Survey of Student Study Habits
Spring 2007

Data gathered from Analytical Reasoning 130-04 and 130-05
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Graves - Pioro
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question1</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>184</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>3.1522</td>
<td>2.18006</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>3.1522</td>
<td>2.18006</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4) 9-12, thus we conclude that the average studying per week is between 9 – 12 hours.

Descriptive Statistics

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</table>
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.
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**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1.141</td>
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<td>.733</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>429</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.