



NSSE 2015 Topical Module

Global Perspectives - Cognitive and Social

Case Western Reserve University

About This Topical Module

NSSE has partnered with the Global Perspective Institute to derive a short module from the Global Perspective Inventory (GPI). The module probes the cognitive and social elements of a global perspective, asking about experiences with global learning and views on intercultural understanding. The module complements questions on the core survey about student experiences with people from different backgrounds, course emphasis on integrative and reflective learning, and participation in study abroad.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Comp Research Univs' column of this report.

Group label	Comp Research Univs
Date submitted	6/10/15
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this group by selecting institutional characteristics as follows: Basic Classification (RU/VH, RU/H)
Group description	Research universities (RU/VH or RU/H) with competitive admissions

Comp Research Univs (N=13)

Clemson University (Clemson, SC)
 George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
 Lehigh University (Bethlehem, PA)
 Michigan Technological University (Houghton, MI)
 Montana State University-Bozeman (Bozeman, MT)*
 Oklahoma State University (Stillwater, OK)
 San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)
 University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, AL)*
 University of Delaware (Newark, DE)*
 University of Denver (Denver, CO)*
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette (Lafayette, LA)*
 University of Massachusetts Boston (Boston, MA)
 University of Mississippi (University, MS)*

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t -tests uses Cohen's d .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the comparison group is due to chance.

Key to symbols:

- ▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- △ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▼ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?										
a. When I notice cultural differences, my culture tends to have the better approach.	GPI01a	1	Strongly disagree	18	7	233	5	2.9	3.0	-.11
		2	Disagree	45	18	666	14			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	128	53	2,659	58			
		4	Agree	43	18	763	17			
		5	Strongly agree	10	4	272	6			
		Total		244	100	4,593	100			
b. Most of my friends are from my own ethnic background.	GPI01b	1	Strongly disagree	25	10	297	6	3.0	3.4 ***	-.36
		2	Disagree	74	30	898	19			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	41	17	796	18			
		4	Agree	92	38	1,999	44			
		5	Strongly agree	13	5	592	13			
		Total		245	100	4,582	100			
c. I think of my life in terms of giving back to society.	GPI01c	1	Strongly disagree	11	5	68	2	3.5	3.6	-.01
		2	Disagree	23	10	427	10			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	65	27	1,470	33			
		4	Agree	108	44	1,959	42			
		5	Strongly agree	37	15	644	13			
		Total		244	100	4,568	100			
d. Some people have a culture and others do not.	GPI01d	1	Strongly disagree	78	32	980	22	2.2	2.5 ***	-.24
		2	Disagree	81	32	1,458	32			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	52	22	1,259	27			
		4	Agree	27	12	676	15			
		5	Strongly agree	6	3	188	4			
		Total		244	100	4,561	100			
e. In different settings, what is right and wrong is simple to determine.	GPI01e	1	Strongly disagree	32	13	311	7	2.8	3.1 ***	-.31
		2	Disagree	90	36	1,178	25			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	51	20	1,300	28			
		4	Agree	53	23	1,350	30			
		5	Strongly agree	18	8	420	9			
		Total		244	100	4,559	100			
f. I am informed of current issues that impact international relations.	GPI01f	1	Strongly disagree	17	7	168	4	3.3	3.4	-.06
		2	Disagree	49	20	812	18			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	57	22	1,313	28			
		4	Agree	84	34	1,727	38			
		5	Strongly agree	36	16	535	12			
		Total		243	100	4,555	100			
g. I understand the reasons and causes of conflict among nations of different cultures.	GPI01g	1	Strongly disagree	10	4	108	2	3.5	3.5	.01
		2	Disagree	36	14	596	12			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	52	21	1,292	28			
		4	Agree	111	46	2,081	46			
		5	Strongly agree	34	15	497	11			
		Total		243	100	4,574	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
h. I work for the rights of others.	GPI01h	1	Strongly disagree	2	1	68	2	3.6	3.4 *	.16 △
		2	Disagree	19	9	378	9			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	83	34	1,987	43			
		4	Agree	109	44	1,633	35			
		5	Strongly agree	30	13	498	11			
		Total		243	100	4,564	100			
i. I take into account different perspectives before drawing conclusions about the world around me.	GPI01i	1	Strongly disagree	1	0	17	0	4.2	4.0 **	.19 △
		2	Disagree	6	3	111	3			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	28	12	838	18			
		4	Agree	125	50	2,406	53			
		5	Strongly agree	84	35	1,192	26			
		Total		244	100	4,564	100			
j. I understand how various cultures of this world interact socially.	GPI01j	1	Strongly disagree	2	1	35	1	3.6	3.7	-.09
		2	Disagree	25	11	364	8			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	71	29	1,265	28			
		4	Agree	113	46	2,245	49			
		5	Strongly agree	33	13	653	14			
		Total		244	100	4,562	100			
k. I consider different cultural perspectives when evaluating global problems.	GPI01k	1	Strongly disagree	5	2	32	1	3.8	3.8	-.02
		2	Disagree	16	7	192	5			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	47	20	1,221	27			
		4	Agree	128	51	2,290	50			
		5	Strongly agree	48	19	818	18			
		Total		244	100	4,553	100			
l. I rely primarily on authorities to determine what is true in the world.	GPI01l	1	Strongly disagree	30	13	692	16	2.6	2.5	.05
		2	Disagree	101	40	1,654	36			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	60	26	1,368	29			
		4	Agree	50	20	703	16			
		5	Strongly agree	4	2	154	3			
		Total		245	100	4,571	100			
m. I know how to analyze the basic characteristics of a culture.	GPI01m	1	Strongly disagree	1	0	28	1	3.5	3.7 *	-.18 ▽
		2	Disagree	32	14	266	6			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	67	28	1,362	29			
		4	Agree	120	48	2,501	55			
		5	Strongly agree	22	9	406	9			
		Total		242	100	4,563	100			
n. I put the needs of others above my own personal wants.	GPI01n	1	Strongly disagree	5	2	40	1	3.6	3.6	-.08
		2	Disagree	23	10	332	8			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	72	30	1,534	34			
		4	Agree	110	45	1,958	43			
		5	Strongly agree	30	12	701	15			
		Total		240	100	4,565	100			

