

SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

CAAP OUTCOMES

Spring 2016

For the ninth academic year, Southwestern Oklahoma State University has administered an annual standardized examination as a component of institutional assessment, the importance of which is supported by the Student Government Association. Faculty Committees and Administration agreed to utilize two components of ACT's Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP): Critical Thinking and Writing Essay.

FRESHMEN

Freshmen were asked to complete one of the two tests in a class period during the Fall 2014 semester. Seven hundred forty-one freshmen participated; 379 took the Critical Thinking test, and 357 took the Writing Essay. Tests were administered September 8, 2014 – September 19, 2014 by Southwestern's Assessment Center staff. Subsequently, scoring and reporting were completed by ACT/CAAP. The scores of our freshmen examinees were again slightly below the national average of other freshmen examinees on the Critical Thinking objective test. On a scale of 40-80, Southwestern freshmen received an average score of 60.6 on the Critical Thinking test compared to the freshmen national average of 60.8. The scores of our freshmen examinees were again slightly below the national average of other freshmen examinees on the Writing Essay test. On a scale of 1-6, SWOSU freshmen received an average score of 3.0 on the essay; the freshmen national average was 3.2.

Most of the students completing the exams were White/Caucasian females, ages 18 and under. Nearly all of the participating students held English as their first language, had full-time status, and plan to return to Southwestern. The major of the majority of examinees was either a Health Profession, Education, or Business. Most students reported that they tried their best while testing.

There are plans to move from the CAAP to the ETS Proficiency Profile in the future. The first administration of the ETS Proficiency Profile will be to Freshmen during the Fall 2016 semester.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Eligible Southwestern Juniors and Seniors were asked to volunteer to complete both CAAP tests during the Spring 2016 semester. Thirty two-hour testing time slots were offered to juniors and seniors scheduled during the two-week period of April 4, 2016 – April 15, 2016. Students were informed of this opportunity through e-mails. Eligibility was based on the following criteria:

1. Have not taken CAAP tests as a junior or senior at SWOSU before.
2. Earned at least 60 credit hours (credit from advanced placement exams acceptable)
3. Earned at least 22 general education hours at Southwestern
4. Earned credit at Southwestern for the 1213 English Composition II course with a grade of "C" or better (credit from advanced placement exams acceptable)

Out of about 719 Juniors & Seniors invited to participate, 26 (3.62%) actually contributed to this important project; 5.35% participated last year (36). As a means of incentive and showing our appreciation for the contribution of students outside of class time, participants received \$20 for the testing appointment to take the two tests.

Scoring and reporting were completed by ACT/CAAP. The scores of our Spring 2016 examinees were again above the national average of other junior and senior examinees. On a scale of 40-80, Southwestern Juniors and Seniors received an average score of 67.77 (mean score of 65.7 for juniors and seniors since 2007) on the Critical Thinking objective test compared to the juniors' and seniors' national averages of 60.7 and 62.1 respectively. On a scale of 1-6, SWOSU juniors and seniors received an average score of 3.99 (mean score of 3.54 for juniors and seniors since 2007) on the Writing Essay test; the Juniors' and Seniors' national average was 3.3 and 3.4 respectively.

Most of the students completing the exams for the most recent administration were White/Caucasian; 18 females and 8 males. They were mostly ages 21 – 25, and enrolled at Southwestern as Freshmen. All 26 held English as their first language, and all had full-time status as a Southwestern student. Sixteen of the twenty-six (61.54%) plan to return to Southwestern. The major of most of the examinees was Biological Sciences (7), Health Professions (6), and Education (3). Most reported that they tried their best while testing. Ninety-six percent of the examinees report that they hold a GPA of 3.01 or higher.

SUMMARY

Both Freshmen and Seniors competed for cash prizes awarded for highest scores in order to gain increased effort on performance. These achievement prizes were awarded in four different categories based on the ACT scores of Freshmen, and based on the current GPA of Seniors. In this way, students were encouraged to make their best effort.

Following is supporting data.

CAAP Institutional Summary Report

Fall 2007 - Spring 2016

TEST (SCALE)	Freshmen				Jrs / Srs		Juniors		Seniors	
	SWOSU		Nat. / 2014		SWOSU		Nat. / 2015		Nat. / 2015	
	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score
Critical Thinking (40-80)	957	60.30	8,587	60.80	307	65.70	8,316	60.70	14,062	62.10
Writing Essay (1-6)	957	2.96	4,420	3.20	299	3.54	4,748	3.30	7,938	3.40

Results reported are based on a frequency of 5 or more participants in the Critical Thinking test.

