

PLNU DQP Data from NSSE

The National Survey of Social Engagement (NSSE) published a mapping between DQP Learning Outcomes and NSSE questions. This document provides the information from PLNU's administration of NSSE in 2005 and 2011 in each of the DQP domains. The details of the data are on the pages that follow.

Here are some observations from the data:

- In many ways, PLNU is similar to its comparator institutions in most of the NSSE domains connected with the DQP.
- There is some difference between 2005 and 2011. Because of the changes in the comparator groups used in those two years, it is difficult to tell how much of the change is due to improvement and how much is connected with the change in the groups.

Some key derived from looking at comparators:

- Compared to its comparators, PLNU has significantly fewer students involved in “culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)”
- Fewer PLNU students than at our comparators say that they “included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments.”
- PLNU students report taking a greater amount of “foreign language coursework” than students at PLNU's comparator institutions.
- PLNU students rate themselves more highly than students in our comparator schools in their ability to “analyze quantitative problems.”
- A higher percentage of PLNU students “Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course” than students at comparator institutions.
- A higher percentage of PLNU students “discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class” than students at comparator institutions.
- PLNU students rate the life goal “contributing to the welfare of your community” more highly than students at comparator institutions.

Note that * next to a numbers indicates a significant difference; the greater the number of stars, the more significant the difference.

Specialized Knowledge

1. Defines and explains the boundaries, divisions, styles and practices of a field.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16

2. Defines and properly uses the principal terms in the field, both historical and contemporaneous.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
	Peers	**2.73	2.86	3.08	3.11

3. Demonstrates fluency in the use of tools, technologies and methods in the field.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Analyzing quantitative problems	PLNU	2.77	2.89	2.91	3.11
	Masters	2.81	2.98	3.01	3.10
	Peers	2.82	2.89	3.02	*2.97

4. Evaluates, clarifies and frames a complex question or challenge using perspectives and scholarship from the student's major field and at least one other.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	PLNU	2.70	2.62	2.75	2.98
	Masters	**2.54	2.64	**2.91	2.96
	Peers	2.63	2.66	***2.95	3.00
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

5. Constructs a project related to a familiar but complex problem in the field of study by assembling, arranging and reformulating ideas, concepts, designs or techniques.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	PLNU	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.29
	Masters	***0.01	***0.02	**0.34	0.30
	Peers	**0.01	0.01	***0.52	***0.54
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

6. Constructs a summative project, paper or practice-based performance that draws on current research, scholarship and/or techniques in the field.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Made a class presentation	PLNU	2.40	2.58	2.89	2.90
	Masters	2.30	***2.33	2.93	2.86
	Peers	***2.23	***2.41	2.85	2.93
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	PLNU	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.29
	Masters	***0.01	***0.02	**0.34	0.30
	Peers	**0.01	0.01	***0.52	***0.54
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	PLNU	2.83	2.89	3.10	3.11
	Masters	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.09
	Peers	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.16

Broad, Integrative Knowledge

1. Frames a complex scientific, social, technological, economic or aesthetic challenge or problem from the perspectives and literature of at least two academic fields and proposes a “best approach” to the question or challenge using evidence from those fields.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	PLNU	2.70	2.62	2.75	2.98
	Masters	**2.54	2.64	**2.91	2.96
	Peers	2.63	2.66	***2.95	3.00
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86

2. Produces, independently or collaboratively, an investigative, creative or practical work that draws on specific theories, tools and methods from at least two academic fields.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	PLNU	2.70	2.62	2.75	2.98
	Masters	**2.54	2.64	**2.91	2.96
	Peers	2.63	2.66	***2.95	3.00
Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	PLNU	0.02	0.01	0.20	0.22
	Masters	*0.05	***0.05	0.18	*0.16
	Peers	0.04	*0.03	0.25	0.23
Independent study or self-designed major	PLNU	0.01	0.01	0.20	0.13
	Masters	***0.03	***0.04	0.20	0.15
	Peers	0.02	0.02	**0.27	***0.23
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

3. Explains a problem in science, the arts, society, human services, economic life or technology from the perspective of at least two academic fields, explains how the methods of inquiry and research in those disciplines can be brought to bear, judges the likelihood that the combination of disciplinary perspectives and methods would contribute to the resolution of the challenge, and justifies the importance of the challenge in a social or global context.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	PLNU	2.70	2.62	2.75	2.98
	Masters	**2.54	2.64	**2.91	2.96
	Peers	2.63	2.66	***2.95	3.00
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
	Peers	**2.73	2.86	3.08	3.11
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	PLNU	2.44	2.49	2.32	2.57
	Masters	*2.58	**2.71	***2.61	2.70
	Peers	**2.66	**2.71	***2.69	2.69
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86

Intellectual Skills

1. Differentiates and evaluates theories and approaches to complex standard and nonstandard problems within his or her major field. (Analytic inquiry)

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

2. Incorporates multiple information resources in different media or languages in projects, papers or performances, with appropriate citations; and evaluates the relative merits of competing resources with respect to clearly articulated standards. (Use of information resources)

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Made a class presentation	PLNU	2.40	2.58	2.89	2.90
	Masters	2.30	***2.33	2.93	2.86
	Peers	***2.23	***2.41	2.85	2.93
Used an electronic medium (Listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	PLNU	2.63	2.82	2.78	2.94
	Masters	2.57	2.72	2.81	2.92
	Peers	2.57	*2.66	2.69	2.89
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Foreign language coursework	PLNU	0.17	0.20	0.74	0.72
	Masters	0.21	0.16	***0.41	***0.34
	Peers	***0.33	*0.27	***0.64	***0.59
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

	PLNU	2.77	2.89	2.91	3.11
Analyzing quantitative problems	Masters	2.81	2.98	3.01	3.10
	Peers	2.82	2.89	3.02	*2.97

3. Constructs a cultural, political or technological alternate vision of either the natural or human world through a written project, laboratory report, exhibit, performance, or community service design; defines the distinct patterns in this alternate vision; and explains how these patterns differ from current realities. (Engaging diverse perspectives)

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	PLNU	2.71	2.81	2.56	2.66
	Masters	**2.52	***2.57	2.60	2.67
	Peers	2.70	*2.66	*2.71	2.68
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02

Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	PLNU	0.05	0.06	0.71	0.70
	Masters	*0.08	0.06	***0.56	***0.47
	Peers	0.06	0.07	0.69	0.66
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	PLNU	2.44	2.49	2.32	2.57
	Masters	*2.58	**2.71	***2.61	2.70
	Peers	**2.66	**2.71	***2.69	2.69
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86

4. Translates verbal problems into mathematical algorithms, constructs valid arguments using the accepted symbolic system of mathematical reasoning, and constructs accurate calculations.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Made a class presentation	PLNU	2.40	2.58	2.89	2.90
	Masters	2.30	***2.33	2.93	2.86
	Peers	***2.23	***2.41	2.85	2.93
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Analyzing quantitative problems	PLNU	2.77	2.89	2.91	3.11
	Masters	2.81	2.98	3.01	3.10
	Peers	2.82	2.89	3.02	*2.97

5. Estimates, risk analyses or quantitative evaluations of public information through presentations, papers or projects. (Quantitative fluency)

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Made a class presentation	PLNU	2.40	2.58	2.89	2.90
	Masters	2.30	***2.33	2.93	2.86
	Peers	***2.23	***2.41	2.85	2.93
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	PLNU	2.71	2.81	2.56	2.66
	Masters	**2.52	***2.57	2.60	2.67
	Peers	2.70	*2.66	*2.71	2.68
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	PLNU	2.66	2.76	2.60	2.71
	Masters	2.70	*2.61	2.71	2.69
	Peers	2.78	2.66	*2.76	2.74
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Foreign language coursework	PLNU	0.17	0.20	0.74	0.72
	Masters	0.21	0.16	***0.41	***0.34
	Peers	***0.33	*0.27	***0.64	***0.59
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41

Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
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	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86

6. Constructs sustained, coherent argument or presentation on technical issues or processes in more than one language and in more than one medium for general and specific audiences; and works through collaboration to address a social, personal or ethical dilemma. (Communication fluency)

No NSSE data items.

Applied Learning

1. Presents a project, paper, performance or other appropriate task linking knowledge and skills from work, community or research activities with knowledge acquired in academic disciplines; explains how elements were combined to shape meaning or findings; and shows the relationship to relevant scholarship.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Made a class presentation	PLNU	2.40	2.58	2.89	2.90
	Masters	2.30	***2.33	2.93	2.86
	Peers	***2.23	***2.41	2.85	2.93
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	PLNU	1.51	1.58	1.91	2.17
	Masters	1.56	1.55	1.80	***1.75
	Peers	***1.81	***1.81	1.96	***1.86
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	PLNU	0.05	0.06	0.71	0.70
	Masters	*0.08	0.06	***0.56	***0.47
	Peers	0.06	0.07	0.69	0.66

Community service or volunteer work	PLNU	0.45	0.51	0.75	0.77
	Masters	0.40	***0.36	***0.62	***0.56
	Peers	*0.53	0.54	0.77	0.75
Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	PLNU	0.02	0.01	0.20	0.22
	Masters	*0.05	***0.05	0.18	*0.16
	Peers	0.04	*0.03	0.25	0.23
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	PLNU	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.29
	Masters	***0.01	***0.02	**0.34	0.30
	Peers	**0.01	0.01	***0.52	***0.54
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
	Peers	**2.73	2.86	3.08	3.11
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86

2. Formulates a question on a topic that addresses more than one academic discipline or practical setting, locates appropriate evidence that addresses the question, evaluates the evidence in relation to the problem's contexts, and articulates conclusions that follow logically from analysis.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	PLNU	3.06	3.20	3.43	3.35
	Masters	3.08	3.15	3.36	3.38
	Peers	3.12	3.13	3.39	3.44
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
	Peers	**2.73	2.86	3.08	3.11
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45

3. Completes a field-based assignment in the course of study that employs insights from others; evaluates a significant question in relation to concepts, methods or assumptions in at least one academic field; and explains the implications of learning outside the classroom.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	PLNU	1.51	1.58	1.91	2.17
	Masters	1.56	1.55	1.80	***1.75
	Peers	***1.81	***1.81	1.96	***1.86
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	PLNU	1.76	1.96	2.22	2.50
	Masters	1.82	1.84	2.13	***2.08
	Peers	*1.90	1.85	2.28	***2.21
Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	PLNU	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.30
	Masters	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.30
	Peers	3.13	3.22	**3.32	3.34
Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	PLNU	2.86	2.99	2.98	3.15
	Masters	2.81	2.94	3.03	3.10
	Peers	2.86	2.97	**3.14	3.18
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	PLNU	0.05	0.06	0.71	0.70
	Masters	*0.08	0.06	***0.56	***0.47
	Peers	0.06	0.07	0.69	0.66
Community service or volunteer work	PLNU	0.45	0.51	0.75	0.77
	Masters	0.40	***0.36	***0.62	***0.56
	Peers	*0.53	0.54	0.77	0.75

Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	PLNU	0.02	0.01	0.20	0.22
	Masters	*0.05	***0.05	0.18	*0.16
	Peers	0.04	*0.03	0.25	0.23
Study abroad	PLNU	0.01	0.00	0.33	0.35
	Masters	***0.02	***0.03	***0.13	***0.11
	Peers	0.01	***0.03	0.36	0.35
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Speaking clearly and effectively	PLNU	2.94	2.96	3.02	3.17
	Masters	*2.81	2.93	3.05	*3.05
	Peers	**2.73	2.86	3.08	3.11
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	PLNU	2.44	2.49	2.32	2.57
	Masters	*2.58	**2.71	***2.61	2.70
	Peers	**2.66	**2.71	***2.69	2.69

