

# NSSE 2019 Topical Module Report Experiences with Writing

University of West Georgia

IPEDS: 141334

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## NSSE 2019 Experiences with Writing Administration Summary University of West Georgia

#### **About This Topical Module**

This module is the result of an ongoing collaboration between NSSE and the Council of Writing Program Administrators. The questions touch on three aspects of good writing assignments—interactivity, meaning-making, and clarity. It complements questions on the core survey about how much writing students do, the nature of their course assignments, and perceived gains in written expression. Complementary FSSE set available.

#### **Comparison Group**

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Writing Experiences' column of this report.

Group label	Writing Experiences
Date submitted	5/13/19
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all module participants).
Group description	All other current- and prior-year (if applicable) NSSE institutions who administered module "Experiences with Writing"

#### Writing Experiences (N=71)

Anna Maria College (Paxton, MA)	Monmouth University (West Long Branch, NJ)*
Ashford University (San Diego, CA)*	Montana Tech of the University of Montana (Butte, MT)*
Ashland University (Ashland, OH)*	Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Augsburg University (Minneapolis, MN)	Nova Southeastern University (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
Bellarmine University (Louisville, KY)*	Occidental College (Los Angeles, CA)
Bethany College (Lindsborg, KS)	Oregon State University (Corvallis, OR)
Bluefield College (Bluefield, VA)	Pace University (New York, NY)*
Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)	Pacific University (Forest Grove, OR)*
Brigham Young University (Provo, UT)	Redeemer University College (Ancaster, ON)
Capital University (Columbus, OH)	Rocky Mountain College (Billings, MT)
Carroll University (Waukesha, WI)	Saint Anselm College (Manchester, NH)
Catawba College (Salisbury, NC)	Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia, PA)*
Cedar Crest College (Allentown, PA)	Savannah College of Art and Design (Savannah, GA)
College of Saint Rose, The (Albany, NY)	Southern Utah University (Cedar City, UT)
Colorado Technical University (Colorado Springs, CO)*	St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN)*
Columbia Southern University (Orange Beach, AL)	Tabor College (Hillsboro, KS)
East Carolina University (Greenville, NC)*	Tarleton State University (Stephenville, TX)
Elmhurst College (Elmhurst, IL)*	Texas A&M International University (Laredo, TX)*
Fort Hays State University (Hays, KS)*	Texas A&M University-Central Texas (Killeen, TX)
Furman University (Greenville, SC)*	Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Kingsville, TX)
Georgian Court University (Lakewood, NJ)	Texas College (Tyler, TX)
Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ)*	Union University (Jackson, TN)
Henderson State University (Arkadelphia, AR)	University of Denver (Denver, CO)*
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)	University of Houston-Downtown (Houston, TX)
Kentucky Wesleyan College (Owensboro, KY)	University of Lynchburg (Lynchburg, VA)*
Langston University (Langston, OK)*	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (Belton, TX)*
Lees-McRae College (Banner Elk, NC)	University of Mobile (Mobile, AL)*
Lycoming College (Williamsport, PA)	University of North Carolina at Asheville (Asheville, NC)*
Lynn University (Boca Raton, FL)*	University of North Florida (Jacksonville, FL)
Miami University-Oxford (Oxford, OH)	University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, IN)

#### Writing Experiences (N=71), continued

University of St. Thomas (Houston, TX) University of Tampa, The (Tampa, FL) University of the Cumberlands (Williamsburg, KY) University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio, TX) University of Toledo (Toledo, OH) University of Virginia's College at Wise, The (Wise, VA)\* University of West Florida, The (Pensacola, FL)\* Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, IN) Virginia State University (Petersburg, VA) Virginia Wesleyan University (Virginia Beach, VA) Washington State University (Pullman, WA)



## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons University of West Georgia

### **First-Year Students**

				Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>			Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>			
				Writing			Wri	•		
				UWG		Experienc	es	UWG	Experi	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
									wear	5/20
1. During the current school year, f	or how many WRI01a					1 525	9			
<ul> <li>Talked with a classmate, friend, or family member to develop your</li> </ul>	W KI01a	1	No writing assignments	50	13 18	1,535				
ideas before starting your		2 3	Few writing assignments Some writing assignments	67 136	36	4,141 7,198	22 36	2.0	• •	
assignment		4	Most writing assignments	86	22	5,212	25	3.0	3.0	05
			All writing assignments		10	1,586	23 8			
		5	Total	39 378	100	1,580	8 100			
b. Received feedback from a	WRI01b	1	No writing assignments	378	100	19,072	8			
classmate, friend, or family	WKI010	2	Few writing assignments	55	15	3,708	20			
member about a draft before		2	Some writing assignments	133	34	6,191	31	3.2	2.2	05
turning in your final assignment		4	Most writing assignments	100	28	6,101	30	3.4	3.2	.05
		4 5	All writing assignments	53	20 14	2,153	11			
		5	Total	379	100	19,619	100			
c. Given feedback to a classmate	WRI01c	1	No writing assignments	44	100	19,019	11			
about a draft or outline	WKIUIC			44 64						
		2 3	Few writing assignments Some writing assignments	142	19 36	4,054 7,177	21 36	3.0	2.0	
		5 4	Most writing assignments	142 88	23	5,186	26	5.0	3.0	.01
			All writing assignments		23 10		20 7			
		5	Total	39 377	100	1,392 19,656	100			
d. Summarized material you read such	WRI01d	1	No writing assignments	19	5	732	4			
as articles, books, or online	WKI01u	2	Few writing assignments	48	13	2,780	15			
publications		2		48 137	37		36	2.2		
		3 4	Some writing assignments Most writing assignments	137	37	7,180 6,869	30 34	3.3	3.3	.03
		4 5		55	13	2,075	54 11			
		5	All writing assignments Total	33	100	19,636				
e. Analyzed or evaluated something	WRI01e	1	No writing assignments	10	3	404	100			
you read, researched, or observed	WRIDIC	2	Few writing assignments	31	8	1,731	10			
		3	Some writing assignments	116	30	5,737	30	3.7	2.6	07
		4	Most writing assignments	110	35	8,538	30 42	5.7	3.6	.07
		5	All writing assignments	91	23	3,222	17			
		5	Total	379	100	19,632	100			
f. Described your methods or	WRI01f	1	No writing assignments	54	16	3,092	100			
findings related to data you	WKI011	2	Few writing assignments	54 68	18	4,149	21			
collected in lab or field work, a		3	Some writing assignments	123	32	6,145	32	3.0	• •	0.5
survey project, etc.		4	Most writing assignments	91	24	4,695	32 24	5.0	2.9	.05
		5	All writing assignments	41	10	4,095	8			
		5	Total	377	100	19,591	100			
g. Argued a position using evidence	WRI01g	1	No writing assignments	22	7	19,591	6			
and reasoning	WRiting	2	Few writing assignments	36	10	2,599	14			
C C		3	Some writing assignments	111	30	6,185	32	2.5	2.2.*	
			Most writing assignments	143	30			3.5	3.3 *	.12
		4 5	All writing assignments	143 67	37 17	7,086 2,619	34 13			
		5	Total	379	100	19,599	100			
h. Explained in writing the meaning of	WRI01h	1	No writing assignments	116	32	4,731	24			
numerical or statistical data	W KIUIII		Few writing assignments	82	32 22					
		2 3	Some writing assignments	82 95	22 25	4,978 5,468	25 28	2.4	0.4.*	10
			Most writing assignments		23 14	3,468	28 18	2.4	2.6 *	12
		4 5		53	14 7					
		Э	All writing assignments	29	/	1,043	6			



## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons University of West Georgia

