

Survey of Student Study Habits Spring 2007

Data gathered from Analytical
Reasoning 130-04 and 130-05

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Methods

- Students were asked to respond to the following questions concerning their study behaviors.
- The instructor explained that the questions referred to the entire study regime for all courses they were registered for in the spring of 2007.
- The data was collected by the use of the PRS Interwrite classroom response system (clickers) on Tuesday March 27, 2007.



The following questions were asked: Number of hours of school work per day

Please, try to estimate: how many hours a day do you spend on studying, homework, projects, and other activities related to your course work? Choose an answer that is closest to your estimate.

- 1) 1 - 2
- 2) 2 - 3
- 3) 3 - 4
- 4) 4 - 5
- 5) 5 - 6
- 6) 6 - 7
- 7) 7 - 8
- 8) 8 - 9
- 9) 9 - 10
- 10) More than 10



Number of hours of school work per week

Please, try to estimate: how many hours a week do you spend on studying, homework, projects, and other activities related to your course work? Choose an answer that is closest to your estimate.

1. 0 – 3
2. 3 – 6
3. 6 – 9
4. 9 -12
5. 12 – 15
6. 15 – 18
7. 18 – 21
8. 21 - 24
9. 24 - 27
10. More than 27



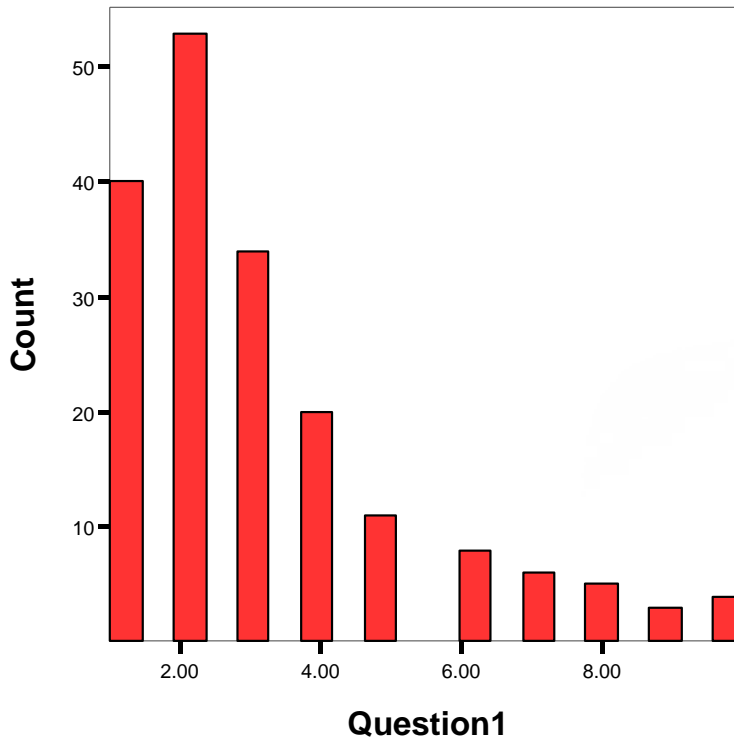
Number of hours of non-school related work per week

Please, try to estimate: how many hours a week do you work? Include work on campus (work/study, lab technician, etc.) as well as work outside the university. Count all hours spent on non-course related work. Choose an answer that is closest to your estimate.

1. 0 – 3
2. 3 – 6
3. 6 – 9
4. 9 -12
5. 12 – 15
6. 15 – 18
7. 18 – 21
8. 21 - 24
9. 24 - 27
10. More than 27



Results: Number of hours of school work per day



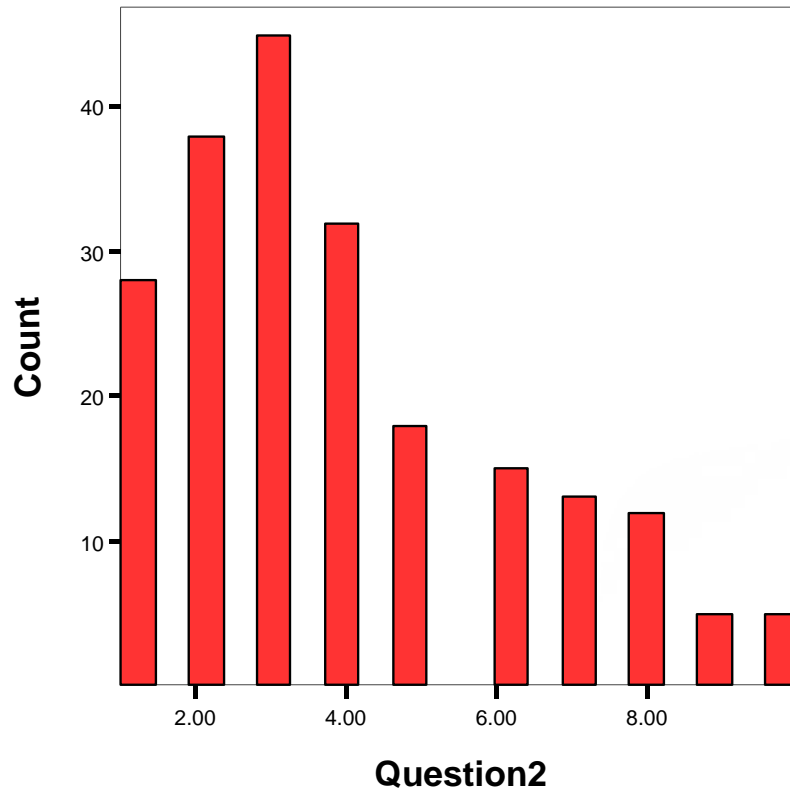
3) 3 – 4; thus we conclude these students study about 3.5 hours per day.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question1	184	1.00	10.00	3.1522	2.18006
Valid N (listwise)	184				



