

University of Idaho
2009 Graduating Senior Survey
Class of 2008-2009
Core Curriculum Comparisons

The following bullets compare the frequency distributions between graduating senior responses among students who participated in the University of Idaho Core Curriculum and those who participated in the State Board of Education Core Curriculum.

Extent to which abilities and knowledge developed in a bachelor's degree program were moderately or greatly enhanced (University-wide Learning Outcomes):

- UI Core students report their abilities and knowledge were moderately or greatly enhanced more often than SBOE Core students
- UI Core students reported "develop a sense of values and ethical standards" was enhanced more (65%) than SBOE Core students (59%)
- UI Core students reported "lead others, use effective group process skills" was enhanced more (78%) than SBOE Core students (71%)
- UI Core students reported "care for my mental and physical health and development" was enhanced more (62%) than SBOE Core students (54%)
- UI Core students reported "relate well to people of different races, nations, cultures, and religions" was enhanced more (69%) than SBOE Core students (57%)
- UI Core students reported "understand another culture, know another language" was enhanced more (49%) than SBOE Core students (42%)
- UI Core students reported "Current international issues and problems" was enhanced more (60%) than SBOE Core students (50%)
- SBOE Core students reported "interpret and use mathematical and statistical concepts" was enhanced more (58%) than UI Core students (53%)

Engagement

- UI Core students consistently reported participating in co-curricular activities more often than SBOE Core students (such as student government, intramural sports, civic and community service, social fraternity or sorority, internships, arts productions, national/international exchange, arts productions, professional organizations/clubs related to major, honors society and other on-campus organizations.)
- One of the greatest differences between UI Core students and SBOE Core students was in reported levels of involvement in community service, where 54% of UI Core students said they were involved compared to 40% of SBOE Core students.

Quality and emphasis of educational experience:

- UI Core students were more satisfied with the quality of their experience in every area related to the University-wide Learning Outcomes than were SBOE Core students, except "research experience" where 37% of both groups reported the quality of their experience was good or excellent.
- UI Core students reported that emphasis in general education should remain the same more often than SBOE Core students.

- In only three areas, “literature,” “computer coursework or practice” and “foreign language and culture” did SBOE Core students report that the emphasis should remain the same more often than UI Core students.
- SBOE Core students often responded that less emphasis in general education is needed
- When responses of students saying they did not complete their coursework at the UI were removed, students on the SBOE core report a slightly higher quality of experience than UI Core students in two thirds of the areas related to the University-wide Learning Outcomes.
- UI Core students were more likely to respond that courses in their major were high quality than were SBOE Core students.

Progress toward graduation

- UI Core students were much more likely to report that they had successfully decided on an academic major by the end of their first year than SBOE Core students (57% compared to 40%).
- Twenty-eight percent of students on SBOE Core did not decide on their academic major until their junior year (compared to 15% of UI Core students).

Satisfaction with department offerings:

- UI Core students were consistently more satisfied with departmental offerings than SBOE Core students.
- SBOE Core students were more satisfied in only two areas “quality of courses and experiences in preparing you for graduate or professional school” (2% difference) and “internships” (1% difference). Notably, a larger number of SBOE Core student intend to “pursue further studies (i.e. graduate studies, advanced professional education)” (66% compared to 58% of UI Core students.)

Satisfaction in General:

- UI Core students are 3% more satisfied (97%) than SBOE Core students (94%) with their education in general
- Overall satisfaction with their experience at UI is no different between UI Core and State Board Core (87%)
- UI Core students are more satisfied (6%) with campus life and social interactions (93%), than SBOE Core Students (87%)

Age:

- UI Core students report they are slightly younger than SBOE Core students

Transferred from another institution:

- 82% of SBOE Core students
- 9% UI Core students