

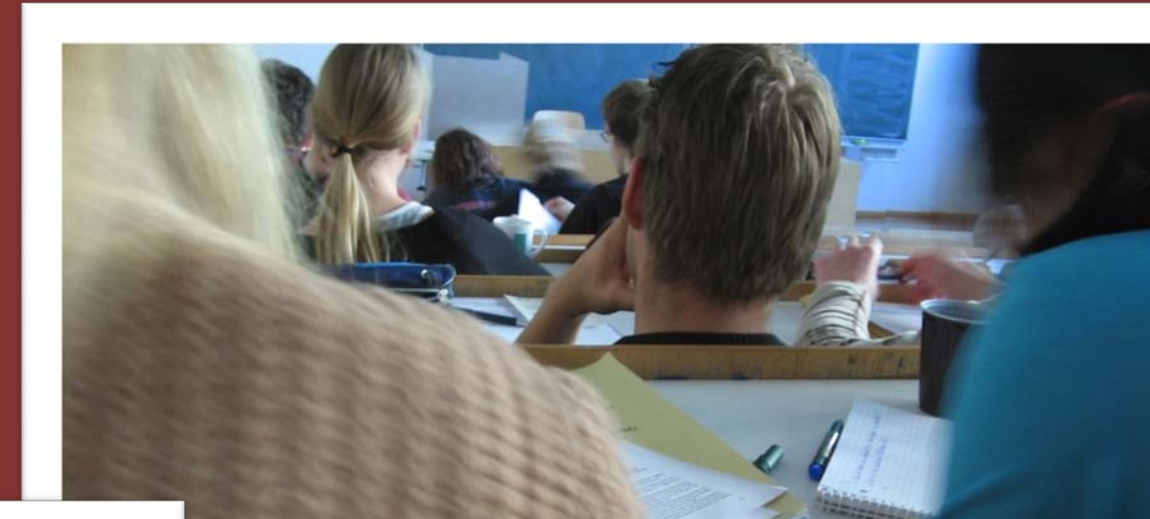
# Formative Evaluation with the Classroom Survey of Student Engagement (CLASSE)

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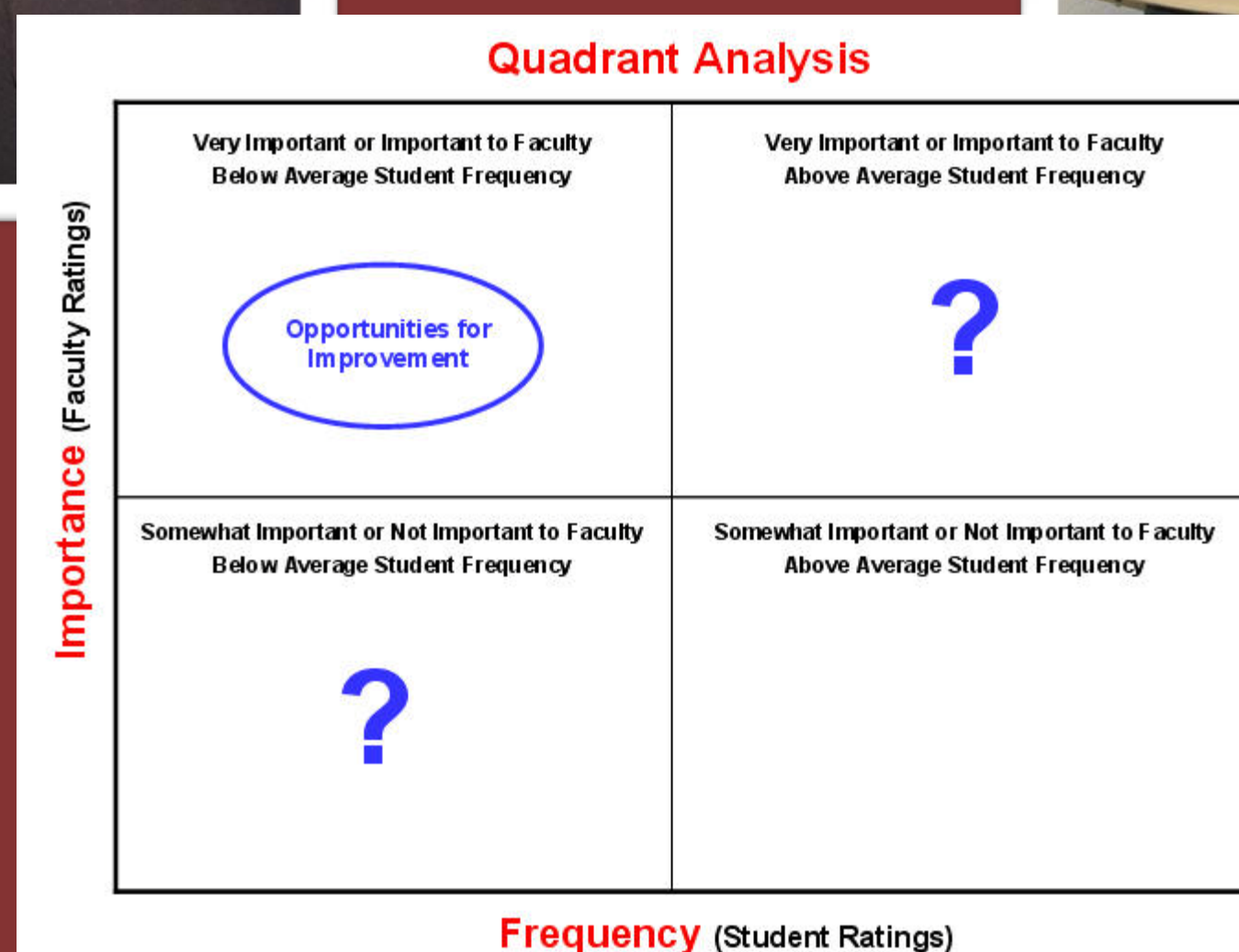


