

CSU Graduation Initiative: Mapping NSSE Items to #GradInitiative 2025

Individual Survey Items (NSSE Items 1–3c)

Survey Items	CSU Graduation Initiative
Question 1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?	
1a	Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways
1b	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in
1c	Come to class without completing readings or assignments
1d	Attended an art exhibit, play, or other arts performance (dance, music, etc.)
1e	Asked another student to help you understand course material
1f	Explained course material to one or more students
1g	Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students
1h	Worked with other students on course projects or assignments
1i	Gave a course presentation
Question 2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?	
2a	Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments
2b	Connected your learning to societal problems or issues
2c	Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments
2d	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue
2e	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective
2f	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept
2g	Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge
Question 3. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?	
3a	Talked about career plans with a faculty member
3b	Worked with a faculty member on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)
3c	Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class

Individual Survey Items (NSSE Items 3d–8)

Survey Items		CSU Graduation Initiative
3d	Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	
Question 4. During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following?		
4a	Memorizing course material	
4b	Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	
4c	Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	
4d	Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	
4e	Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	
Question 5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following?		
5a	Clearly explained course goals and requirements	
5b	Taught course sessions in an organized way	
5c	Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	
5d	Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	
5e	Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	
Question 6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?		
6a	Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	
6b	Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	
6c	Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	
Question 7. During the current school year, about how many papers, reports, or other writing tasks of the following lengths have you been assigned? (Include those not yet completed.)		
7a	Up to 5 pages	
7b	Between 6 and 10 pages	
7c	11 pages or more	
Question 8. During the current school year, about how often have you had discussions with people from the following groups?		
8a	People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	
8b	People from an economic background other than your own	
8c	People with religious beliefs other than your own	
8d	People with political views other than your own	

Individual Survey Items (NSSE Items 9–14)

Survey Items	CSU Graduation Initiative
Question 9. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?	
9a Identified key information from reading assignments	
9b Reviewed your notes after class	
9c Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	
Question 10. During the current school year, to what extent have your courses challenged you to do your best work?	
Question 11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate?	
11a Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement	
11b Hold a formal leadership role in a student organization or group	
11c Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	
11d Participate in a study abroad program	
11e Work with a faculty member on a research project	
11f Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)	
Question 12. About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?	
Question 13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.	
13a Students	
13b Academic advisors	
13c Faculty	
13d Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	
13e Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	
Question 14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?	
14a Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	
14b Providing support to help students succeed academically	
14c Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	
14d Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic, religious, etc.)	
14e Providing opportunities to be involved socially	
14f Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	
14g Helping you manage your nonacademic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	
14h Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	
14i Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	

Individual Survey Items (NSSE Items 15–19)

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Question 15. About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?	
15a	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)
15b	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity/sorority, intercollegiate/intramural sports, etc.)
15c	Working for pay on campus
15d	Working for pay off campus
15e	Doing community service or volunteer work
15f	Relaxing & socializing (time with friends, video games, TV or videos....)
15g	Providing care for dependents (children, parents, etc.)
15h	Commuting to campus (driving, walking, etc.)
Question 16. Of the time you spend preparing for class in a typical 7-day week, about how much is on <i>assigned reading</i>?	
Question 17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, personal development in the following?	
17a	Writing clearly and effectively
17b	Speaking clearly and effectively
17c	Thinking critically and analytically
17d	Analyzing numerical and statistical information
17e	Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills
17f	Working effectively with others
17g	Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics
17h	Understanding people of other backgrounds (economic, racial/ethnic, political, religious, .)
17i	Solving complex real-world problems
17j	Being an informed and active citizen
Question 18. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	
Question 19. If you could start over again, would you go to the <i>same institution</i> you are now attending?	
Survey Items with Demographic Focus	Question 30. Enter your year of birth (e.g., 1994): 19[]
Question 20. How many majors do you plan to complete? Enter major/expected	Question 31. Are you an international student or foreign national?
Question 21. What is your class level?	Question 32. What is your racial or ethnic identification?
Question 22. Thinking about this current academic term, are you FT student?	Question 33. Are you a member of a social fraternity or sorority?
Question 23. How many courses are you taking for credit this current academic term? Of these, how many are entirely online?	Question 34. Which of the following best describes where you are living ...
Question 24. What have most of your grades been up to now at this institution?	Question 35. Are you a student-athlete on a team ...
Question 25. Did you begin college at this institution or elsewhere?	Question 36. Are you current/former member U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves...
Question 26. Since graduating from HS, which types of schools attended(Transfer)	Question 37. Have you been diagnosed with any disability or impairment?
Question 27. What is the highest level of education you ever expect to complete?	Question 38. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?
Question 28. What is the highest level of education completed by either Parent?	
Question 29. What is your gender identity?	