

To best meet the needs of participating institutions' diverse stakeholders, institutions can customize their survey administration with Topical Modules and consortium participation.

Topical Modules

Topical Modules are short sets of questions on current topics in higher education and student engagement. Participating institutions can append one module to the core survey at no charge and a second for an additional fee. Modules offered in 2016 are listed below. Question sets with a companion FSSE module are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Academic Advising*

This module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency of use, accessibility, and types of information provided. It also asks students to identify their primary source of academic advice. The module complements a question on the core survey about the quality of students' interactions with academic advisors.

Civic Engagement*

Adapted from a pilot survey by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, this module asks students to assess their conflict resolution skills and examines how often students have engaged with local or campus and state/national/global issues. The module complements questions on the core survey about service-learning; community service; volunteer work; and informed, active citizenship.

Development of Transferable Skills*

Adapted from a pilot survey by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, this module examines activities that develop useful and transferable skills for the workplace (such as verbal and written fluency and analytic inquiry). The module complements questions on the core survey about higher-order learning, reflective and integrative learning, and students' perceptions of their development in a variety of areas.

Experiences with Diverse Perspectives*

This module examines activities that promote greater understanding of societal differences. The module complements questions on the core survey about experiences with people from different backgrounds, diverse perspectives in course discussions and assignments, and the extent to which institutions encourage contact among students from different backgrounds.

Learning with Technology*

Developed in partnership with EDUCAUSE, these questions examine the role of technology in student learning, focusing on usage, contribution to learning, and perceptions of institutional support. This module complements questions on

the core survey about learning with peers, quality of interactions with others, and institutional emphasis on academic support.

Experiences with Writing*

This module is a product of NSSE's ongoing collaboration with the Council of Writing Program Administrators. The questions touch on three aspects of good writing assignments: interactivity, meaning-making, and clarity. The module complements core survey questions about how much writing students do, the nature of their course assignments, and perceived gains in written expression.

Experiences with Information Literacy

Developed in collaboration with college and university librarians, this module asks students about their use of information and how much their instructors emphasize the proper use of information sources. The module complements questions on the core survey about higher-order learning and how much writing students do.

First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

This module has two sets of items: one for first-year students and one for seniors. The items are adapted from the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project respectively. First-year items focus on academic perseverance, help-seeking behaviors, and institutional commitment. Senior items explore postgraduation plans, links between the academic major and future plans, and confidence in skill development.

Global Learning

This module assesses student experiences and coursework emphasizing global affairs, world cultures, nationalities, religions, and other international topics. It complements the American Council on Education's 2016 survey, *Mapping Internationalization of U.S. Campuses*, as well as core survey items on experiences with people from different backgrounds, course emphasis on integrative and reflective learning, and participation in study abroad.

More Information About Topical Modules

For details about Topical Modules, including complete question sets, visit nsse.indiana.edu/html/modules.cfm. Additional modules may be developed and introduced over time.

If you have suggestions for modules, please contact us via email (nsse@indiana.edu) or phone (812-856-5824).

Consortium Participation

A NSSE consortium is a group of at least six colleges or universities that append additional questions to the core instrument to explore a topic of mutual interest. Consortia typically form around a shared institutional mission or statewide system membership. Consortium participants may also elect to append one Topical Module to the core survey.

2016 Participating Consortia

- Association of American Universities Data Exchange
- Catholic Colleges and Universities
- Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
- Jesuit Colleges and Universities
- Mission Engagement Consortium for Independent Colleges
- New American Colleges and Universities
- Sustainability Education Consortium

2016 Participating Systems

- Tennessee Publics
- Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
- University of Texas

More Information About Consortium Participation

Details about consortium participation, including a complete list of all consortia and systems that have participated in NSSE since 2000, can be found at nsse.indiana.edu/html/consortia.cfm



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