.79	2.83		-0.05	2.74		.06	2.80		-0.01
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	LAC	FY	2.55	2.63		-0.10	2.61		-0.07	2.65		-0.12
				SR	2.65	2.76		-0.12	2.71		-0.07	2.73		-0.09
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER	SFI	FY	1.66	1.70		-0.04	1.61		.06	1.65		.02
				SR	1.99	1.84		.15	1.80	*	.20	1.84		.16
t.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS	ACL	FY	2.84	2.61	*	.26	2.68		.18	2.69		.17
				SR	3.03	2.78	**	.30	2.85	*	.22	2.84	*	.22
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	EEE	FY	2.49	2.62		-0.13	2.59		-0.10	2.60		-0.11
				SR	2.94	2.56	***	.38	2.67	**	.28	2.67	**	.28
v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	DIFFSTU2	EEE	FY	2.77	2.72		.06	2.69		.09	2.70		.08
				SR	2.79	2.64		.16	2.68		.12	2.71		.08

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



SUNY ESF compared with:

Variable	Bench- mark	Class	SUNY Sector			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008				
			SUNY ESF		Peers	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		Effect Size <sup>c</sup>			
			Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>
<i>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</i>													
<b>2. Mental Activities</b>													
a. Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	MEMORIZE		FY	3.12	2.88	*	.28	2.94	.21	2.90	*	.26	
			SR	2.91	2.70	*	.23	2.79	.13	2.75		.17	
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	ANALYZE	LAC	FY	3.13	3.07		.08	3.09	.05	3.10		.04	
			SR	3.28	3.19		.13	3.22	.08	3.24		.05	
c. Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	SYNTHESZ	LAC	FY	3.09	2.86	*	.27	2.86	*	2.89	*	.24	
			SR	3.14	3.04		.13	3.01	.15	3.05		.11	
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	EVALUATE	LAC	FY	2.89	2.89		-.01	2.86	.03	2.90		-.02	
			SR	2.99	3.00		-.02	2.97	.02	3.01		-.02	
e. Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	LAC	FY	3.09	3.00		.11	3.03	.07	3.03		.07	
			SR	3.26	3.18		.10	3.18	.09	3.19		.08	
<i>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</i>													
<b>3. Reading and Writing</b>													
a. Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN	LAC	FY	3.22	3.31		-.09	3.16	.06	3.24		-.03	
			SR	3.12	3.20		-.08	3.12	.00	3.20		-.07	
b. Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN		FY	1.89	2.05		-.17	2.05	-.17	2.06		-.18	
			SR	2.23	2.14		.10	2.18	.05	2.19		.05	
c. Number of written papers or reports of <u>20 pages or more</u>	WRITEMOR	LAC	FY	1.21	1.28		-.10	1.26	-.06	1.28		-.09	
			SR	1.60	1.63		-.04	1.61	-.01	1.64		-.05	
d. Number of written papers or reports <u>between 5 and 19 pages</u>	WRITEMID	LAC	FY	2.39	2.35		.05	2.23	.19	2.29		.12	
			SR	2.77	2.67		.10	2.48	**	.30	2.58	*	.20
e. Number of written papers or reports of <u>fewer than 5 pages</u>	WRITESML	LAC	FY	3.83	3.15	***	.65	3.01	***	.78	3.04	***	.76
			SR	3.34	3.00	**	.29	2.95	**	.34	3.00	**	.30

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed)

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation



SUNY ESF compared with:

Variable	Benchmark	Class	SUNY Sector			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008			
			SUNY ESF			Peers			NSSE 2008			
			Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
<i>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</i>												
<b>4. Problem Sets</b>												
a. Number of problem sets that take you <b>more</b> than an hour to complete	PROBSETA	FY	2.80	2.63		.16	2.71	.08	2.69	.10		
			SR	2.67	2.65		.01	2.64	.02	2.61	.05	
b. Number of problem sets that take you <b>less</b> than an hour to complete	PROBSETB	FY	2.61	2.82		-.18	2.80	-.16	2.75	-.12		
			SR	2.37	2.44		-.06	2.37	.00	2.35	.01	
<b>5. Examinations</b>												
<i>Select the circle that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the current school year challenged you to do your best work.</i>												
EXAMS	FY	5.71	5.22	***	.41	5.43	*	.24	5.41	*	.25	
		SR	5.65	5.20	**	.33	5.43		.17	5.39	.20	
<i>During the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often</i>												
<b>6. Additional Collegiate Experiences</b>												
a. Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theatre or other performance	ATDART07	FY	2.11	2.30	*	-.20	2.20	-.10	2.22	-.12		
			SR	1.97	2.11		-.15	2.05	-.08	2.07	-.11	
b. Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	EXRCSE05	FY	2.71	2.77		-.05	2.83	-.12	2.79	-.08		
			SR	2.84	2.63	*	.20	2.68	.16	2.68	.16	
c. Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	WORSHPO5	FY	1.74	1.70		.04	2.17	***	-.38	2.06	*	-.29
			SR	1.64	1.78		-.14	2.28	***	-.54	2.11	***
d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW	FY	2.54	2.54		.00	2.61	-.08	2.60	-.06		
			SR	2.57	2.62		-.06	2.70	-.15	2.68	-.13	
e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	OTHRVIEW	FY	2.76	2.74		.03	2.76	.01	2.76	.00		
			SR	2.85	2.81		.05	2.82	.04	2.83	.02	
f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW	FY	2.99	2.84		.19	2.83	.18	2.84	.17		
			SR	2.79	2.88		-.10	2.88	-.10	2.89	-.12	
<i>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.)</i>												
<b>7. Enriching Educational Experiences</b>												
a. Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN04	EEE	FY	.03	.10	**	-.22	.07	-.16	.08	*	-.18
			SR	.79	.54	***	.51	.51	***	.55	.53	***

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation

*SUNY ESF compared with:*

	Variable	Bench- mark	Class	SUNY Sector				Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008		
				SUNY ESF	Peers		Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
b. Community service or volunteer work	VOLNTR04	EEE	FY	.78	.34	***	.93	.40	***	.79	.38	***	.83
			SR	.78	.54	***	.48	.60	***	.36	.60	***	.37
c. Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	LRNCOM04	EEE	FY	.64	.16	***	1.31	.18	***	1.19	.16	***	1.32
			SR	.49	.27	***	.49	.26	***	.53	.26	***	.52
d. Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESRCH04	SFI	FY	.04	.06		-.05	.05		-.04	.05		-.04
			SR	.42	.18	***	.61	.20	***	.55	.20	***	.55
e. Foreign language coursework	FORLNG04	EEE	FY	.04	.25	***	-.47	.21	***	-.41	.22	***	-.43
			SR	.26	.47	***	-.42	.43	***	-.34	.41	**	-.31
f. Study abroad	STDABR04	EEE	FY	.01	.03		-.09	.03		-.10	.03		-.11
			SR	.12	.09		.09	.13		-.04	.15		-.10
g. Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTD04	EEE	FY	.02	.04		-.11	.04		-.07	.04		-.09
			SR	.28	.22		.15	.17	*	.32	.18	*	.26
h. Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	SNRX04	EEE	FY	.03	.02		.14	.02		.08	.02		.09
			SR	.45	.25	***	.46	.30	**	.33	.32	*	.27

