

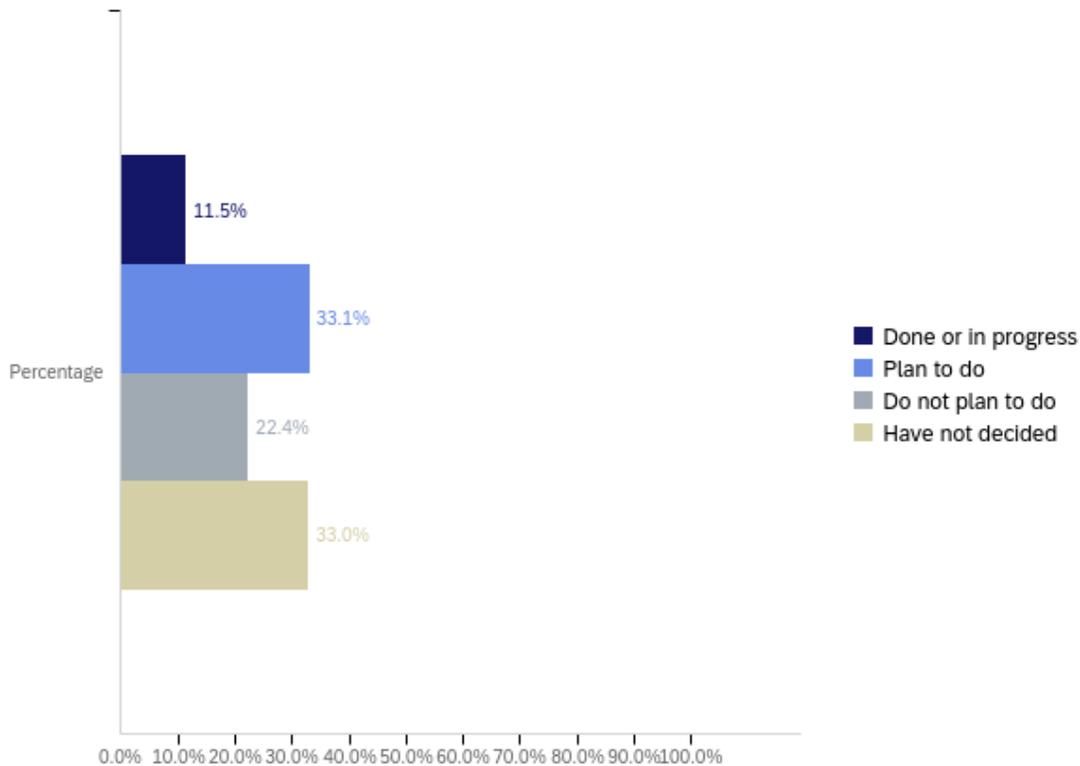
# Culminating Senior Experience Breakout Report

## 2023 CSUSM HIPs Survey

In Spring 2023, California State University San Marcos licensed the [HIP Quality](#) topical module from the National Survey of Student Engagement and administered the survey to all degree-seeking undergraduate students. 1,465 students responded, for a total response rate of 11.8%. Below are results specific to those who indicated they had participated in or were participating in a **Culminating Senior Experience**, using the following definition: *Culminating senior experiences, which may include a capstone course, senior project or thesis, portfolio, recital, art exhibit, or comprehensive exam, typically occur near the end of the undergraduate journey and require students to create a project of some sort that integrates and applies what they have learned.*

