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News from Institutional Research

This issue of "News from Institutional Research" looks at the change in attitudes and values from freshman to senior year using longitudinal data from the 2012 College Student Survey. HERI was able to find first-year responses from 353 of the seniors, 69% of those completing the survey.

2012 Graduating Seniors - Longitudinal Comparisons

"DIVISION"	TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN
Biological Sciences	50 (14% of total)	21 (42%)	29 (58%)
Business	53 (15% " ")	30 (57%)	23 (43%)
Humanities	35 (10% " ")	11 (31%)	24 (69%)
Nursing	39 (11% " ")	1 (3%)	38 (97%)
Physical Sciences	33 (6% " ")	18 (55%)	15 (45%)
Pre-Professional	66 (19% " ")	16 (24%)	50 (76%)
Psychology	42 (11% " ")	9 (21%)	33 (79%)
Social Sciences	35 (10% " ")	14 (40%)	21 (60%)

Political Views

Freshmen and seniors are asked to reveal their political views using a five point scale (1 = far right, 2 = conservative, 3 = middle-of-the-road, 4 = liberal, 5 = far left). Paired-Samples T Tests were used to determine if there was a statistically significant difference in the mean score of each major grouping as freshmen and as seniors. An up arrow "▲" indicates a statistically significant change toward liberal views. Business, Nursing and Psychology seniors, however, described themselves as more conservative politically than they described themselves as freshmen.

	Frosh	Senior		Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.99	3.08▲	Physical Sciences	2.77	2.97
Biological Sciences	2.73	3.00▲	Pre-Professional	2.92	3.12
Business	2.98	2.88	Psychology	3.23	3.21
Humanities	3.27	3.30	Social Sciences	3.18	3.57▲
Nursing	2.91	2.73			

Attitudes and Values

Freshmen and seniors are asked to indicate the importance they assigned to various life goals/objectives using a four point scale (1 = not important, 2 = somewhat important, 3 = very important, 4 = essential). Paired-Samples T Tests were used to determine if there was a statistically significant difference in the mean score of each major grouping as freshmen and as seniors. An up arrow "▲" indicates a statistically significant increased change in the degree of importance. An down arrow "▼" indicates a statistically significant decreased change in the degree of importance.

Help others in difficulty	Frosh	Senior	Develop meaningful philosophy of life	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	3.23	3.24	All Creighton	2.76	2.93 ▲
Biological Sciences	3.30	3.40	Biological Sciences	2.88	3.00
Business	3.05	3.00	Business	2.74	2.74
Humanities	3.19	3.16	Humanities	2.84	3.32 ▲
Nursing	3.50	3.18 ▼	Nursing	2.67	2.73
Physical Sciences	3.03	3.13	Physical Sciences	2.74	3.00
Pre-Professional	3.25	3.42	Pre-Professional	2.66	2.79
Psychology	3.33	3.33	Psychology	2.82	2.92
Social Sciences	3.19	3.19	Social Sciences	2.81	3.15

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Promote racial understanding	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.34	2.34
Biological Sciences	2.40	2.28
Business	2.38	2.24
Humanities	2.39	2.35
Nursing	2.48	2.33
Physical Sciences	2.10	1.97
Pre-Professional	2.23	2.45
Psychology	2.46	2.49
Social Sciences	2.33	2.63

Keep up to date with political affairs	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.50	2.45
Biological Sciences	2.49	2.59
Business	2.67	2.76
Humanities	2.45	2.29
Nursing	2.48	2.12 ▼
Physical Sciences	2.39	2.35
Pre-Professional	2.40	2.23
Psychology	2.29	2.24
Social Sciences	2.93	3.19

Adopting "green" practices To protect the environment	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.64	2.64
Biological Sciences	2.75	2.72
Business	2.37	2.34
Humanities	2.72	2.72
Nursing	2.56	2.64
Physical Sciences	2.55	2.76
Pre-Professional	2.80	2.78
Psychology	2.66	2.51
Social Sciences	2.73	2.69

Improve my understanding of other countries and cultures	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.86	2.96
Biological Sciences	3.05	3.08
Business	2.71	3.05 ▲
Humanities	3.23	3.19
Nursing	2.88	2.79
Physical Sciences	2.58	2.48
Pre-Professional	2.64	2.77
Psychology	2.77	3.00
Social Sciences	3.26	3.41

Become involved in programs to clean up the environment	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.19	2.27
Biological Sciences	2.26	2.51
Business	2.17	2.26
Humanities	2.10	2.13
Nursing	2.30	2.21
Physical Sciences	2.06	2.26
Pre-Professional	2.13	2.19
Psychology	2.21	2.18
Social Sciences	2.37	2.44

Influencing social values	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.56	2.53
Biological Sciences	2.55	2.55
Business	2.69	2.64
Humanities	2.61	2.45
Nursing	2.52	2.45
Physical Sciences	2.32	2.32
Pre-Professional	2.45	2.42
Psychology	2.56	2.54
Social Sciences	2.81	2.93

