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# **NSSE 2021 Topical Module Report**

## **Experiences with Online Learning**

Sul Ross State University

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This module, new for the 2021 administration, was developed in collaboration with Quality Matters, a leader in online instruction. Based in part on Standards for the Quality Matters Higher Education Rubric (6th Ed.), the item set measures instructional aspects that experts consider to be ideal for online courses. The set also assesses how students engage in both online and hybrid courses, their degree of comfort with online learning and experience of support, and ideas about how the learning experience can be improved.

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### First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. During the current school year, to what extent have your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses provided the following?</b>										
a. Clearly stated learning objectives or goals	EOL01a	0	Not at all	0	0	104	1	<b>2.7</b>	3.0	-.34
		1	Very little	3	13	578	5			
		2	Some	8	28	2,777	22			
		3	Quite a bit	9	42	5,226	41			
		4	Very much	5	18	3,765	31			
		Total		25	100	12,450	100			
b. Clear guidance about how to get started in the course	EOL01b	0	Not at all	1	3	139	1	<b>2.6</b>	2.9	-.22
		1	Very little	3	9	824	7			
		2	Some	7	26	3,187	26			
		3	Quite a bit	9	47	4,831	38			
		4	Very much	4	16	3,427	28			
		Total		24	100	12,408	100			
c. A clearly stated grading policy	EOL01c	0	Not at all	0	0	75	1	<b>2.8</b>	3.1	-.39
		1	Very little	4	12	430	4			
		2	Some	5	14	2,174	17			
		3	Quite a bit	12	57	4,821	38			
		4	Very much	5	18	4,934	40			
		Total		26	100	12,434	100			
d. Course information and activities that are easy to locate	EOL01d	0	Not at all	0	0	133	1	<b>2.6</b>	2.9	-.30
		1	Very little	5	15	645	5			
		2	Some	4	19	3,071	25			
		3	Quite a bit	14	54	4,743	38			
		4	Very much	3	12	3,836	31			
		Total		26	100	12,428	100			
e. Sufficient instructions for using technology	EOL01e	0	Not at all	1	3	181	2	<b>2.6</b>	2.8	-.23
		1	Very little	4	12	897	7			
		2	Some	6	24	3,215	26			
		3	Quite a bit	10	43	4,634	37			
		4	Very much	5	18	3,501	28			
		Total		26	100	12,428	100			
f. Clarity about when instructors would respond to you (answers to your questions, feedback about coursework, etc.)	EOL01f	0	Not at all	1	4	182	2	<b>2.7</b>	2.8	-.13
		1	Very little	3	12	1,058	8			
		2	Some	6	16	3,261	26			
		3	Quite a bit	10	47	4,492	36			
		4	Very much	6	20	3,430	28			
		Total		26	100	12,423	100			
g. Clear expectations for your interactions with other students	EOL01g	0	Not at all	2	7	396	3	<b>2.4</b>	2.7	-.28
		1	Very little	4	15	1,467	12			
		2	Some	9	29	3,296	26			
		3	Quite a bit	7	35	3,996	32			
		4	Very much	4	15	3,264	27			
		Total		26	100	12,419	100			

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
h. Assessments (quizzes, projects, assignments, exams, etc.) that help you achieve course learning objectives or goals	EOL01h	0	Not at all	0	0	117	1	<b>2.9</b>	3.1	-.17
		1	Very little	2	7	510	4			
		2	Some	7	19	2,286	19			
		3	Quite a bit	10	51	4,983	39			
		4	Very much	7	23	4,525	37			
		Total		26	100	12,421	100			
i. Instructional materials (readings, videos, etc.) that help you achieve course learning objectives or goals	EOL01i	0	Not at all	0	0	91	1	<b>2.9</b>	3.0	-.13
		1	Very little	3	9	477	4			
		2	Some	4	11	2,444	20			
		3	Quite a bit	12	57	5,016	40			
		4	Very much	7	23	4,389	35			
		Total		26	100	12,417	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, about how many of your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses included the following?</b>										
a. Live sessions including the instructor and students	EOL02a	1	None	0	0	362	3	<b>2.7</b>	3.0	-.35
		2	Some	12	46	2,724	22			
		3	Most	8	34	5,605	44			
		4	All	6	20	3,729	31			
				Total		26	100			
b. Pre-recorded presentations by the instructor	EOL02b	1	None	2	9	1,558	14	<b>2.4</b>	2.3	.10
		2	Some	16	57	6,512	52			
		3	Most	4	19	2,980	23			
		4	All	4	15	1,356	11			
				Total		26	100			
c. Presentations or talks by experts in the field (live or recorded)	EOL02c	1	None	3	8	3,283	26	<b>2.6</b>	2.1 **	.63
		2	Some	10	40	6,195	49			
		3	Most	8	34	1,942	16			
		4	All	5	18	975	8			
				Total		26	100			
d. Group projects or presentations	EOL02d	1	None	5	14	2,468	21	<b>2.1</b>	2.1	.00
		2	Some	16	69	6,753	54			
		3	Most	2	9	2,313	18			
		4	All	3	8	865	7			
				Total		26	100			
e. Interaction among students in small groups or breakout rooms	EOL02e	1	None	6	22	1,065	10	<b>2.1</b>	2.5 *	-.41
		2	Some	14	58	5,570	45			
		3	Most	2	5	4,153	32			
		4	All	4	15	1,614	13			
				Total		26	100			

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

### First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Frequent quizzes or short assignments to check your understanding	EOL02f	1	None	1	4	272	2	<b>2.5</b>	2.9 *	-0.48 ▼
		2	Some	14	54	3,428	28			
		3	Most	7	27	5,783	46			
		4	All	4	15	2,928	23			
		Total		26	100	12,411	100			
g. Coursework that challenges you to enhance your knowledge, skills, and abilities	EOL02g	1	None	1	4	142	1	<b>2.7</b>	3.1 **	-0.55 ▼
		2	Some	11	42	2,436	20			
		3	Most	9	36	5,806	47			
		4	All	5	18	4,023	32			
		Total		26	100	12,407	100			
h. Opportunities for personalized feedback, support, and guidance from the instructor	EOL02h	1	None	0	0	519	4	<b>2.7</b>	2.8	-0.16
		2	Some	12	49	4,419	35			
		3	Most	10	36	4,627	38			
		4	All	4	15	2,833	23			
		Total		26	100	12,398	100			
i. Opportunities to apply your learning to a real-world problem or issue	EOL02i	1	None	3	9	928	8	<b>2.5</b>	2.6	-0.11
		2	Some	13	47	5,396	43			
		3	Most	6	28	4,032	33			
		4	All	4	15	2,038	17			
		Total		26	100	12,394	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, how comfortable have you been doing the following in your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses?</b>										
a. Participating in online discussion boards, forums, or other discussion tools	EOL03a	1	Not at all comfortable	2	9	377	3	<b>4.1</b>	4.5	-0.30
		2		3	8	675	5			
		3		4	15	1,472	12			
		4		7	19	2,766	22			
		5		4	23	3,229	26			
		6	Very comfortable	6	26	3,753	30			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	129	1			
		Total		26	100	12,401	100			
b. Participating in live course discussions	EOL03b	1	Not at all comfortable	4	15	577	5	<b>3.9</b>	4.2	-0.23
		2		1	3	1,108	9			
		3		8	26	2,008	16			
		4		5	14	3,091	25			
		5		4	24	2,722	22			
		6	Very comfortable	4	19	2,631	22			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	249	2			
Total		26	100	12,386	100					
c. Taking proctored online exams	EOL03c	1	Not at all comfortable	2	9	1,143	10	<b>4.0</b>	4.0	-0.02
		2		1	3	1,096	9			
		3		6	28	1,636	13			
		4		5	14	2,514	20			
		5		7	28	2,480	20			
		6	Very comfortable	5	18	2,749	22			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	759	6			
		Total		26	100	12,377	100			