## Abstract

As instructors seek to improve teaching, it is a challenge to assess progress and identify the areas in most need of improvement. At many institutions, the standard student surveys fall short. However, the Classroom Survey of Student Engagement (CLASSE) is helpful supplement for such formative teaching evaluations. The CLASSE is a classroom-level adaptation of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), an effort to collect and benchmark student participation in activities that research has linked to student learning. The CLASSE consists of both a faculty and student version, both of which include 41 pre-defined questions. The Faculty CLASSE invites instructors to evaluate the importance of various activities and practices that occur as part of their classes. The Student CLASSE asks students to reflect on their behavior related to the same activities and practices. Based on the findings, instructors are able to prioritize areas for improvement. The Student CLASSE begins with a question of "So far this semester, how often have you done each of the following in your [Course XYZ] class?" Then, it lists 19 different items ranging from "Asked questions during your [Course XYZ] class" to "Worked harder than you thought you could to meet your [Course XYZ] instructor's standards and expectations." Other items focus on cognitive skills and class atmosphere. The CLASSE is a promising resource for anyone seeking to improve student engagement and document the results of their efforts.



How would your students describe their classroom experience?



## How to Participate in the CLASSE\*

(\*Reprinted from <http://nsse.iub.edu/?cid=211>)

- Determine your institution's CLASSE eligibility by confirming your institution has participated in NSSE at least once in the last three years.
- Download and review the CLASSE Item Usage Proposal Form
- Makes decisions about your CLASSE administration, including:
  - Course selection
  - Optional course-specific survey items
- Prepare drafts of your CLASSE<sub>Student</sub> and CLASSE<sub>Faculty</sub> instruments.
- Seek authorization to implement CLASSE from NSSE research analyst Amber D. Lambert by sending her the completed CLASSE Item Usage Proposal and copies of the draft CLASSE<sub>Student</sub> and CLASSE<sub>Faculty</sub> surveys for each of the classes included in your study.

## For More Information:

<http://www.assessment.ua.edu/CLASSE/Overview.htm>

<http://nsse.iub.edu/?cid=211>

**CLASSE<sub>STUDENT</sub>**  
**Classroom Survey of Student Engagement\***  
[2011-12 report for select AEE & LDRS classes]

This survey includes items that ask about your participation in AEE / LDRS XXXX and about educational practices that occur in this class. Your honest and straightforward responses to these questions will help us identify targets for improvements and enable us to provide an even higher quality academic experience.

**PART I: ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

So far this semester, how often have you done each of the following in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?

	Never	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	More than 5 times
1. Asked questions during your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	5.6%	30.3%	33.7%	30.3%
2. Contributed to a class discussion that occurred during your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	4.5%	15.7%	34.8%	44.9%
3. Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class before turning it in	23.6%	47.2%	14.6%	14.6%
4. Worked on a paper or a project in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	1.1%	15.9%	38.6%	44.3%
5. Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	4.5%	36.4%	29.5%	29.5%
6. Came to your AEE / LDRS XXXX class without having completed readings or assignments	39.3%	44.9%	14.6%	1.1%
7. Worked with other students on projects during your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	2.2%	15.7%	36.0%	46.1%
8. Worked with classmates outside of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class to prepare class assignments	6.7%	29.2%	36.0%	28.1%
9. Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	5.6%	34.8%	38.2%	21.3%
10. Tutored or taught other students in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	70.8%	24.7%	3.4%	1.1%
11. Used an electronic medium (list-serv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	6.7%	18.0%	19.1%	56.2%
12. Used email to communicate with the instructor of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	6.7%	52.8%	22.5%	18.0%
13. Discussed grades or assignments with the instructor of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	28.1%	48.3%	18.0%	5.6%
14. Discussed ideas from your AEE / LDRS XXXX with others outside of class (students, family members, coworkers, etc.)	9.0%	34.8%	36.0%	20.2%

**PART II: COGNITIVE SKILLS**

So far this semester, how much of your coursework in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class emphasized the following mental activities?