Become a community leader	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.59	2.61
Biological Sciences	2.72	2.67
Business	2.88	2.93
Humanities	2.39	2.32
Nursing	2.55	2.55
Physical Sciences	2.32	2.10
Pre-Professional	2.51	2.60
Psychology	2.58	2.58
Social Sciences	2.70	3.04

Be very well off financially	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	2.77	2.59 ▼
Biological Sciences	2.67	2.42
Business	3.06	3.33
Humanities	2.54	2.42
Nursing	2.67	2.56
Physical Sciences	2.55	2.36
Pre-Professional	2.83	2.66
Psychology	3.10	2.67 ▼
Social Sciences	2.89	2.44 ▼

Raise a Family	Frosh	Senior
All Creighton	3.27	3.27
Biological Sciences	3.25	3.13
Business	3.40	3.36
Humanities	3.13	3.13
Nursing	3.56	3.50
Physical Sciences	3.06	3.03
Pre-Professional	3.42	3.51
Psychology	3.31	3.15
Social Sciences	2.81	3.15

2012 Graduating Seniors - Longitudinal Comparisons

Typical Weekly Schedule

Freshmen and seniors are asked to indicate how much time they spend during a typical week during their senior year in high school and their senior year in college on various activities using an eight point scale (1 = none, 2 = less than 1 hr, 3 = 1-2 hrs, 4 = 3-5 hrs, 5 = 6-10 hrs, 6=11-15 hrs, 7 = 16-20 hrs and 8 = over 20 hrs). Paired-Samples T Tests were used to determine if there was a statistically significant differences in the mean score of each major grouping as high school and college seniors. An up arrow "▲" indicates a statistically significant increased change in the degree of importance. An down arrow "▼" indicates a statistically significant decreased change in the degree of importance.

All students reported spending more time studying during their senior year in college than their senior year in high school but for Business, Pre-Professional and Social Science majors, it was not a statistically significant difference. All also reported spending significantly less time exercising or playing sports their senior year of college than their senior year of high school but for Nursing and Social Science majors, it was not a statistically significant difference. All but Physical Science majors reported spending a significantly higher amount of time partying their senior year in college than their senior year in high school. All students reported spending more time with online social networks their senior year in college than their senior year in high school but for biological Science, Business, Psychology and Social Science majors, the different was not statistically significant.

Studying/doing homework	High School	College
All Creighton	5.34	5.95 ▲
Biological Sciences	5.59	6.22 ▲
Business	5.29	5.60
Humanities	5.21	5.76 ▲
Nursing	5.19	6.65 ▲
Physical Sciences	5.58	6.84 ▲
Pre-Professional	5.45	5.63
Psychology	5.05	5.67 ▲
Social Sciences	5.23	5.55

Socializing with friends	High School	College
All Creighton	5.19	5.30
Biological Sciences	4.96	5.07
Business	5.60	5.44
Humanities	4.94	5.30
Nursing	5.32	4.86
Physical Sciences	5.19	5.39
Pre-Professional	5.10	5.40
Psychology	5.31	5.31
Social Sciences	5.06	5.65

Exercising/sports	H.S.	College
All Creighton	4.71	3.99 ▼
Biological Sciences	4.56	3.87 ▼
Business	5.10	4.40 ▼
Humanities	4.55	3.67 ▼
Nursing	4.32	4.03
Physical Sciences	4.81	3.94 ▼
Pre-Professional	5.07	4.23 ▼
Psychology	4.72	3.64 ▼
Social Sciences	4.13	3.87

Partying	H.S.	College
All Creighton	2.29	3.38 ▲
Biological Sciences	2.13	3.31 ▲
Business	2.56	4.08 ▲
Humanities	1.91	3.09 ▲
Nursing	2.38	3.16 ▲
Physical Sciences	2.42	2.55
Pre-Professional	2.23	3.42 ▲
Psychology	2.38	3.49 ▲
Social Sciences	2.29	3.58 ▲

Watching TV	H.S.	College
All Creighton	3.63	3.37 ▼
Biological Sciences	3.71	3.33
Business	3.75	3.69
Humanities	3.70	3.36
Nursing	3.41	3.27
Physical Sciences	3.74	3.10 ▼
Pre-Professional	3.29	3.20
Psychology	3.74	3.41
Social Sciences	3.94	3.61

Online social networks (Facebook, etc.)	H.S.	College
All Creighton	3.29	374 ▲
Biological Sciences	3.47	3.67
Business	3.38	3.58
Humanities	3.22	4.03 ▲
Nursing	3.28	3.97 ▲
Physical Sciences	2.42	3.03 ▲
Pre-Professional	3.18	3.76 ▲
Psychology	3.79	4.00
Social Sciences	3.42	3.84

News from Institutional Research is intended for internal use only. Comments or questions should be directed to Stephanie Wernig, Ph.D., 280-1164, wernig@creighton.edu.