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
o. I can discuss cultural differences from an informed perspective.	GPI01o	1	Strongly disagree	3	1	43	1	3.7	3.6	.03
		2	Disagree	25	10	386	8			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	57	23	1,406	30			
		4	Agree	127	52	2,180	49			
		5	Strongly agree	31	13	531	12			
		Total	243	100	4,546	100				
p. I intentionally involve people from many cultural backgrounds in my life.	GPI01p	1	Strongly disagree	11	5	99	3	3.3	3.3	.03
		2	Disagree	34	15	688	16			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	94	38	1,948	43			
		4	Agree	69	27	1,325	28			
		5	Strongly agree	36	14	507	10			
		Total	244	100	4,567	100				
q. I rarely question what I have been taught about the world around me.	GPI01q	1	Strongly disagree	69	29	909	21	2.1	2.4 ***	-.32
		2	Disagree	112	45	1,772	38			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	41	17	1,134	24			
		4	Agree	19	8	624	14			
		5	Strongly agree	2	1	129	3			
		Total	243	100	4,568	100				
r. I consciously behave in terms of making a difference.	GPI01r	1	Strongly disagree	4	2	33	1	3.6	3.6	.02
		2	Disagree	18	8	296	7			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	78	33	1,703	38			
		4	Agree	114	46	2,014	44			
		5	Strongly agree	30	12	516	11			
		Total	244	100	4,562	100				
s. Volunteering is not an important priority in my life.	GPI01s	1	Strongly disagree	41	16	869	17	2.5	2.5	-.04
		2	Disagree	98	40	1,593	34			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	66	28	1,322	30			
		4	Agree	33	14	606	15			
		5	Strongly agree	6	2	155	3			
		Total	244	100	4,545	100				
t. I frequently interact with people from a different country from my own.	GPI01t	1	Strongly disagree	7	3	165	4	3.6	3.3 ***	.35
		2	Disagree	33	14	968	22			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	55	23	1,430	31			
		4	Agree	98	39	1,406	30			
		5	Strongly agree	51	21	589	13			
		Total	244	100	4,558	100				
u. I frequently interact with people from a race/ethnic group different from my own.	GPI01u	1	Strongly disagree	4	2	65	1	4.1	3.7 ***	.37
		2	Disagree	8	3	437	10			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	37	16	1,113	25			
		4	Agree	110	45	1,937	42			
		5	Strongly agree	85	35	1,012	22			
		Total	244	100	4,564	100				

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?										
a. When I notice cultural differences, my culture tends to have the better approach.	GPI01a	1	Strongly disagree	11	6	528	7	2.9	2.9	-.03
		2	Disagree	30	16	1,253	17			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	121	64	4,017	57			
		4	Agree	22	12	966	14			
		5	Strongly agree	5	3	332	5			
		Total		189	100	7,096	100			
b. Most of my friends are from my own ethnic background.	GPI01b	1	Strongly disagree	21	11	492	7	3.2	3.4 *	-0.17
		2	Disagree	43	23	1,375	19			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	30	16	1,151	17			
		4	Agree	70	37	3,120	44			
		5	Strongly agree	25	13	959	14			
		Total		189	100	7,097	100			
c. I think of my life in terms of giving back to society.	GPI01c	1	Strongly disagree	5	3	145	2	3.7	3.7	.02
		2	Disagree	21	11	606	9			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	45	24	1,982	28			
		4	Agree	79	42	3,041	42			
		5	Strongly agree	40	21	1,308	18			
		Total		190	100	7,082	100			
d. Some people have a culture and others do not.	GPI01d	1	Strongly disagree	75	39	2,052	29	2.1	2.3 *	-0.15
		2	Disagree	56	29	2,338	33			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	28	15	1,636	23			
		4	Agree	26	14	830	12			
		5	Strongly agree	5	3	207	3			
		Total		190	100	7,063	100			
e. In different settings, what is right and wrong is simple to determine.	GPI01e	1	Strongly disagree	37	20	664	9	2.6	3.0 ***	-0.30
		2	Disagree	59	31	2,028	28			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	44	23	1,934	27			
		4	Agree	38	20	1,863	27			
		5	Strongly agree	11	6	574	8			
		Total		189	100	7,063	100			
f. I am informed of current issues that impact international relations.	GPI01f	1	Strongly disagree	9	5	213	3	3.5	3.5	.00
		2	Disagree	28	15	1,024	14			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	33	17	1,797	25			
		4	Agree	90	48	2,981	43			
		5	Strongly agree	29	15	1,034	16			
		Total		189	100	7,049	100			
g. I understand the reasons and causes of conflict among nations of different cultures.	GPI01g	1	Strongly disagree	9	5	136	2	3.6	3.6	.05
		2	Disagree	14	7	914	12			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	43	23	1,967	27			
		4	Agree	101	53	3,168	45			
		5	Strongly agree	23	12	896	13			
		Total		190	100	7,081	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
h. I work for the rights of others.	GPI01h	1	Strongly disagree	5	3	134	2	3.6	3.5	.11
		2	Disagree	13	7	626	9			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	68	36	2,855	40			
		4	Agree	75	39	2,565	36			
		5	Strongly agree	29	15	899	12			
		Total		190	100	7,079	100			
i. I take into account different perspectives before drawing conclusions about the world around me.	GPI01i	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	25	0	4.3	4.1 **	.23
		2	Disagree	3	2	150	2			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	13	7	1,025	15			
		4	Agree	104	55	3,777	53			
		5	Strongly agree	69	36	2,093	29			
		Total		189	100	7,070	100			
j. I understand how various cultures of this world interact socially.	GPI01j	1	Strongly disagree	4	2	50	1	3.8	3.7	.10
		2	Disagree	11	6	511	7			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	42	22	1,926	27			
		4	Agree	95	50	3,499	49			
		5	Strongly agree	37	20	1,076	15			
		Total		189	100	7,062	100			
k. I consider different cultural perspectives when evaluating global problems.	GPI01k	1	Strongly disagree	2	1	41	1	4.0	3.9 **	.19
		2	Disagree	6	3	268	4			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	26	14	1,610	23			
		4	Agree	102	54	3,613	51			
		5	Strongly agree	53	28	1,518	22			
		Total		189	100	7,050	100			
l. I rely primarily on authorities to determine what is true in the world.	GPI01l	1	Strongly disagree	36	19	1,285	19	2.5	2.4	.08
		2	Disagree	67	35	2,758	38			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	50	26	1,913	27			
		4	Agree	31	16	964	14			
		5	Strongly agree	6	3	151	2			
		Total		190	100	7,071	100			
m. I know how to analyze the basic characteristics of a culture.	GPI01m	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	33	1	3.7	3.7	.05
		2	Disagree	14	7	429	6			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	44	23	1,940	27			
		4	Agree	106	56	3,943	56			
		5	Strongly agree	24	13	711	10			
		Total		189	100	7,056	100			
n. I put the needs of others above my own personal wants.	GPI01n	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	82	1	3.7	3.6	.09
		2	Disagree	21	11	555	8			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	47	25	2,281	33			
		4	Agree	86	46	3,173	44			
		5	Strongly agree	32	17	970	13			
		Total		187	100	7,061	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				CWRU		Comp Research Univs		CWRU	Comp Research Univs	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
o. I can discuss cultural differences from an informed perspective.	GPI01o	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	38	1	3.8	3.8	.08
		2	Disagree	15	8	465	6			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	33	17	1,765	25			
		4	Agree	109	57	3,739	54			
		5	Strongly agree	32	17	1,025	15			
		Total		190	100	7,032	100			
p. I intentionally involve people from many cultural backgrounds in my life.	GPI01p	1	Strongly disagree	4	2	160	2	3.4	3.3	.10
		2	Disagree	29	15	1,068	15			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	71	37	2,886	41			
		4	Agree	56	29	2,142	30			
		5	Strongly agree	30	16	804	11			
		Total		190	100	7,060	100			
q. I rarely question what I have been taught about the world around me.	GPI01q	1	Strongly disagree	59	31	1,739	26	2.0	2.2 *	-0.16
		2	Disagree	83	44	2,989	42			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	33	17	1,485	21			
		4	Agree	10	5	666	9			
		5	Strongly agree	5	3	173	2			
		Total		190	100	7,052	100			
r. I consciously behave in terms of making a difference.	GPI01r	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	75	1	3.7	3.6	.08
		2	Disagree	14	8	433	6			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	54	29	2,312	33			
		4	Agree	94	50	3,272	46			
		5	Strongly agree	26	14	958	13			
		Total		188	100	7,050	100			
s. Volunteering is not an important priority in my life.	GPI01s	1	Strongly disagree	32	17	1,335	18	2.5	2.5	-0.02
		2	Disagree	77	41	2,462	34			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	45	24	1,997	29			
		4	Agree	25	13	994	15			
		5	Strongly agree	10	5	243	4			
		Total		189	100	7,031	100			
t. I frequently interact with people from a different country from my own.	GPI01t	1	Strongly disagree	7	4	204	3	3.7	3.4 **	.21
		2	Disagree	29	15	1,325	19			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	32	17	1,853	26			
		4	Agree	74	39	2,485	35			
		5	Strongly agree	47	25	1,189	17			
		Total		189	100	7,056	100			
u. I frequently interact with people from a race/ethnic group different from my own.	GPI01u	1	Strongly disagree	4	2	98	1	4.0	3.8 ***	.25
		2	Disagree	13	7	730	10			
		3	Neither agree nor disagree	25	13	1,499	22			
		4	Agree	80	42	3,060	43			
		5	Strongly agree	67	36	1,671	24			
		Total		189	100	7,058	100			