Civic Learning

1. Explains diverse perspectives on a contested issue and evaluates insights gained from different kinds of evidence reflecting scholarly and community perspectives.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	PLNU	1.51	1.58	1.91	2.17
	Masters	1.56	1.55	1.80	***1.75
	Peers	***1.81	***1.81	1.96	***1.86
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	PLNU	2.71	2.81	2.56	2.66
	Masters	**2.52	***2.57	2.60	2.67
	Peers	2.70	*2.66	*2.71	2.68
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	PLNU	2.66	2.76	2.60	2.71
	Masters	2.70	*2.61	2.71	2.69
	Peers	2.78	2.66	*2.76	2.74
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	PLNU	3.01	2.94	3.02	2.94
	Masters	***2.56	***2.6	***2.70	***2.70
	Peers	2.88	*2.83	2.95	2.96
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	PLNU	3.05	3.08	3.07	3.16
	Masters	***2.76	***2.88	***2.85	***2.93
	Peers	2.97	2.97	3.02	3.05

Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Writing clearly and effectively	PLNU	3.01	3.01	3.07	3.13
	Masters	3.00	3.07	3.12	3.14
	Peers	2.98	3.03	**3.23	3.22
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	PLNU	2.44	2.49	2.32	2.57
	Masters	*2.58	**2.71	***2.61	2.70
	Peers	**2.66	**2.71	***2.69	2.69
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86
Developing a personal code of values and ethics	PLNU	3.22	3.04	3.16	3.13
	Masters	***2.62	***2.75	***2.73	***2.77
	Peers	***2.94	2.97	3.07	3.09
Contributing to the welfare of your community	PLNU	3.01	2.97	2.78	3.05
	Masters	***2.40	***2.45	***2.49	***2.49
	Peers	***2.74	*2.82	2.81	**2.86

2. Develops and justifies a position on a public issue and relates this position to alternative views within the community or policy environment.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	PLNU	1.51	1.58	1.91	2.17
	Masters	1.56	1.55	1.80	***1.75
	Peers	***1.81	***1.81	1.96	***1.86
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	PLNU	2.71	2.81	2.56	2.66
	Masters	**2.52	***2.57	2.60	2.67
	Peers	2.70	*2.66	*2.71	2.68
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	PLNU	2.66	2.76	2.60	2.71
	Masters	2.70	*2.61	2.71	2.69
	Peers	2.78	2.66	*2.76	2.74
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	PLNU	3.01	2.94	3.02	2.94
	Masters	***2.56	***2.6	***2.70	***2.70
	Peers	2.88	*2.83	2.95	2.96
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	PLNU	3.05	3.08	3.07	3.16
	Masters	***2.76	***2.88	***2.85	***2.93
	Peers	2.97	2.97	3.02	3.05
Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41

	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
Thinking critically and analytically	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
	PLNU	2.33	1.87	2.22	1.96
Voting in local, state, or national elections	Masters	2.45	2.00	2.29	2.08
	Peers	2.39	1.77	2.35	1.93
	PLNU	2.44	2.49	2.32	2.57
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	Masters	*2.58	**2.71	***2.61	2.70
	Peers	**2.66	**2.71	***2.69	2.69
	PLNU	3.22	3.04	3.16	3.13
Developing a personal code of values and ethics	Masters	***2.62	***2.75	***2.73	***2.77
	Peers	***2.94	2.97	3.07	3.09
	PLNU	3.01	2.97	2.78	3.05
Contributing to the welfare of your community	Masters	***2.40	***2.45	***2.49	***2.49
	Peers	***2.74	*2.82	2.81	**2.86

3. Collaborates in developing and implementing an approach to a civic issue, evaluates the process and, where applicable, weighs the results.