### First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
d. Interacting with other students in the course	EOL03d	1	Not at all comfortable	1	3	467	4	<b>4.1</b>	4.2	-.08
		2		3	8	1,124	9			
		3		5	18	2,103	17			
		4		9	32	3,246	26			
		5		5	27	2,844	23			
		6	Very comfortable	3	12	2,491	21			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	112	1			
Total		26	100	12,387	100					
e. Interacting with your instructor to discuss course topics, ideas, or concepts	EOL03e	1	Not at all comfortable	2	5	363	3	<b>4.1</b>	4.4	-.20
		2		4	11	926	7			
		3		2	9	1,939	15			
		4		9	32	3,103	25			
		5		5	27	3,082	25			
		6	Very comfortable	4	15	2,866	24			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	95	1			
Total		26	100	12,374	100					
f. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	EOL03f	1	Not at all comfortable	3	8	936	8	<b>3.8</b>	3.8	.01
		2		2	5	1,611	12			
		3		5	26	2,239	18			
		4		8	30	2,545	20			
		5		2	11	1,913	16			
		6	Very comfortable	5	18	2,093	17			
		—	Not applicable	1	3	1,041	9			
Total		26	100	12,378	100					
g. Seeking feedback and guidance from your instructor	EOL03g	1	Not at all comfortable	2	9	478	4	<b>4.0</b>	4.3	-.20
		2		3	8	1,044	8			
		3		2	5	1,958	15			
		4		11	42	3,007	24			
		5		3	17	2,858	23			
		6	Very comfortable	5	18	2,889	24			
		—	Not applicable	0	0	152	1			
Total		26	100	12,386	100					
<b>4. To improve the online course-taking experience, how important is it that your institution do the following?</b>										
a. Increase interactions between students	EOL04a	1	Not at all important	1	7	811	7	<b>2.4</b>	2.8 *	-.46
		2	Somewhat important	12	53	3,610	29			
		3	Important	10	32	4,567	37			
		4	Very important	3	8	3,383	27			
		Total		26	100	12,371	100			
b. Increase interactions with instructors	EOL04b	1	Not at all important	1	7	267	2	<b>2.9</b>	3.1	-.32
		2	Somewhat important	5	22	2,269	19			
		3	Important	13	51	5,524	45			
		4	Very important	7	20	4,304	34			
		Total		26	100	12,364	100			

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

### First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
c. Improve responsiveness of instructors	EOL04c	1	Not at all important	1	7	347	3	<b>2.9</b>	3.1	-.24
		2	Somewhat important	6	24	2,227	18			
		3	Important	9	36	5,088	41			
		4	Very important	10	32	4,686	38			
		Total		26	100	12,348	100			
d. Improve online tools for student collaboration	EOL04d	1	Not at all important	1	7	432	4	<b>2.9</b>	3.0	-.18
		2	Somewhat important	8	30	2,715	22			
		3	Important	7	31	5,137	41			
		4	Very important	10	32	4,072	33			
		Total		26	100	12,356	100			
e. Provide more online learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	EOL04e	1	Not at all important	1	7	698	6	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.09
		2	Somewhat important	9	33	3,670	29			
		3	Important	8	35	4,768	39			
		4	Very important	7	25	3,192	26			
		Total		25	100	12,328	100			

#### 5. Please describe one way online learning at your institution could be improved and one thing that should not be changed.

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 13 first-year students and 56 seniors. Responses are provided in your NSSE21 Student Comments Report and in a separate SPSS data file.

*These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.*

#### 6. Considering your experience taking partly or entirely online courses during the current school year, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

a. Internet service (availability, speed, reliability, etc.) where you live has been sufficient to participate in the course.	EOL06a	1	Strongly disagree	2	5	266	2	<b>2.7</b>	3.2 ***	-.67
		2	Disagree	6	32	1,248	10			
		3	Agree	13	49	6,916	56			
		4	Strongly agree	5	14	3,799	32			
		Total		26	100	12,229	100			
b. The hardware (computer, tablet, mobile phone, printer, etc.) and software where you live have been sufficient to participate in the course.	EOL06b	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	106	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.3	-.25
		2	Disagree	1	3	653	5			
		3	Agree	18	77	6,572	53			
		4	Strongly agree	7	20	4,928	40			
		Total		26	100	12,259	100			
c. Study spaces where you live have been sufficient for your needs.	EOL06c	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	336	3	<b>3.0</b>	3.1	-.14
		2	Disagree	3	12	1,614	13			
		3	Agree	19	76	6,771	55			
		4	Strongly agree	4	12	3,539	29			
		Total		26	100	12,260	100			
d. Technology support has been available.	EOL06d	1	Strongly disagree	1	7	229	2	<b>2.9</b>	3.1	-.28
		2	Disagree	2	9	1,582	13			
		3	Agree	19	72	7,408	60			
		4	Strongly agree	4	12	3,029	25			
		Total		26	100	12,248	100			

