NSSE 2012 Survey Items included in this area of effective educational practice

**Level of Academic Challenge**

Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, rehearsing, etc. related to academic program)

Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings

Number of written papers or reports of **20 pages or more**; number of written papers or reports of **between 5 and 19 pages**; and number of written papers or reports of **fewer than 5 pages**

Coursework emphasizes: **Analysis** of the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory

Coursework emphasizes: **Synthesis** and organizing of ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships

Coursework emphasizes: **Making of judgments** about the value of information, arguments, or methods

Coursework emphasizes: **Applying** theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations

Working harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor’s standards or expectations

Campus environment emphasizes: Spending significant amount of time studying and on academic work
NSSE 2012 Survey Items included in this area of effective educational practice

**Active and Collaborative Learning**

Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions

Made a class presentation

Worked with other students on projects **during class**

Worked with classmates **outside of class** to prepare class assignments

Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)

Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course

Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)
Student-Faculty Interaction

Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor
Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor
Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class
Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student-life activities, etc.)
Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance
Worked on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements
Enriching Educational Experiences

Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, social fraternity or sorority, etc.)

Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment

Community service or volunteer work

Foreign language coursework / Study abroad

Independent study or self-designed major

Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)

Serious conversations with students of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values

Serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own

Using electronic medium (e.g., listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment

Campus environment encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds

Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together.
Supportive Campus Environment
Campus environment provides the support you need to help you succeed academically
Campus environment helps you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)
Campus environment provides the support you need to thrive socially
Quality of relationships with other students
Quality of relationships with faculty members
Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices