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2012 CAAP

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Recommended Citation

Southwestern Oklahoma State University, "2012 CAAP" (2012). *Assessment Center Reports*. 30.
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SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

CAAP OUTCOMES

2011–2012

For the fifth 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

For the first time, Freshmen were asked to complete one of the two tests during English Composition I class periods during the Fall 2010 semester. Four hundred forty-three freshmen participated; 207 took the Critical Thinking test, and 236 took the Writing Essay. Tests were administered October 7, 2010 – October 20, 2010 by Southwestern's Assessment Center staff. Subsequently, scoring and reporting were completed by ACT/CAAP. The scores of our freshmen examinees were slightly below the national average of other freshmen examinees. On a scale of 40-80, Southwestern freshmen received an average score of 59.9 on the Critical Thinking objective test compared to the freshmen national average of 61.0. On a scale of 1-6, SWOSU freshmen received an average score of 2.9 on the Writing Essay test; the freshmen national average was 3.0.

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 or Education. Most students reported that they tried their best while testing.

There are plans to administer to Freshmen again during the Fall 2012 semester in Freshman Orientation classes.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Eligible Southwestern Juniors and Seniors were asked to volunteer to complete both CAAP tests during the Spring 2012 semester. Forty-four two-hour testing time slots were offered to seniors scheduled during the two-week period of April 13, 2012 – May 3, 2012. Juniors and Seniors were informed of this opportunity through letters, e-mails, and displayed flyers. 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 763 Juniors & Seniors invited to participate, 66 (8.65%) actually contributed to this important project; 7% participated last year (28 Seniors). 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 2012 examinees were 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 65.56 (mean score of 65.15 for juniors and seniors since 2007) on the Critical Thinking objective test compared to the juniors' and seniors' national averages of 61.8 and 62.9 respectively. On a scale of 1-6, SWOSU juniors and seniors received an average score of 3.39 (mean score of 3.41 for juniors and seniors since 2007) on the Writing Essay test; the Juniors' and Seniors' national average was 3.3.

Most of the students completing the exams for the most recent administration were White/Caucasian females, ages 21 – 25, and enrolled at Southwestern as Freshmen. Almost all held English as their first language, and all had full-time status as a Southwestern student. The majority plan to return to Southwestern. The major of most of the examinees was a Health Profession or Education. Most reported that they tried their best while testing. Half of the examinees placed in the highest GPA group of 3.51 – 4.00; 30% placed in the GPA group of 3.01 - 3.50; 15% in the GPA group of 2.51 – 3.00; and, 5% in the lowest GPA group of 2.00 – 2.50.

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.

While scores of our freshmen were slightly below the national average, the impressive scores of our juniors and seniors since 2007 are a bit above the national average. In addition, Southwestern takes pride in the fact that our junior and senior examinees exceed the Critical Thinking scores of our freshmen by more than five points, and the Essay scores of our freshmen by 0.51 points. This is an indication of the value-added performance gain that our students achieved while enrolled in our general education program.

Following is supporting data.

CAAP Institutional Summary Report

Fall 2007 - Spring 2012

| TEST (SCALE) | Freshmen | | | | Jrs / Srs | | Juniors | | Seniors | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | SWOSU | | Nat. / 2010 | | SWOSU | | Nat. / 2011 | | Nat. / 2011 | |
| | Freq. | Mean | Freq. | Mean | Freq. | Mean | Freq. | Mean | Freq. | Mean |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Critical Thinking (40-80) | 207 | 59.90 | 11,670 | 61.00 | 177 | 65.15 | 9,367 | 61.80 | 18,501 | 62.90 |
| Writing Essay (1-6) | 236 | 2.90 | 6,622 | 3.00 | 171 | 3.41 | 5,897 | 3.30 | 13,518 | 3.30 |

Results reported are based on a frequency of 5 or more participants.

| Demographics | | Critical Thinking | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| | | Fall '10 SWOSU Freshmen | | Spring '12 SWOSU Jrs/Srs | |
| Category | Response | Freq. | Mean Score | Freq. | Mean Score |
| Ethnicity | African Am./Black | 7 | 56 | 2 | n/a |
| | Am. Ind./Alaskan | 8 | 63 | 3 | n/a |
| | Asian/Pacific Islander | 5 | 58 | 0 | |
| | Mex. Am./Chicano | 14 | 57 | 0 | |
| | White/Caucasian | 150 | 60 | 33 | 67 |
| Gender | Female | 235 | 60 | 16 | 67 |
| | Male | 101 | 60 | 27 | 66 |
| Age | 18 and under | 123 | 60 | 0 | |
| | 19-20 | 65 | 60 | 0 | |
| | 21-25 | 7 | 58 | 40 | 66 |
| | 26-30 | 0 | | 1 | n/a |
| | 31-39 | 0 | | 1 | n/a |
| | 40 and older | 0 | | 1 | n/a |
| English | First Language | 193 | 60 | 41 | 67 |
| | Not First Language | 6 | 57 | 2 | n/a |
| Enrolled as Freshman Student | Yes | 199 | 60 | 40 | 66 |
| | No | 0 | | 3 | n/a |
| Status | Full-time | 198 | 60 | 43 | 66 |
| Cumulative GPA | 2.01 - 2.50 | 12 | 59 | 3 | n/a |
| | 2.51 - 3.00 | 18 | 57 | 6 | 66 |
| | 3.01 - 3.50 | 35 | 60 | 12 | 67 |
| | 3.51 and above | 32 | 62 | 22 | 66 |
| Educational plans | Return to this school | 180 | 60 | 23 | 67 |
| | Transfer to diff. sch. | 19 | 60 | 0 | |
| | Other | 2 | n/a | 20 | 65 |
| College Major | Biological Sciences | 7 | 66 | 5 | 64 |
| | Business | 12 | 61 | 5 | 63 |
| | Community Serv. | 5 | 55 | 0 | |
| | Education | 21 | 59 | 12 | 66 |
| | Engineering | 7 | 60 | 1 | n/a |
| | Fine & Applied Arts | 8 | 63 | 1 | n/a |
| | General Studies | 0 | | 1 | n/a |
| | Health Professions | 67 | 61 | 13 | 67 |
| | Letters | 0 | | 1 | n/a |
| | Physical Sciences | 0 | | 2 | n/a |
| Social Sciences | 11 | 58 | 1 | n/a | |
| Effort | Tried my Best | 112 | 61.5 | 30 | 67 |
| | Gave Moderate Effort | 51 | 59.2 | 6 | 66 |
| | Gave Little Effort | 9 | 58.7 | 1 | n/a |