**Which of the following have you done while in college at CSUSM or do you plan to do before you graduate?**

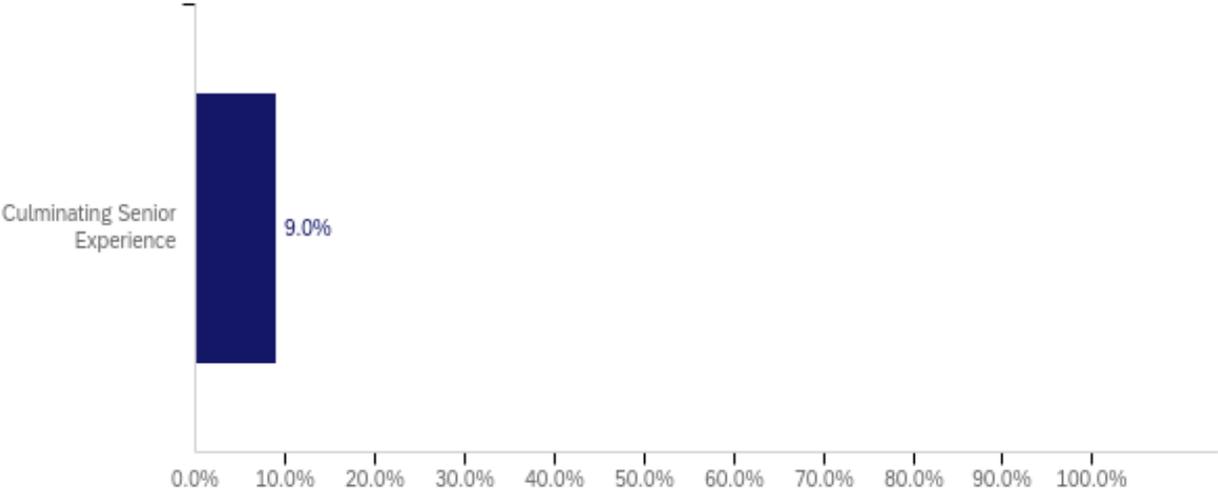
*(Culminating Senior Experience results only)*



Question	Done or in progress		Plan to do		Do not plan to do		Have not decided		Total
Culminating Senior Experience	11.5 %	150	33.1%	430	22.4%	292	33.0%	429	1301

You indicated that you have participated or are participating in the educational experience(s) below. Please select ONE or TWO experiences for a short set of follow-up questions. You can choose any of these activities, so long as you remember it well and you participated while attending CSUSM. If you participated in this type of experience more than once, base your answers on your most recent participation.