	Very Little	Some	Quite a Bit	Very Much	
15. Made a class presentation in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	12.4% Never	43.8% Once	16.9% 2 times	27.0% More than 2 times	
16. Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class	55.1% Never	30.3% Once	4.5% 2 times	10.1% More than 2 times	
17. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with your AEE / LDRS XXXX instructor outside of class	69.7% Never	15.7% Once	3.4% 2 times	11.2% More than 2 times	
18. Received prompt written or oral feedback on your academic performance from your AEE / LDRS XXXX instructor	1.1% Never/Rarely	18.0% Sometimes	43.8% Often	37.1% Very Often	
19. Worked harder than you thought you could to meet your AEE / LDRS XXXX instructor's standards or expectations	15.7% Never/Rarely	42.7% Sometimes	29.2% Often	12.4% Very Often	
20. Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form		13.6%	36.4%	36.4%	13.6%
21. Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components		2.3%	18.2%	54.5%	25.0%
22. Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships		2.3%	21.6%	52.3%	23.9%
23. Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions		0.0%	19.3%	54.5%	26.1%
24. Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations		2.3%	17.0%	42.0%	38.6%
25. How often in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class have you been required to prepare written papers or reports of more than 5 pages in length?	37.5% Never	27.6% Once	19.5% 2 times	14.9% 3 or more times	
26. To what extent do the examinations in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class challenge you to do your best work?	4.7% Very little	33.7% Some	51.2% Quite a bit	10.5% Very much	
27. In a typical week in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class, how many homework assignments take you more than one hour each to complete?	19.5% None	71.3% 1 or 2	6.9% 3 or 4	2.3% 5 or more	
28. In a typical week, how often do you spend more than 3 hours preparing for your AEE / LDRS XXXX class (studying, reading, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic matters)?	34.9% Never/Rarely	41.9% Sometimes	16.3% Often	7.0% Very Often	
29. How many times have you been absent so far this semester in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	28.7% None	51.7% 1-2 absences	14.9% 3-4 absences	4.6% 5 or more absences	

**PART III: OTHER EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES**

So far this semester, how much of your coursework in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class emphasized the following mental activities?

30. How frequently do you take notes in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	30.6% Never/Rarely	49.4% Sometimes	10.6% Often	9.4% Very Often
31. How often do you review your notes prior to the next scheduled meeting in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	44.8% Never/Rarely	41.4% Sometimes	12.6% Often	1.1% Very Often
32. How often have you participated in a study partnership with a classmate in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class to prepare for a quiz or a test?	65.5% Never	16.1% Once	10.3% 2 times	8.0% 3 or more times
33. How often have you attended a review session or help session to enhance your understanding of the content of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	96.5% Never	1.2% Once	1.2% 2 times	1.2% 3 or more times
34. How interested are you in learning the AEE / LDRS XXXX course material?	2.3% Very uninterested	3.4% Uninterested	66.7% Interested	27.6% Very interested

**PART IV: CLASS ATMOSPHERE**

So far this semester, what are your general impressions of the AEE / LDRS XXXX class atmosphere?

35. How comfortable are you talking with the instructor of your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	0.0% Uncomfortable	14.9% Somewhat Comfortable	44.8% Comfortable	40.2% Very Comfortable
36. How much do you enjoy group work with your classmates in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	4.6% Very Little	13.8% Some	37.9% Quite a Bit	43.7% Very Much
37. How difficult is the course material in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	34.5% Easy	59.8% Somewhat Difficult	5.7% Difficult	0.0% Very Difficult
38. How easy is it to follow the lectures in your AEE / LDRS XXXX class?	0.0% Difficult	14.9% Somewhat Easy	62.1% Easy	23.0% Very Easy

**PART V: DEMOGRAPHICS**

47. How many credit hours are you enrolled in this semester?

8.0% 1-6 credit hours	5.7% 7-11 credit hours	43.7% 12-15 credit hours	42.5% >15 credit hours
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48. What is your classification?

0.0% Freshman (<30 hrs)	29.9% Sophomore (30-59 hrs)	35.6% Junior (60-89 hrs)	14.9% Senior (90+ hrs)
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49. What is your academic major?

12.6% Master's Student	6.9% Doctoral Student	0.0% Non-Degree Seeking Student
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Agricultural Sciences [12%], Agricultural and Applied Economics [7%], Animal and Poultry Sciences [6%], Business (various) [6%], Communication [6%], Engineering (various) [6%], Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences [6%], Educational Leadership and Policy Studies [5%], Wildlife Science [5%], Other [42%]

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey  
\* This survey is an adaptation of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) with permission from Indiana University.