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
e. The online course platform has been user-friendly (available when needed, easy to access and navigate, etc.).	EOL06e	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	194	2	<b>3.0</b>	3.2	-.29
		2	Disagree	4	16	1,000	9			
		3	Agree	17	71	7,635	62			
		4	Strongly agree	4	13	3,422	28			
			Total	25	100	12,251	100			
<b>7. Which of the following best describes how your entirely or partly online courses have typically been delivered?</b>										
	EOL07	—	Synchronous (live class meetings at scheduled times)	7	28	4,353	37			
		—	Asynchronous (participation not at scheduled times)	2	7	917	8			
		—	A mixture of synchronous and asynchronous	16	65	6,995	55			
			Total	25	100	12,265	100			
<b>8. How would you evaluate your online learning experience during the current school year?</b>										
	EOL08	1	Poor	3	9	757	7	<b>2.9</b>	2.8	.10
		2	Fair	5	18	3,411	28			
		3	Good	12	49	5,716	46			
		4	Excellent	6	24	2,395	20			
			Total	26	100	12,279	100			

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



## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. During the current school year, to what extent have your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses provided the following?</b>										
a. Clearly stated learning objectives or goals	EOL01a	0	Not at all	0	0	80	1	<b>3.3</b>	3.1 *	.23 △
		1	Very little	2	2	484	4			
		2	Some	19	19	2,430	19			
		3	Quite a bit	27	30	5,070	39			
		4	Very much	43	50	4,912	37			
		Total		91	100	12,976	100			
b. Clear guidance about how to get started in the course	EOL01b	0	Not at all	1	1	107	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.0 *	.25 △
		1	Very little	3	3	665	5			
		2	Some	18	18	2,684	21			
		3	Quite a bit	25	29	4,974	38			
		4	Very much	43	49	4,507	34			
		Total		90	100	12,937	100			
c. A clearly stated grading policy	EOL01c	0	Not at all	1	1	84	1	<b>3.3</b>	3.2	.13
		1	Very little	5	5	367	3			
		2	Some	11	11	1,853	15			
		3	Quite a bit	24	27	4,783	37			
		4	Very much	50	57	5,883	45			
		Total		91	100	12,970	100			
d. Course information and activities that are easy to locate	EOL01d	0	Not at all	1	1	114	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.0	.20
		1	Very little	2	2	526	4			
		2	Some	20	22	2,666	21			
		3	Quite a bit	26	28	4,928	38			
		4	Very much	42	48	4,727	36			
		Total		91	100	12,961	100			
e. Sufficient instructions for using technology	EOL01e	0	Not at all	0	0	160	1	<b>3.1</b>	2.9	.14
		1	Very little	6	6	804	7			
		2	Some	23	25	2,825	22			
		3	Quite a bit	23	26	4,721	36			
		4	Very much	39	43	4,453	33			
		Total		91	100	12,963	100			
f. Clarity about when instructors would respond to you (answers to your questions, feedback about coursework, etc.)	EOL01f	0	Not at all	0	0	192	2	<b>3.1</b>	2.9 *	.24 △
		1	Very little	5	5	925	7			
		2	Some	19	19	2,925	23			
		3	Quite a bit	29	34	4,611	36			
		4	Very much	38	43	4,303	33			
		Total		91	100	12,956	100			
g. Clear expectations for your interactions with other students	EOL01g	0	Not at all	1	1	275	2	<b>3.1</b>	2.8 *	.22 △
		1	Very little	5	5	1,093	9			
		2	Some	22	22	2,943	23			
		3	Quite a bit	27	31	4,385	34			
		4	Very much	36	41	4,240	32			
		Total		91	100	12,936	100			