### **First-Year Students**

				Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical C	Compar	omparisons <sup>b</sup>		
						Writing Experiences			Writ			
				UWG				UWG	Experiences			
	Variable									Effect		
Item wording or description	name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	size <sup>d</sup>		
			Total	375	100	19,579	100					
i. Written in the style and format of a	WRI01i	1	No writing assignments	59	17	3,182	17					
specific field (engineering, history, psychology, etc.)		2	Few writing assignments	74	20	3,777	19					
psychology, etc.)		3	Some writing assignments	110	28	5,587	28	2.9	3.0	04		
		4	Most writing assignments	86	22	4,819	24					
		5	All writing assignments	49	12	2,240	12					
			Total	378	100	19,605	100					
j. Addressed a real or imagined	WRI01j	1	No writing assignments	59	15	2,896	15					
audience such as your classmates,		2	Few writing assignments	72	19	3,922	20					
a politician, non-experts, etc.		3	Some writing assignments	116	32	6,097	31	3.0	2.9	.03		
		4	Most writing assignments	84	22	4,728	24					
		5	All writing assignments	46	12	1,925	10					
			Total	377	100	19,568	100					
2. During the current school year,	for how many	of vour v	vritina assianments have	vour instruct	ors do	ne the follo	wing?					
a. Provided clear instructions	WRI02a	1	No writing assignments	4	2	301	2					
describing what they wanted you to		2	Few writing assignments	20	5	1,218	7					
do		3	Some writing assignments	69	19	4,078	21	4.0	3.9 *	.11		
		4	Most writing assignments	159	42	9,000	44		5.5			
		5	All writing assignments	125	32	4,982	27					
			Total	377	100	19,579	100					
b. Explained in advance what they	WRI02b	1	No writing assignments	8	2	571	3					
wanted you to learn		2	Few writing assignments	25	6	2,215	11					
		3	Some writing assignments	92	24	5,298	26	3.9	3.7 ***	* .21		
		4	Most writing assignments	129	34	7,060	35		5.7	.21		
		5	All writing assignments	124	34	4,399	25					
			Total	378	100	19,543	100					
c. Explained in advance the criteria	WRI02c	1	No writing assignments	5	2	362	2					
they would use to grade your		2	Few writing assignments	20	5	1,241	6					
assignment		3	Some writing assignments	61	16	3,975	20	4.1	4.0 *	.13		
		4	Most writing assignments	133	36	7,266	35		4.0	.15		
		5	All writing assignments	159	41	6,712	36					
			Total	378	100	19,556	100					
				270	100	17,250						

p<.05, p<.01, p<.01, p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.



## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons University of West Georgia