Demographics		Critical Thinking			
		Fall '14 SWOSU Freshmen		Spring '16 SWOSU Jrs/Srs	
Category	Response	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score
Ethnicity	African Am./Black	30	56	1	n/a
	Am. Ind./Alaskan	15	60	1	n/a
	Asian/Pacific Islander	12	58	2	n/a
	Mex. Am./Chicano	18	58	5	67
	Puerto R./Cuban/Hisp.	4	n/a	0	
	White/Caucasian	234	62	17	68
Gender	Female	175	61	18	68
	Male	193	60	8	68
Age	18 and under	261	61	0	
	19-20	97	60	7	69
	21-25	14	55	16	68
	26-30	1	n/a	2	n/a
	31-39	0		0	
	40 and older	6	58	1	n/a
English	First Language	340	61	26	68
	Not First Language	22	55	0	
Enrolled as Freshman	Yes	353	61	25	68
	No	2	n/a	1	n/a
Student Status	Full-time	355	61	26	68
	Part-time	1	n/a	0	
Cumulative GPA	Below 2.00	5	63	0	
	2.01 - 2.50	15	56	1	n/a
	2.51 - 3.00	48	58	0	
	3.01 - 3.50	95	60	6	66
	3.51 and above	131	63	19	69
Educational plans	Return to this school	329	61	16	67
	Transfer to diff. sch.	17	60	1	n/a
	Other	10	59	9	69

Demographics		Critical Thinking			
		Fall '14 SWOSU Freshmen		Spring '16 SWOSU Jrs/Srs	
Category	Response	Freq.	Mean Score	Freq.	Mean Score
College Major	Agriculture	2	n/a	0	
	Biological Sciences	14	63	7	68
	Business	30	59	2	n/a
	Communications	9	64	1	n/a
	Community Serv.	10	58	0	
	Computer/Info. Sc.	4	n/a	0	
	Education	28	60	3	n/a
	Engineering	13	60	1	n/a
	Fine & Applied Arts	17	61	1	n/a
	Foreign Languages	1	n/a	0	
	General Studies	2	n/a	0	
	Health Professions	114	62	6	67
	Letters	1	n/a	0	
	Marketing/Purchasing	3	n/a	0	
	Office Management	0		1	n/a
	Physical Sciences	1	n/a	2	n/a
	Social Sciences	20	62	1	n/a
Trade/Industrial	1	n/a	0		
Effort	Tried my Best	211	63	21	68
	Gave Moderate Effort	102	59	2	n/a
	Gave Little Effort	12	57	0	
	Gave No Effort	0		0	
	No Response	0		3	n/a

SOUTHWESTERN OK STATE UNIVERSITY

CAAP Score Comparison

2015-2016

**SWOSU FRESHMEN
CUMULATIVE CAAP SCORES
Fall 2010 - Fall 2014**

CT	n=957	%	ESSAY	n=954	%
74-80	0	0.00%	5.25-6.00	0	0.00%
73	2	0.21%	5.00	0	0.00%
72	3	0.31%	4.75	6	0.63%
71	18	1.88%	4.50	2	0.21%
70	14	1.46%	4.25	3	0.31%
69	25	2.61%	4.00	76	7.97%
68	42	4.39%	3.75	43	4.51%
67	34	3.55%	3.50	102	10.69%
66	41	4.28%	3.25	66	6.92%
65	27	2.82%	3.00	322	33.75%
64	84	8.78%	2.75	60	6.29%
63	44	4.60%	2.50	131	13.73%
62	44	4.60%	2.25	44	4.61%
61	77	8.05%	2.00	72	7.55%
60	59	6.17%	1.75	9	0.94%
59	50	5.22%	1.50	10	1.05%
58	83	8.67%	1.25	2	0.21%
57	50	5.22%	1.00	2	0.21%
56	66	6.90%	0.00	4	0.42%
55	55	5.75%			
54	52	5.43%			
53	42	4.39%			
52	17	1.78%			
51	14	1.46%			
50	7	0.73%			
49	4	0.42%			
48	3	0.31%			
40-47	0	0.00%			
	957	100.00%		954	100.00%

Mean Scores:

60.30 957 | **2.96** 954

2014 NATIONAL Mean Scores of Freshmen:

60.80 8,587 | **3.20** 4,420

**SWOSU JUNIORS/SENIORS
CUMULATIVE CAAP SCORES
Fall 2007 - Spring 2016**

CT	n=307	%	ESSAY	n=299	%
74-80	0	0.00%	5.25-6.00	0	0.00%
73	3	0.98%	5.00	5	1.67%
72	11	3.58%	4.75	3	1.00%
71	18	5.86%	4.50	11	3.68%
70	33	10.75%	4.25	9	3.01%
69	30	9.77%	4.00	76	25.42%
68	32	10.42%	3.75	25	8.36%
67	37	12.05%	3.50	55	18.39%
66	21	6.84%	3.25	30	10.03%
65	15	4.89%	3.00	67	22.41%
64	28	9.12%	2.75	6	2.01%
63	11	3.58%	2.50	7	2.34%
62	8	2.61%	2.25	2	0.67%
61	16	5.21%	2.00	2	0.67%
60	10	3.26%	1.75	0	0.00%
59	9	2.93%	1.50	1	0.33%
58	4	1.30%	1.25	0	0.00%
57	4	1.30%	1.00	0	0.00%
56	8	2.61%			
55	7	2.28%			
54	0	0.00%			
53	1	0.33%			
52	1	0.33%			
51	0	0.00%			
50	0	0.00%			
49	0	0.00%			
48	0	0.00%			
40-47	0	0.00%			
	307	100.00%		299	100.00%

Mean Scores:

65.70 307 | **3.54** 299

2015 NATIONAL Mean Scores of Juniors:

60.70 8,316 | **3.30** 4,748

2015 NATIONAL Mean Scores of Seniors:

62.10 14,062 | **3.40** 7,938