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

**8. Quality of Relationships**

a. Relationships with <u>other students</u>	ENVSTU	SCE	FY	5.86	5.38	**	.32	5.46	*	.28	5.47	*	.27
			SR	5.88	5.51	*	.26	5.56	*	.23	5.59		.21
<i>1=Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic to 7=Available, Helpful, Sympathetic</i>													
b. Relationships with <u>faculty members</u>	ENVFAC	SCE	FY	5.09	5.13		-.03	5.05		.03	5.19		-.07
			SR	5.82	5.44	*	.27	5.27	***	.40	5.41	**	.30
<i>1=Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid to 7=Helpful, Considerate, Flexible</i>													
c. Relationships with <u>administrative personnel and offices</u>	ENVADM	SCE	FY	4.74	4.62		.08	4.55		.13	4.65		.06
			SR	5.13	4.60	**	.31	4.45	***	.40	4.53	**	.35

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



SUNY ESF compared with:

Variable	Benchmark	Class	SUNY Sector			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008					
			SUNY ESF	Peers	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>			
<p>9. Time Usage</p> <p>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</p>														
a.	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	ACADPR01	LAC	FY	4.51	3.89	***	.40	4.06	*	.28	4.04	*	.29
				SR	4.20	4.04		.09	4.14		.03	4.14		.03
b.	Working for pay <u>on campus</u>	WORKON01		FY	1.56	1.56		.00	1.54		.01	1.55		.01
				SR	2.06	1.69	*	.26	1.88		.11	1.79		.18
c.	Working for pay <u>off campus</u>	WORKOF01		FY	1.25	2.21	***	-.45	2.14	***	-.45	2.46	***	-.52
				SR	2.20	3.74	***	-.54	3.62	***	-.51	3.79	***	-.57
d.	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	COCURR01	EEE	FY	2.15	2.31		-.10	2.28		-.08	2.26		-.07
				SR	2.08	2.05		.01	2.07		.01	2.11		-.02
e.	Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)	SOCIAL05		FY	3.98	3.90		.05	3.91		.04	3.76		.13
				SR	4.05	3.49	**	.35	3.52	**	.34	3.49	**	.36
f.	Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01		FY	1.23	1.64	***	-.28	1.54	***	-.24	1.79	***	-.33
				SR	1.40	2.43	***	-.44	2.27	***	-.40	2.38	***	-.43
g.	Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)	COMMUTE		FY	1.91	2.05		-.14	2.32	***	-.40	2.26	***	-.32
				SR	2.24	2.23		.01	2.39		-.15	2.36		-.12
<p>10. Institutional Environment</p> <p>To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?            1=Very little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much</p>														
a.	Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL	LAC	FY	3.33	3.04	**	.38	3.14	*	.25	3.14	*	.24
				SR	3.17	3.07		.13	3.14		.04	3.14		.05
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT	SCE	FY	3.28	3.02	**	.33	3.05	*	.28	3.07	*	.26
				SR	3.28	2.94	***	.41	2.88	***	.47	2.93	***	.41
c.	Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	EEE	FY	2.84	2.69		.16	2.68		.17	2.70		.15
				SR	2.68	2.46	*	.23	2.46	*	.22	2.50		.18

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed)

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation





National Survey  
of Student Engagement

NSSE 2008 Mean Comparisons  
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

SUNY ESF compared with:

Variable	Benchmark	Class	SUNY Sector						NSSE 2008			
			SUNY ESF		Peers		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2008			
			Mean <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>
d. Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	SCE	FY	2.34	.03	2.31		2.24	.10	2.27		.08
			SR	2.11	.08	2.03		1.95	.17	1.99		.13
e. Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	SCE	FY	2.65	.15	2.51		2.51	.15	2.49		.17
			SR	2.51	.30	2.22	**	2.23	*	2.23	**	.30
f. Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT		FY	3.07	.28	2.81	**	2.90	.19	2.84	**	.25
			SR	3.09	.57	2.53	***	2.65	***	2.61	***	.50
g. Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT		FY	3.27	-.01	3.28		3.33	-.08	3.31		-.05
			SR	3.54	.16	3.42		3.48	.08	3.46		.11