# NSSE 2021 Experiences with Online Learning

## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

### Sul Ross State University

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
h. Assessments (quizzes, projects, assignments, exams, etc.) that help you achieve course learning objectives or goals	EOL01h	0	Not at all	0	0	130	1	<b>3.3</b>	3.1	.19
		1	Very little	5	4	494	4			
		2	Some	13	14	2,243	18			
		3	Quite a bit	31	33	4,964	38			
		4	Very much	42	49	5,113	39			
Total				91	100	12,944	100			
i. Instructional materials (readings, videos, etc.) that help you achieve course learning objectives or goals	EOL01i	0	Not at all	1	1	105	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.1	.12
		1	Very little	4	4	480	4			
		2	Some	17	19	2,226	18			
		3	Quite a bit	26	28	4,998	38			
		4	Very much	43	49	5,129	39			
Total				91	100	12,938	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, about how many of your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses included the following?</b>										
a. Live sessions including the instructor and students	EOL02a	1	None	7	7	710	6	<b>2.9</b>	3.0	-.13
		2	Some	30	31	2,901	23			
		3	Most	27	29	4,860	38			
		4	All	27	33	4,474	34			
		Total				91	100			
b. Pre-recorded presentations by the instructor	EOL02b	1	None	27	30	2,346	18	<b>2.2</b>	2.3	-.05
		2	Some	32	34	6,316	49			
		3	Most	16	18	2,719	22			
		4	All	14	17	1,551	12			
		Total				89	100			
c. Presentations or talks by experts in the field (live or recorded)	EOL02c	1	None	25	26	3,596	29	<b>2.2</b>	2.1	.13
		2	Some	40	46	6,216	47			
		3	Most	12	12	1,913	15			
		4	All	14	15	1,205	9			
		Total				91	100			
d. Group projects or presentations	EOL02d	1	None	18	19	1,699	14	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	-.04
		2	Some	38	42	6,124	46			
		3	Most	22	25	3,469	27			
		4	All	12	15	1,634	13			
		Total				90	100			
e. Interaction among students in small groups or breakout rooms	EOL02e	1	None	20	21	1,757	15	<b>2.5</b>	2.4	.03
		2	Some	32	34	5,449	42			
		3	Most	21	24	3,766	28			
		4	All	18	21	1,952	15			
		Total				91	100			
f. Frequent quizzes or short assignments to check your understanding	EOL02f	1	None	8	8	655	5	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	.06
		2	Some	24	27	4,265	33			
		3	Most	34	38	5,029	39			
		4	All	25	27	2,982	23			
		Total				91	100			

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

# NSSE 2021 Experiences with Online Learning

## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

### Sul Ross State University

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
g. Coursework that challenges you to enhance your knowledge, skills, and abilities	EOL02g	1	None	2	2	193	2	<b>3.2</b>	3.1	.05
		2	Some	19	19	2,527	20			
		3	Most	37	42	5,503	42			
		4	All	33	38	4,693	35			
		Total		91	100	12,916	100			
h. Opportunities for personalized feedback, support, and guidance from the instructor	EOL02h	1	None	6	5	526	5	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.11
		2	Some	24	26	4,046	32			
		3	Most	32	35	4,599	35			
		4	All	29	33	3,746	28			
		Total		91	100	12,917	100			
i. Opportunities to apply your learning to a real-world problem or issue	EOL02i	1	None	8	8	775	7	<b>2.9</b>	2.8	.17
		2	Some	21	22	4,419	35			
		3	Most	36	42	4,536	35			
		4	All	26	28	3,180	24			
		Total		91	100	12,910	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, how comfortable have you been doing the following in your <i>entirely or partly online</i> courses?</b>										
a. Participating in online discussion boards, forums, or other discussion tools	EOL03a	1	Not at all comfortable	2	2	340	3	<b>5.0</b>	4.8	.14
		2		7	8	548	4			
		3		6	6	1,091	9			
		4		9	9	2,178	17			
		5		16	16	2,927	22			
		6	Very comfortable	47	54	5,563	42			
		—	Not applicable	4	5	267	2			
		Total		91	100	12,914	100			
b. Participating in live course discussions	EOL03b	1	Not at all comfortable	3	3	501	4	<b>4.9</b>	4.5 **	.31
		2		4	5	826	6			
		3		8	8	1,497	12			
		4		8	7	2,588	20			
		5		23	25	2,742	21			
		6	Very comfortable	38	44	4,195	32			
		—	Not applicable	7	7	551	5			
		Total		91	100	12,900	100			
c. Taking proctored online exams	EOL03c	1	Not at all comfortable	4	4	1,246	11	<b>4.8</b>	4.1 ***	.42
		2		4	4	1,012	8			
		3		9	9	1,259	10			
		4		9	10	2,040	16			
		5		17	19	2,251	17			
		6	Very comfortable	34	40	3,389	26			
		—	Not applicable	14	15	1,706	13			
		Total		91	100	12,903	100			

### Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
d. Interacting with other students in the course	EOL03d	1	Not at all comfortable	3	3	329	3	<b>4.9</b>	4.6 *	.26
		2		6	6	803	6			
		3		7	8	1,579	12			
		4		11	11	2,694	21			
		5		17	18	3,044	24			
		6	Very comfortable	44	51	4,269	33			
		—	Not applicable	3	3	178	1			
Total				91	100	12,896	100			
e. Interacting with your instructor to discuss course topics, ideas, or concepts	EOL03e	1	Not at all comfortable	4	3	283	2	<b>5.1</b>	4.7 **	.32
		2		4	5	687	5			
		3		5	5	1,374	11			
		4		6	6	2,645	21			
		5		22	24	3,186	24			
		6	Very comfortable	47	54	4,624	36			
		—	Not applicable	2	2	103	1			
Total				90	100	12,902	100			
f. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	EOL03f	1	Not at all comfortable	8	9	925	8	<b>4.5</b>	4.0 **	.31
		2		5	5	1,391	11			
		3		11	10	1,670	12			
		4		6	6	2,082	16			
		5		17	19	1,708	13			
		6	Very comfortable	28	34	2,721	21			
		—	Not applicable	15	17	2,395	20			
Total				90	100	12,892	100			
g. Seeking feedback and guidance from your instructor	EOL03g	1	Not at all comfortable	4	3	407	4	<b>5.1</b>	4.6 ***	.35
		2		3	4	808	6			
		3		6	6	1,469	11			
		4		6	6	2,580	20			
		5		24	26	3,032	23			
		6	Very comfortable	43	51	4,383	34			
		—	Not applicable	3	3	221	2			
Total				89	100	12,900	100			
<b>4. To improve the online course-taking experience, how important is it that your institution do the following?</b>										
a. Increase interactions between students	EOL04a	1	Not at all important	7	9	1,522	12	<b>2.9</b>	2.7	.20
		2	Somewhat important	27	27	4,164	32			
		3	Important	29	33	4,314	33			
		4	Very important	26	31	2,876	23			
		Total				89	100			
b. Increase interactions with instructors	EOL04b	1	Not at all important	2	2	494	4	<b>3.4</b>	3.0 ***	.40
		2	Somewhat important	8	8	2,732	21			
		3	Important	34	38	5,374	41			
		4	Very important	45	52	4,269	34			
		Total				89	100			

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

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
c. Improve responsiveness of instructors	EOL04c	1	Not at all important	3	4	527	4	<b>3.4</b>	3.1 **	.30
		2	Somewhat important	8	8	2,460	19			
		3	Important	30	34	4,861	37			
		4	Very important	48	55	5,022	40			
		Total		89	100	12,870	100			
d. Improve online tools for student collaboration	EOL04d	1	Not at all important	3	4	760	6	<b>3.3</b>	3.0 **	.34
		2	Somewhat important	8	9	2,877	22			
		3	Important	35	38	4,845	37			
		4	Very important	42	49	4,389	35			
		Total		88	100	12,871	100			
e. Provide more online learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	EOL04e	1	Not at all important	5	7	1,074	8	<b>3.1</b>	2.8 **	.33
		2	Somewhat important	10	12	3,914	29			
		3	Important	39	42	4,531	35			
		4	Very important	34	38	3,339	27			
		Total		88	100	12,858	100			

### 5. Please describe one way *online learning* at your institution could be improved and one thing that should not be changed.

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 13 first-year students and 56 seniors. Responses are provided in your NSSE21 Student Comments Report and in a separate SPSS data file.

*These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.*

### 6. Considering your experience taking *partly or entirely online* courses during the current school year, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

a. Internet service (availability, speed, reliability, etc.) where you live has been sufficient to participate in the course.	EOL06a	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	338	3	<b>3.0</b>	3.2	-.19
		2	Disagree	16	17	1,451	11			
		3	Agree	49	58	6,650	52			
		4	Strongly agree	20	24	4,300	34			
		Total		86	100	12,739	100			
b. The hardware (computer, tablet, mobile phone, printer, etc.) and software where you live have been sufficient to participate in the course.	EOL06b	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	156	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.3	-.15
		2	Disagree	12	12	857	7			
		3	Agree	45	55	6,639	52			
		4	Strongly agree	28	33	5,126	40			
		Total		85	100	12,778	100			
c. Study spaces where you live have been sufficient for your needs.	EOL06c	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	592	5	<b>3.1</b>	3.0	.12
		2	Disagree	13	14	2,241	17			
		3	Agree	50	59	6,363	49			
		4	Strongly agree	21	26	3,604	28			
		Total		85	100	12,800	100			
d. Technology support has been available.	EOL06d	1	Strongly disagree	2	2	351	3	<b>3.1</b>	3.0	.15
		2	Disagree	9	10	1,979	15			
		3	Agree	50	59	7,287	57			
		4	Strongly agree	24	29	3,155	25			
		Total		85	100	12,772	100			