*(Culminating Senior Experience results only)*

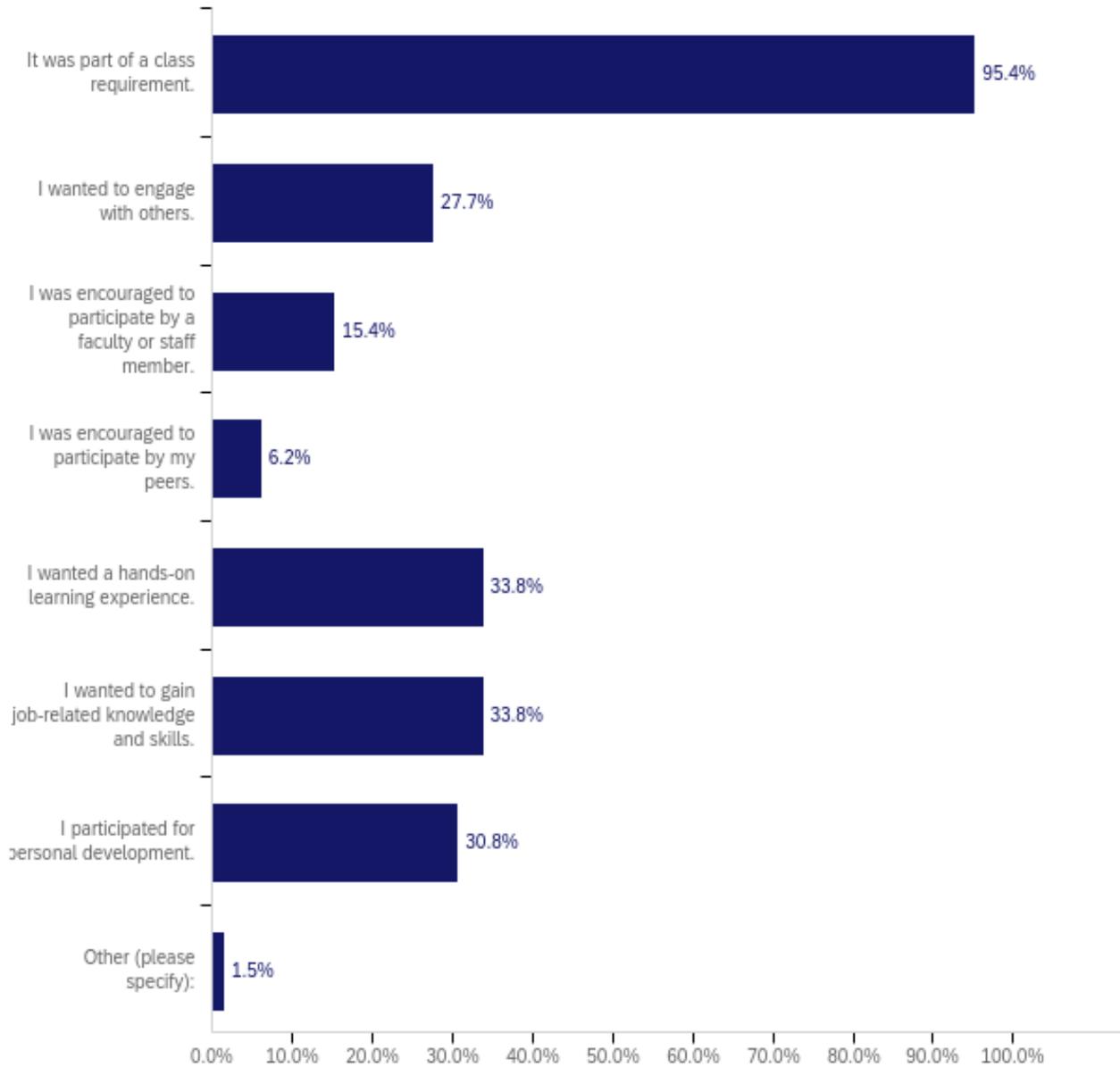


Answer	%	Count
Culminating Senior Experience	9.0%	76
Total	100%	844

## Results by Culminating Senior Experience

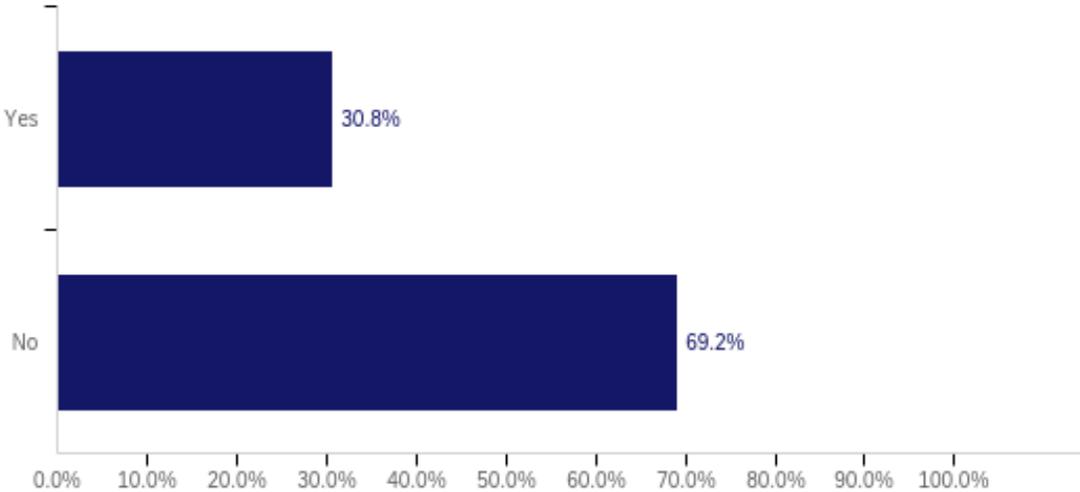
(Culminating Senior Experience questions asked if respondent selected to reflect on Culminating Senior Experience)