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	NGGENLED		FY	3.29	.13	3.18		3.19	.13	3.20		.11
			SR	3.06	-.27	3.28		3.27	-.26	3.29	*	-.29
b. Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK		FY	2.91	.15	2.77		2.78	.14	2.80		.12
			SR	3.37	.34	3.06	**	3.06	**	3.07	**	.33
c. Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE		FY	2.96	-.04	3.00		2.95	.01	3.02		-.06
			SR	3.14	.05	3.10		3.04	.11	3.11		.03
d. Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK		FY	2.63	-.19	2.80		2.75	-.13	2.85		-.23
			SR	3.05	.06	2.99		2.94	.12	3.00		.05
e. Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY		FY	3.36	.27	3.15	*	3.19	.22	3.21		.20
			SR	3.52	.30	3.29	**	3.34	*	3.36		.21
f. Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT		FY	3.18	.35	2.87	**	2.98	.24	2.96	*	.26
			SR	3.41	.44	3.02	***	3.11	**	3.08	**	.37
g. Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS		FY	3.13	.14	3.00		3.05	.08	3.04		.10
			SR	3.43	.30	3.17	**	3.25	.22	3.22	*	.25
h. Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS		FY	3.11	.18	2.95		2.97	.16	2.99		.14
			SR	3.32	.24	3.12	*	3.14	.21	3.17		.19

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \* p<.05 \*\* p<.01 \*\*\* p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Mean Comparisons  
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

*SUNY ESF compared with:*

	Variable	Bench- mark	Class	SUNY Sector			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2008			
				SUNY ESF		Peers	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		
				Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	
i. Voting in local, state, or national elections	GNCITIZN		FY	2.43	2.18		.24	2.27	.16	2.24	.18		
			SR	2.08	2.02		.06	2.08	.00	2.11	-.03		
j. Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ		FY	2.96	2.91		.06	2.95	.02	2.96	.01		
			SR	3.13	3.02		.12	3.03	.11	3.05	.09		
k. Understanding yourself	GNSELF		FY	2.75	2.81		-.06	2.78	-.03	2.81	-.06		
			SR	2.67	2.85		-.18	2.78	-.10	2.83	-.15		
l. Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS		FY	2.67	2.70		-.03	2.65	.02	2.67	.00		
			SR	2.42	2.64		-.22	2.59	-.17	2.64	-.22		
m. Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV		FY	3.07	2.66	***	.44	2.68	**	.42	2.69	**	.41
			SR	3.17	2.70	***	.49	2.78	***	.41	2.78	***	.42
n. Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS		FY	2.78	2.67		.11	2.70	.08	2.70	.09		
			SR	2.64	2.65		-.01	2.71	-.07	2.71	-.07		
o. Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN		FY	3.05	2.37	***	.70	2.51	***	.55	2.47	***	.59
			SR	2.78	2.35	***	.42	2.48	*	.30	2.48	**	.30
p. Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	GNSPIRIT		FY	1.86	2.01		-.14	2.20	**	-.31	2.15	*	-.27
			SR	1.57	1.78	*	-.21	2.02	***	-.39	1.96	***	-.35
				<i>1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent</i>									
<b>12. Academic Advising</b>													
Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	ADVISE		FY	2.99	2.93		.08	2.98	.01	3.00	-.01		
			SR	3.19	2.81	***	.39	2.76	***	.45	2.85	**	.36
				<i>1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent</i>									
<b>13. Satisfaction</b>													
How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP		FY	3.39	3.11	**	.39	3.20	*	.26	3.19	*	.27
			SR	3.44	3.15	***	.38	3.18	**	.35	3.21	**	.31
				<i>1=Definitely no, 2=Probably no, 3=Probably yes, 4=Definitely yes</i>									
<b>14.</b>													
If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	SAMECOLL		FY	3.39	3.12	**	.33	3.26	.16	3.23	.20		
			SR	3.46	3.15	**	.36	3.19	**	.31	3.20	**	.30

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