

Macalester College  
 College Student Experiences Questionnaire  
 Institutional Research – August 2007

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**Student Activities in College**

The College Activities section of the CSEQ asks how often a student has done or experienced particular events during the current school year. Some of these items are relatively easy to accomplish, while others are more difficult and less common. The 13 activities include topics such as use of the library, use of computers, course learning activities, and topics of conversations.

Percentage responding "often" or "very often"

LIBRARY	2003	2007
Used the library to study	37	43
Found something interesting while browsing	32	32
Asked a librarian for help	17	11
Read assigned material, not texts	40	40
Used index or database to find material	68	70
Wrote bibliography for a term paper	55	63
Went back to read a basic reference	20	25
Made a judgment about quality of info	53	64

COMPUTER	2003	2007
Used computer for writing a paper	99	99
Used email to communicate with class	97	99
Used a tutorial to learn material	16	16
Joined an electronic class discussion	19	25
Searched internet for course material	88	92
Retrieved materials from an off-campus library	38	46
Made visual displays with computer	45	58
Used a computer to analyze data	39	43
Developed a web page, multimedia	16	19

COURSE LEARNING	2003	2007
Completed the assigned readings	92	89
Took detailed notes in class	91	89
Contributed to class discussions	79	80
Developed role play, case study	23	23
Put together different facts, ideas	91	91
Summarized major points, information	72	80
Worked with others on class project	74	72
Applied class material to other areas	74	70
Used info from other areas in class	73	71
Explained course material to others	82	81
Worked on project integrating ideas	84	86

Percentage responding "often" or "very often"

WRITING	2003	2007
Used a dictionary or thesaurus	61	60
Thought about grammar, etc, while writing	90	87
Asked others to read your writing	54	55
Referred to a writing manual	30	18
Revised a paper two or more times	52	53
Asked for writing advice	30	30
Prepared a major report for class	24	24

FACULTY	2003	2007
Asked for course information	67	63
Discussed your academic program	46	47
Discussed term paper, project ideas	52	51
Discussed career plans	33	31
Worked harder because of feedback	61	62
Socialized with faculty outside class	16	18
Discussed w students & faculty outside class	23	23
Asked about your academic performance	28	24
Worked harder than you thought you could	43	43
Worked with faculty on research	n/a	15

ART, MUSIC, THEATER	2003	2007
Talked about art or theater with others	53	50
Went to art exhibit or theater performance	40	39
Participated in art or theater activity	31	29
Talked about music or musicians	73	67
Went to a concert or music event	49	47
Participated in a music activity	28	30
Read or discussed opinions of critics	32	32

CAMPUS FACILITIES	2003	2007
Used a campus lounge to relax or study	41	48
Met other students for discussion	58	64
Attended a cultural, social event	52	61
Went to lecture or panel discussion	36	41
Used a campus learning lab or center	13	16
Used campus recreational facilities	54	48
Played a team sport	33	33
Followed a regular exercise schedule	48	46

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS	2003	2007
Attended a meeting of campus organization	45	55
Worked on campus committee, organization	32	39
Worked on off-campus committee, organization	15	17
Met with faculty to discuss campus group	13	14
Managed an on or off campus organization	28	32

Percentage responding "often" or "very often"

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES	2003	2007
Told someone about your reaction to others	78	69
Discussed why some people get along	72	68
Asked for help with a personal problem	64	63
Read about personal growth, self improvement	19	15
Identified with character from book, movie, etc	60	58
Took a test to measure abilities, interests	23	19
Asked a friend what they thought about you	29	22
Disc personal concerns w faculty, counselor	15	16

STUDENT ACQUAINTANCES	2003	2007
Acquainted w students of diff interests	77	75
Acquainted w students of diff backgrounds	85	83
Acquainted w students of diff age	62	62
Acquainted w students of diff race, ethnicity	75	72
Acquainted w students of diff country	77	72
Discussions w students of diff values	59	52
Discussions w students of diff political beliefs	45	33
Discussions w students of diff religious beliefs	55	52
Discussions w students of diff race, ethnicity	60	56
Discussions w students of diff country	62	56

SCIENCE	2003	2007
Memorized formulas, definitions	53	50
Expressed relationships using math	42	37
Explained scientific concepts to others	42	37
Read articles about science, not assigned	26	25
Completed experiment using scientific methods	34	36
Practiced using lab equipment	21	24
Showed how to use scientific equipment	17	17
Explained experimental procedure	23	21
Compared sci method w other methods	26	22
Explained scientific basis for concerns	33	34

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION	2003	2007
Current events in the news	85	77
Social issues such as peace, justice	82	74
Different lifestyles, customs, religions	76	76
Ideas of writers, philosophers, historians	53	55
The arts such as painting, poetry, dance	56	55
Scientific theories, experiments, methods	32	34
Computers and other technologies	31	27
Social and ethical issues related to science	55	60
The economy such as employment, wealth	63	56
International relations	75	67

Percentage responding "often" or "very often"

INFORMATION IN CONVERSATIONS	2003	2007
Referred to knowledge from readings, class	82	85
Explored different ways of thinking about topic	79	77
Referred to something instructor said	73	74
Subsequently read something on a topic	55	57
Changed opinion because of others' arguments	40	39
Persuaded others to change their minds	36	34

	2003	2007
Number of surveys	1084	876