NSSE Measure		FY		SR	
		2005	2011	2005	2011
Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	PLNU	2.68	2.78	2.81	2.79
	Masters	2.76	2.81	2.83	2.89
	Peers	2.87	2.84	*2.93	*2.94
Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	PLNU	1.51	1.58	1.91	2.17
	Masters	1.56	1.55	1.80	***1.75
	Peers	***1.81	***1.81	1.96	***1.86
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	PLNU	2.83	2.83	2.88	3.10
	Masters	2.82	*2.96	2.97	3.06
	Peers	2.80	2.93	*3.02	3.09
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	PLNU	3.01	2.94	3.02	2.94
	Masters	***2.56	***2.6	***2.70	***2.70
	Peers	2.88	*2.83	2.95	2.96
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	PLNU	2.91	3.03	2.99	3.05
	Masters	**2.73	***2.81	**2.84	**2.88
	Peers	2.90	*2.91	3.01	3.02
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	PLNU	3.05	3.08	3.07	3.16
	Masters	***2.76	***2.88	***2.85	***2.93
	Peers	2.97	2.97	3.02	3.05
Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	PLNU	0.05	0.06	0.71	0.70
	Masters	*0.08	0.06	***0.56	***0.47
	Peers	0.06	0.07	0.69	0.66
Community service or volunteer work	PLNU	0.45	0.51	0.75	0.77
	Masters	0.40	***0.36	***0.62	***0.56
	Peers	*0.53	0.54	0.77	0.75

Acquiring a broad general education	PLNU	3.36	3.28	3.42	3.41
	Masters	***3.15	3.18	**3.31	**3.24
	Peers	3.31	3.28	3.50	3.41
Thinking critically and analytically	PLNU	3.26	3.25	3.33	3.43
	Masters	*3.14	3.24	3.34	3.36
	Peers	3.25	3.29	***3.49	3.45
Working effectively with others	PLNU	3.02	3.10	3.23	3.29
	Masters	2.96	3.04	3.20	3.20
	Peers	3.01	3.13	3.29	3.32
Voting in local, state, or national elections	PLNU	2.33	1.87	2.22	1.96
	Masters	2.45	2.00	2.29	2.08
	Peers	2.39	1.77	2.35	1.93
Solving complex real-world problems	PLNU	2.56	2.66	2.54	2.88
	Masters	2.56	2.72	**2.73	2.83
	Peers	2.60	2.71	***2.78	2.86
Contributing to the welfare of your community	PLNU	3.01	2.97	2.78	3.05
	Masters	***2.40	***2.45	***2.49	***2.49
	Peers	***2.74	*2.82	2.81	**2.86

Peer Institutions Used for NSSE:

2005 Peer Group (these are the members of PLNU's Peer and Aspirant list that participated in 2005):

Abilene Christian University	Abilene	TX
Bethel University	St. Paul	MN
California Lutheran University	Thousand Oaks	CA
Chapman University	Orange	CA
Gordon College	Wenham	MA
Santa Clara University	Santa Clara	CA
Taylor University-Upland	Upland	IN
University of San Diego	San Diego	CA
Wheaton College (MA)	Norton	MA (should have been Wheaton (IL))
Whittier College	Whittier	CA
Whitworth College	Spokane	WA

2011 Peer Group (these are the members of PLNU's Peer and Aspirant list that participated in 2011):

Abilene Christian University	Abilene	TX
Anderson University	Anderson	SC
Bethel University	McKenzie	TN (should have been Bethel (MN))
California Lutheran University	Thousand Oaks	CA
Chapman University	Orange	CA
Gordon College	Wenham	MA
Messiah College	Grantham	PA
Seattle Pacific University	Seattle	WA
Taylor University	Upland	IN
Union University	Jackson	TN
Whitworth University	Spokane	WA