Number of hours of school work per week



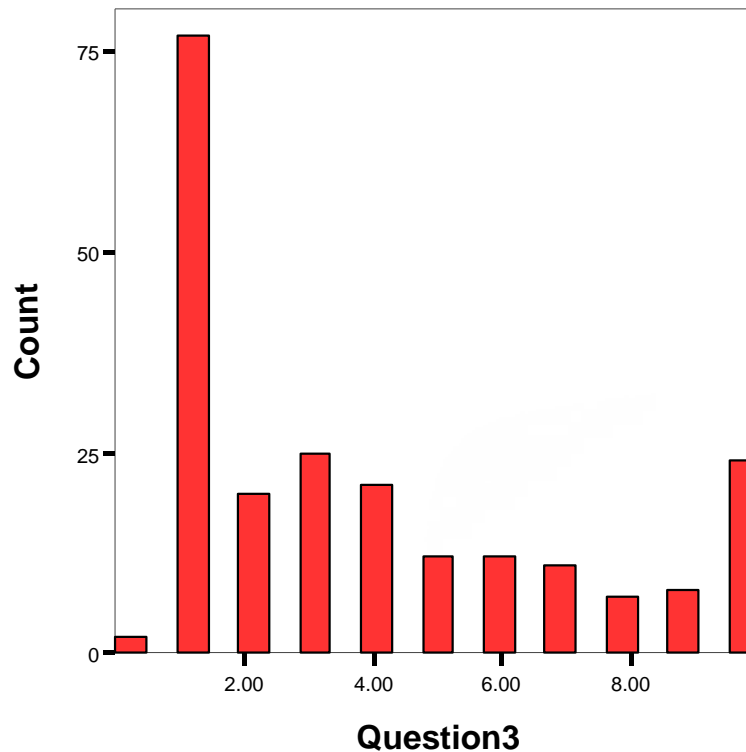
4) 9 -12, thus we conclude that the average studying per week is between 9 – 12 hours.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question2	211	1.00	10.00	3.9289	2.32986
Valid N (listwise)	211				



Number of hours of non-school related work per week



4) 9 -12, thus we conclude that the average non-school activities per week is between 9 – 12 hours.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question3	219	.00	10.00	3.8950	3.14962
Valid N (listwise)	219				



Discussion

- The course load of these students varies between 12 to 18 credit hours.
- We hypothesized that a healthy amount of study for such courses loads would approximate the credit hours.
- Thus we expected that student mean study hours would be between 12 – 18 hours per week.



Interpretation of these results

- The mean amount of time spent studying per day was 3.15 hours.
- The mean amount of time spent studying per week was 9 – 12 hours.



Is the lack of study time due to external factors?

ANOVA

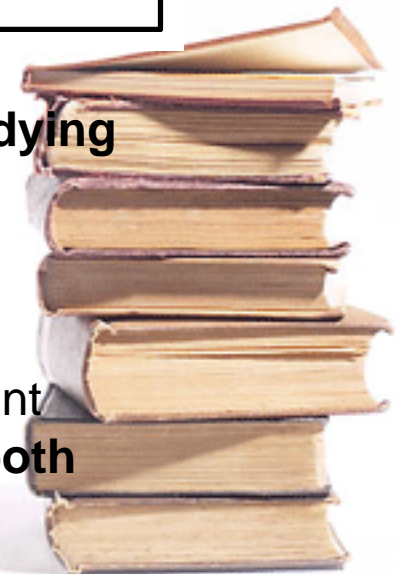
Response

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.141	1	1.141	.116	.733
Within Groups	4204.710	428	9.824		
Total	4205.851	429			

Analysis of Variance – Time spent studying v. non – studying

These results indicate that there is no significant difference between the time the students spent studying versus their time on non-related school activities.

Both figures are exceedingly low compared to potential amount of time available to students outside of class. **The total for both activities was a mean of between 18 - 24 hours.**



Interpretation continued...

- At face value we would conclude that if these data are accurate that freshman students are not spending enough time on their studies to succeed.
- These data fit well with interviews conducted by the Dean with students who are struggling in this course.



Further analysis

- PRS Interwrite allows us to match up individual responses to the questionnaire with specific midterm or final grades.
- We will conduct correlation analysis to determine the degree to which individual response to hours of study or hours of external activity correlate with individual grades.
- However, the results are already so suggestive that the Dean will be drafting a letter to all University Studies freshman students concerning study habits.
- We strongly believe that significant amounts of the freshman retention concern may be related to insignificant study habits.