#### **Seniors**

				Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>			Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>			
				UWG		Writing Experienc		UWG	Writi Experie	•
	Variable									Effect
Item wording or description	name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	size <sup>d</sup>
1. During the current school year, f		writing a	ssignments have you do	ne the followi	ing?					
a. Talked with a classmate, friend, or	WRI01a	1	No writing assignments	32	11	2,423	11			
family member to develop your ideas before starting your		2	Few writing assignments	68	18	5,382	22			
assignment		3	Some writing assignments	119	35	8,431	34	3.1	3.0	.08
		4	Most writing assignments	100	27	6,000	24			
		5	All writing assignments	35	9	2,115	9			
			Total	354	100	24,351	100			
<ul> <li>Received feedback from a classmate, friend, or family</li> </ul>	WRI01b	1	No writing assignments	46	14	3,254	15			
member about a draft before		2	Few writing assignments	67	18	5,889	24			
turning in your final assignment		3	Some writing assignments	111	32	7,828	32	3.0	2.8 *	.13
		4	Most writing assignments	91	25	5,399	21			
		5	All writing assignments	38	10	1,901	8			
			Total	353	100	24,271	100			
<ul> <li>Given feedback to a classmate about a draft or outline</li> </ul>	WRI01c	1	No writing assignments	45	14	4,554	20			
about a draft of outline		2	Few writing assignments	68	19	6,035	24	• •		
		3	Some writing assignments	123	35	8,374	34	2.9	2.6 ***	.28
		4	Most writing assignments	90	25	4,209	17			
		5	All writing assignments	28	8	1,139	5			
			Total	354	100	24,311	100			
<ul> <li>d. Summarized material you read such as articles, books, or online publications</li> </ul>	WRI01d	1	No writing assignments	16	5	1,132	5			
		2	Few writing assignments	34	10	3,100	13			
1		3	Some writing assignments	107	31	7,949	33	3.5	3.4	.08
		4	Most writing assignments	147	41	8,703	35			
		5	All writing assignments	49	13	3,404	14			
			Total	353	100	24,288	100			
<ul> <li>Analyzed or evaluated something you read, researched, or observed</li> </ul>	WRI01e	1	No writing assignments	9	3	675	3			
you road, rescarched, or observed		2	Few writing assignments	20	6	1,909	8	2.0		
		3	Some writing assignments	85	24	5,910	24	3.8	3.7	.10
		4	Most writing assignments	151	43	10,706	43			
		5	All writing assignments	88	25	5,104	21			
	WDIO16		Total	353	100	24,304	100			
<ol> <li>Described your methods or findings related to data you</li> </ol>	WRI01f	1	No writing assignments	44	12	2,976	12			
collected in lab or field work, a		2	Few writing assignments	57	17	4,293	17	2.1		
survey project, etc.		3	Some writing assignments	106	29	7,424	30	3.1	3.1	.02
		4	Most writing assignments	105	30	6,927	28			
		5	All writing assignments	40	12	2,641	11			
g. Argued a position using evidence	WRI01g	1	Total No writing assignments	352	100	24,261	100			
and reasoning	WRIDIg	1	0 0	43		1,825				
		2 3	Few writing assignments	43 105	12 30	3,542	15 31	2.4		
			Some writing assignments			7,592		3.4	3.3 **	.14
		4 5	Most writing assignments All writing assignments	119 64	33 18	7,916 3,414	32 14			
		5	Total							
h. Explained in writing the meaning of	WRI01h	1	No writing assignments	352	100	24,289	100			
numerical or statistical data		2	Few writing assignments	70 76	20	5,650	23			
		2	Some writing assignments	106	30	7,731	25 32	2.8	2.9	06
		4	Most writing assignments	67	20	5,235	32 22	2.0	2.8	06
		4 5	All writing assignments	32	20 9	1,816	8			
		3	an writing assignments	52	9	1,010	ø			



## **Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons University of West Georgia**

#### **Seniors**

				Frequency Di		stributio	ns <sup>a</sup>	Statistical (	Comparisons <sup>b</sup>	
						Writing			Wri	
				UWG		Experienc	es	UWG	Experiences	
	Variable									Effect
Item wording or description	name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	size <sup>d</sup>
			Total	351	100	24,261	100			
i. Written in the style and format of a	WRI01i	1	No writing assignments	41	12	2,675	11			
specific field (engineering, history,		2	Few writing assignments	57	17	3,174	13			
psychology, etc.)		3	Some writing assignments	75	22	5,462	23	3.4	3.4	03
		4	Most writing assignments	90	25	7,369	30			
		5	All writing assignments	90	25	5,582	23			
			Total	353	100	24,262	100			
j. Addressed a real or imagined	WRI01j	1	No writing assignments	51	14	3,479	15			
audience such as your classmates, a politician, non-experts, etc.		2	Few writing assignments	74	21	4,865	20			
		3	Some writing assignments	100	29	7,570	31	3.0	2.9	.03
		4	Most writing assignments	86	24	5,634	23			
		5	All writing assignments	40	12	2,672	11			
			Total	351	100	24,220	100			
2. During the current school year, f	for how many	of your w	vriting assignments have	your instruct	ors do	one the follo	wing?			
a. Provided clear instructions	WRI02a	. 1	No writing assignments	8	3	461	2			
describing what they wanted you to		2	Few writing assignments	21	6	1,347	6			
do		3	Some writing assignments	73	21	4,563	19	3.9	3.9	04
		4	Most writing assignments	146	41	11,314	45		•	
		5	All writing assignments	104	29	6,587	28			
			Total	352	100	24,272	100			
b. Explained in advance what they	WRI02b	1	No writing assignments	13	4	770	4			
wanted you to learn		2	Few writing assignments	32	9	2,494	10			
		3	Some writing assignments	83	24	6,069	25	3.7	3.7	02
		4	Most writing assignments	132	38	8,657	35		5.7	102
		5	All writing assignments	90	25	6,243	27			
			Total	350	100	24,233	100			
c. Explained in advance the criteria	WRI02c	1	No writing assignments	8	3	492	2			
they would use to grade your		2	Few writing assignments	20	6	1,300	5			
assignment		3	Some writing assignments	63	19	4,049	17	4.0	4.1	06
		4	Most writing assignments	125	35	8,829	35	1.0	7.1	00
		5	All writing assignments	134	38	9,580	40			
		5	Total	350	100	24,250	100			

p<.05, p<.01, p<.01, p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.



