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 2018 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 that was developed 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 or 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.

**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: interaction, 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 (based on institution-reported class level): 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 post-graduation 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 NSSE’s core survey items on experiences with people from different backgrounds, course emphasis on reflective and integrative learning, and participation in study abroad.

**Inclusiveness and Engagement with Cultural Diversity**
This module examines environments, processes, and activities that reflect the engagement and validation of cultural diversity and promote greater understanding of societal differences. Questions explore students’ exposure to inclusive teaching practices and intercultural learning, perceptions of institutional values and commitment regarding diversity, sense of belonging, and participation in diversity-related programming and coursework. The module replaced the former Experiences with Diverse Perspectives module.

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 2000–2018

A NSSE consortium is a group of at least six colleges or universities—typically with a common institutional mission or membership in a statewide system—that append to the core survey instrument a set of additional questions exploring a topic of mutual interest. Consortium participants may elect also to append one Topical Module to the core survey. More information about consortium participation can be found at nsse.indiana.edu/html/consortia.cfm.

All Consortium Participants

American Democracy Project
Arts Consortium
Association of American Universities Data Exchange
Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design
Association of Independent Technical Universities
Bringing Theory to Practice
California State University
Canadian Consortium
Canadian Research Universities
Canadian U4
Catholic Colleges and Universities
Colleges That Change Lives
Committee on Institutional Cooperation
Consortium for the Study of Writing in College
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council of Independent College
Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges
Flashlight Group
G13-X-Ontario
Hispanic Serving Institutions
Historically Black Colleges and Universities
Information Literacy
Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Lutheran Colleges and Universities
Mid-Atlantic Private Colleges
Military Academy Consortium
Mission Engagement Consortium for Independent Colleges
New American Colleges and Universities
New Western Canadian Universities
Online Educators Consortium
Private Liberal Arts Colleges and Universities
Qatar Foundation/Education Division/OFSS
Seventh Day Adventist Colleges and Universities
Sustainability Education Consortium
Teagle Diversity Consortium
Teagle Integrated Learning Consortium
Urban Universities
Women’s Colleges
Work Colleges

All System Participants

City University of New York
Concordia Universities
Connecticut State Universities
Indiana University
Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
Minnesota State College and University
New Jersey Public Universities
North Dakota University System
Ohio State University System
Ontario Universities
Ontario Universities 2
Penn State System
Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
South Dakota Public Universities
State University of New York
Tennessee Publics
Texas A&M System
Texas Six
University of Hawaii
University of Louisiana System
University of Maine System
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Missouri
University of North Carolina
University of Texas
University System of Georgia
University of Wisconsin Comprehensives