# NSSE 2021 Experiences with Online Learning

## Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

### Sul Ross State University

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>					
				SRSU		Online Learning		SRSU	Online Learning	Effect size <sup>d</sup>			
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean				
e. The online course platform has been user-friendly (available when needed, easy to access and navigate, etc.).	EOL06e	1 2 3 4	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree	1 9 49 27	1 11 58 30	231 980 7,766 3,805	2 8 60 30	<b>3.2</b>	3.2	-.01			
Total				86	100	12,782	100						
<b>7. Which of the following best describes how your entirely or partly online courses have typically been delivered?</b>													
	EOL07	—	Synchronous (live class meetings at scheduled times)	32	41	4,784	37						
		—	Asynchronous (participation not at scheduled times)	10	12	1,597	13						
		—	A mixture of synchronous and asynchronous	42	47	6,409	50						
Total				84	100	12,790	100						
<b>8. How would you evaluate your online learning experience during the current school year?</b>													
	EOL08	1 2 3 4	Poor Fair Good Excellent	6 13 41 26	7 15 49 30	826 3,177 5,579 3,234	7 26 43 24	<b>3.0</b>	2.8	.20			
Total				86	100	12,816	100						

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

### First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
		SRSU	Online Learning	SRSU	Online Learning	SRSU	Online Learning			
EOL01a	25	2.65	2.96	.189	.008	0.94	0.90	11,336	.095	-.34
EOL01b	24	2.64	2.85	.197	.009	0.96	0.95	11,286	.280	-.22
EOL01c	25	2.80	3.14	.177	.008	0.89	0.87	11,312	.052	-.39
EOL01d	25	2.64	2.92	.179	.009	0.90	0.93	11,310	.128	-.30
EOL01e	25	2.61	2.83	.203	.009	1.02	0.97	11,307	.247	-.23
EOL01f	25	2.68	2.81	.214	.009	1.07	0.99	11,297	.507	-.13
EOL01g	25	2.37	2.67	.225	.010	1.13	1.09	11,294	.158	-.28
EOL01h	25	2.91	3.06	.168	.009	0.84	0.90	11,297	.387	-.17
EOL01i	25	2.93	3.05	.171	.008	0.86	0.88	11,292	.513	-.13
EOL02a	25	2.74	3.03	.157	.008	0.79	0.81	11,294	.080	-.35
EOL02b	25	2.39	2.31	.173	.008	0.87	0.85	11,289	.623	.10
EOL02c	25	2.61	2.06	.176	.008	0.89	0.87	11,276	.002	.63
EOL02d	25	2.12	2.12	.150	.008	0.75	0.81	11,273	.983	.00
EOL02e	25	2.14	2.48	.187	.008	0.94	0.84	11,278	.039	-.41
EOL02f	25	2.53	2.90	.161	.007	0.81	0.78	11,289	.016	-.48
EOL02g	25	2.68	3.09	.164	.007	0.82	0.75	11,284	.006	-.55
EOL02h	25	2.66	2.79	.147	.008	0.74	0.84	11,277	.431	-.16
EOL02i	25	2.49	2.58	.174	.008	0.88	0.85	11,262	.585	-.11
EOL03a	25	4.14	4.55	.325	.013	1.63	1.35	11,159	.133	-.30
EOL03b	25	3.86	4.19	.333	.014	1.67	1.43	11,001	.241	-.23
EOL03c	25	4.01	4.04	.303	.016	1.52	1.62	10,527	.932	-.02
EOL03d	25	4.09	4.20	.248	.013	1.25	1.39	11,146	.699	-.08
EOL03e	25	4.09	4.36	.278	.013	1.40	1.35	11,158	.319	-.20
EOL03f	25	3.84	3.83	.295	.015	1.46	1.55	10,219	.970	.01
EOL03g	25	4.03	4.30	.295	.013	1.48	1.40	11,104	.319	-.20
EOL04a	25	2.42	2.84	.150	.009	0.75	0.90	11,249	.021	-.46
EOL04b	25	2.85	3.10	.166	.007	0.83	0.78	11,240	.108	-.32
EOL04c	25	2.95	3.14	.186	.008	0.93	0.81	11,222	.227	-.24
EOL04d	25	2.89	3.05	.191	.008	0.96	0.83	11,235	.354	-.18
EOL04e	25	2.78	2.85	.186	.008	0.92	0.87	11,204	.666	-.09
EOL06a	25	2.70	3.17	.156	.007	0.78	0.69	11,119	.001	-.67
EOL06b	25	3.18	3.33	.091	.006	0.46	0.62	24	.101	-.25
EOL06c	25	3.00	3.10	.100	.007	0.50	0.73	24	.317	-.14
EOL06d	25	2.89	3.08	.140	.006	0.70	0.68	11,135	.158	-.28
EOL06e	24	2.97	3.16	.113	.006	0.55	0.64	11,133	.160	-.29
EOL08	25	2.88	2.79	.180	.008	0.90	0.84	11,161	.615	.10

### Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
		SRSU	Online Learning	SRSU	Online Learning	SRSU	Online Learning			
EOL01a	90	3.28	3.07	.087	.008	0.82	0.88	12,511	.031	.23
EOL01b	89	3.22	2.99	.096	.008	0.91	0.93	12,473	.019	.25
EOL01c	90	3.34	3.22	.097	.008	0.92	0.85	12,505	.217	.13
EOL01d	90	3.21	3.03	.094	.008	0.89	0.92	12,493	.062	.20
EOL01e	90	3.07	2.94	.101	.009	0.96	0.97	12,500	.192	.14
EOL01f	90	3.14	2.90	.094	.009	0.89	0.99	12,494	.022	.24
EOL01g	90	3.07	2.84	.100	.009	0.95	1.04	12,470	.039	.22
EOL01h	90	3.27	3.09	.090	.008	0.85	0.91	12,482	.070	.19
EOL01i	90	3.20	3.09	.098	.008	0.93	0.90	12,475	.268	.12
EOL02a	90	2.87	2.99	.102	.008	0.96	0.90	90	.259	-.13
EOL02b	88	2.22	2.27	.114	.008	1.07	0.89	87	.672	-.05
EOL02c	90	2.17	2.05	.105	.008	0.99	0.90	12,468	.224	.13
EOL02d	88	2.36	2.39	.101	.008	0.95	0.87	12,457	.686	-.04
EOL02e	90	2.46	2.43	.111	.008	1.05	0.91	90	.783	.03
EOL02f	90	2.84	2.79	.097	.008	0.91	0.85	12,466	.592	.06
EOL02g	90	3.15	3.11	.083	.007	0.79	0.79	12,452	.635	.05
EOL02h	90	2.96	2.87	.095	.008	0.90	0.88	12,454	.298	.11
EOL02i	90	2.91	2.76	.095	.008	0.90	0.89	12,443	.109	.17
EOL03a	85	5.02	4.83	.152	.012	1.40	1.34	12,167	.188	.14
EOL03b	83	4.95	4.51	.151	.013	1.37	1.44	84	.005	.31
EOL03c	76	4.84	4.12	.166	.017	1.45	1.72	77	.000	.42
EOL03d	87	4.94	4.58	.152	.012	1.42	1.37	12,242	.016	.26
EOL03e	87	5.11	4.68	.144	.012	1.34	1.33	12,320	.003	.32
EOL03f	73	4.49	3.97	.202	.017	1.73	1.65	9,974	.007	.31
EOL03g	84	5.07	4.57	.145	.013	1.33	1.41	85	.001	.35
EOL04a	88	2.86	2.66	.103	.009	0.97	0.96	12,404	.057	.20
EOL04b	88	3.38	3.05	.080	.008	0.74	0.84	12,395	.000	.40
EOL04c	88	3.39	3.13	.084	.008	0.79	0.86	12,401	.005	.30
EOL04d	85	3.32	3.02	.086	.008	0.80	0.90	12,391	.002	.34
EOL04e	85	3.12	2.81	.096	.008	0.88	0.93	12,387	.002	.33
EOL06a	84	3.05	3.18	.073	.007	0.67	0.73	84	.068	-.19
EOL06b	83	3.21	3.31	.071	.006	0.65	0.66	12,309	.161	-.15
EOL06c	83	3.10	3.01	.072	.007	0.65	0.81	12,326	.290	.12
EOL06d	83	3.14	3.04	.075	.007	0.68	0.72	12,297	.187	.15
EOL06e	84	3.17	3.17	.071	.006	0.65	0.66	12,317	.939	-.01
EOL08	84	3.01	2.84	.093	.008	0.85	0.88	84	.066	.20

See the endnotes on the last page of this report.



## 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. Comparison group details are in the *Selected Comparison Groups* report, linked in the Data & Reports table on the Institution Interface.
- 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  $N$ s 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.