## Detailed Statistics<sup>e</sup> University of West Georgia

### **First-Year Students**

	Standard N Mean Standard error <sup>f</sup> deviation <sup>g</sup>							DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
Variable name	UWG	UWG	Writing Experiences	UWG	Writing Experiences	UWG	Writing Experiences		arisons with: g Experience:	
WRI01a	376	2.97	3.03	.059	.008	1.15	1.08	18,113	.325	05
WRI01b	377	3.21	3.16	.059	.008	1.15	1.11	18,061	.383	.05
WRI01c	374	3.00	2.99	.059	.008	1.14	1.09	18,090	.858	.01
WRI01d	375	3.35	3.32	.053	.007	1.03	0.99	18,081	.609	.03
WRI01e	377	3.67	3.60	.052	.007	1.02	0.95	18,078	.164	.07
WRI01f	376	2.95	2.89	.063	.009	1.21	1.18	18,023	.322	.05
WRI01g	377	3.47	3.34	.056	.008	1.09	1.08	18,032	.018	.12
WRI01h	373	2.43	2.57	.065	.009	1.27	1.20	387	.030	12
WRI01i	377	2.91	2.96	.065	.009	1.27	1.26	18,054	.478	04
WRI01j	376	2.97	2.93	.064	.009	1.23	1.20	18,005	.542	.03
WRI02a	375	3.98	3.88	.048	.007	0.93	0.94	18,021	.034	.11
WRI02b	376	3.90	3.67	.052	.008	1.02	1.06	393	.000	.21
WRI02c	376	4.10	3.97	.050	.008	0.96	1.01	18,011	.015	.13



## Detailed Statistics<sup>e</sup> University of West Georgia

### **Seniors**

	N	Ме	an	Standar	rd error <sup>f</sup>		idard ation <sup>g</sup>	$DF^{h}$	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
Variable name	UWG	UWG	Writing Experiences	UWG	Writing Experiences	UWG	Writing Experiences		arisons with: g Experience	
WRI01a	355	3.06	2.97	.059	.007	1.12	1.12	29,682	.131	.08
WRI01b	354	2.99	2.84	.063	.007	1.19	1.15	29,586	.016	.13
WRI01c	355	2.95	2.63	.060	.007	1.13	1.13	362	.000	.28
WRI01d	354	3.49	3.41	.053	.006	1.00	1.05	29,606	.136	.08
WRI01e	354	3.81	3.71	.051	.006	0.96	0.99	29,632	.055	.10
WRI01f	353	3.12	3.09	.063	.007	1.19	1.18	29,575	.678	.02
WRI01g	353	3.45	3.29	.059	.007	1.11	1.13	29,610	.010	.14
WRI01h	350	2.77	2.84	.066	.007	1.24	1.16	357	.309	06
WRI01i	354	3.35	3.40	.071	.008	1.33	1.28	29,572	.516	03
WRI01j	351	2.98	2.95	.065	.007	1.23	1.21	29,520	.612	.03
WRI02a	353	3.87	3.91	.053	.006	0.99	0.94	29,589	.429	04
WRI02b	351	3.69	3.71	.057	.006	1.07	1.07	29,541	.684	02
WRI02c	350	4.00	4.06	.054	.006	1.01	1.00	29,556	.266	06



## NSSE 2019 Experiences with Writing Endnotes University of West Georgia

#### **Endnotes**

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent *t*-tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t- tests uses Cohen's d; z- tests use Cohen's h.
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values differ from Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent *t*-tests or *z*-tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z- test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

#### Key to symbols:

Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.