SOUTHWESTERN OK STATE UNIVERSITY

CAAP

Score Comparison

2011-2012

| SWOSU FRESHMEN CUMULATIVE CAAP SCORES Fall 2010 | | | | | |
|--|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| CT | n=207 | % | ESSAY | n=236 | % |
| 73-80 | 0 | 0.00% | 5.25-6.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 72 | 0 | 0.00% | 5.25-6.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 71 | 3 | 1.45% | 5.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 70 | 0 | 0.00% | 4.75 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 69 | 5 | 2.42% | 4.50 | 1 | 0.42% |
| 68 | 7 | 3.38% | 4.25 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 67 | 7 | 3.38% | 4.00 | 10 | 4.24% |
| 66 | 8 | 3.86% | 3.75 | 8 | 3.39% |
| 65 | 6 | 2.90% | 3.50 | 17 | 7.20% |
| 64 | 17 | 8.21% | 3.25 | 15 | 6.36% |
| 63 | 9 | 4.35% | 3.00 | 110 | 46.61% |
| 62 | 13 | 6.28% | 2.75 | 14 | 5.93% |
| 61 | 21 | 10.14% | 2.50 | 35 | 14.83% |
| 60 | 15 | 7.25% | 2.25 | 12 | 5.08% |
| 59 | 12 | 5.80% | 2.00 | 14 | 5.93% |
| 58 | 17 | 8.21% | 1.00-1.75 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 57 | 9 | 4.35% | | | |
| 56 | 18 | 8.70% | | | |
| 55 | 12 | 5.80% | | | |
| 54 | 8 | 3.86% | | | |
| 53 | 9 | 4.35% | | | |
| 52 | 2 | 0.97% | | | |
| 51 | 5 | 2.42% | | | |
| 50 | 3 | 1.45% | | | |
| 49 | 1 | 0.48% | | | |
| 40-48 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| | 207 | 100.00% | | 236 | 100.00% |
| Mean Scores: | | | Mean Scores: | | |
| 59.93 | | | 2.94 | | |
| 2010 NATIONAL Mean Scores: | | | 2010 NATIONAL Mean Scores: | | |
| 61.00 | | | 3.00 | | |

| SWOSU JUNIORS/SENIORS CUMULATIVE CAAP SCORES Fall 2007 - Spring 2012 | | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------|--|--------------|----------|
| CT | n=177 | % | ESSAY | n=171 | % |
| 73-80 | 0 | 0.00% | 5.25-6.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 72 | 3 | 1.69% | 5.00 | 1 | 0.58% |
| 71 | 9 | 5.08% | 4.75 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 70 | 23 | 12.99% | 4.50 | 5 | 2.92% |
| 69 | 13 | 7.34% | 4.25 | 4 | 2.34% |
| 68 | 16 | 9.04% | 4.00 | 40 | 23.39% |
| 67 | 24 | 13.56% | 3.75 | 13 | 7.60% |
| 66 | 11 | 6.21% | 3.50 | 28 | 16.37% |
| 65 | 9 | 5.08% | 3.25 | 18 | 10.53% |
| 64 | 17 | 9.60% | 3.00 | 45 | 26.32% |
| 63 | 8 | 4.52% | 2.75 | 5 | 2.92% |
| 62 | 5 | 2.82% | 2.50 | 6 | 3.51% |
| 61 | 7 | 3.95% | 2.25 | 2 | 1.17% |
| 60 | 4 | 2.26% | 2.00 | 2 | 1.17% |
| 59 | 8 | 4.52% | 1.75 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 58 | 3 | 1.69% | 1.50 | 1 | 0.58% |
| 57 | 3 | 1.69% | 1.25 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 56 | 8 | 4.52% | 1.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 55 | 5 | 2.82% | 0.75 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 54 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.50 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 53 | 1 | 0.56% | 0.25 | 0 | 0.00% |
| 52 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 1 | 0.58% |
| 51 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| 50 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| 49 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| 40-48 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| | 177 | 100.00% | | 171 | 100.00% |
| Mean Scores: | | | Mean Scores: | | |
| 65.15 | | | 3.41 | | |
| 2011 NAITONAL Mean Scores of Juniors: | | | 2011 NAITONAL Mean Scores of Juniors: | | |
| 61.80 | | | 3.33 | | |
| 2011 NAITONAL Mean Scores of Seniors: | | | 2011 NAITONAL Mean Scores of Seniors: | | |
| 62.90 | | | 3.33 | | |