### Why did you decide to participate in a Culminating Senior Experience at CSUSM?



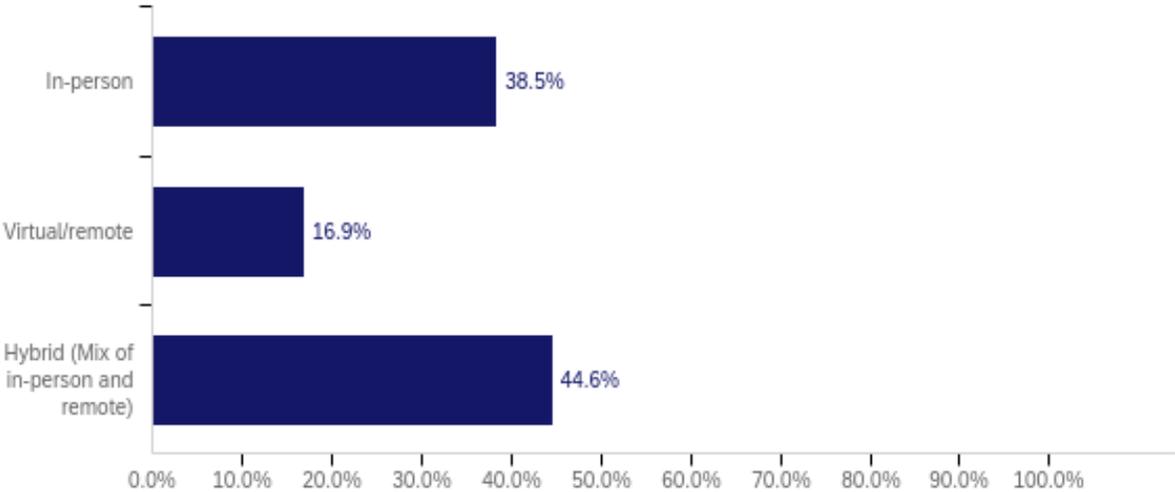
Answer	%	Count
It was part of a class requirement.	95.4%	62
I wanted to engage with others.	27.7%	18
I was encouraged to participate by a faculty or staff member.	15.4%	10
I was encouraged to participate by my peers.	6.2%	4
I wanted a hands-on learning experience.	33.8%	22
I wanted to gain job-related knowledge and skills.	33.8%	22
I participated for personal development.	30.8%	20
Other (please specify):	1.5%	1
Total	100%	65

**Is this experience finished?**



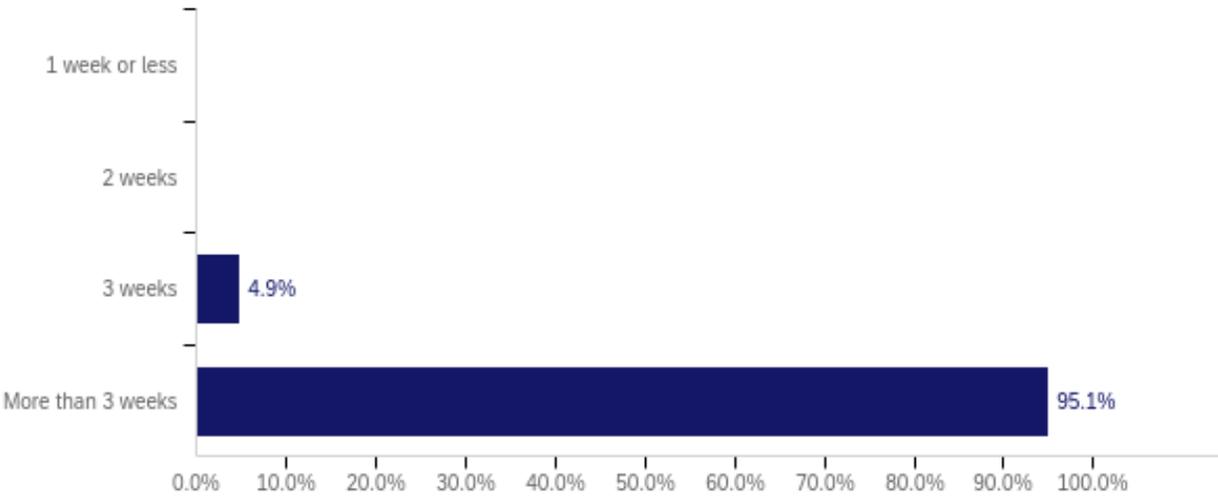
Answer	%	Count
Yes	30.8%	20
No	69.2%	45
Total	100%	65

### How did [do] you participate in this experience?



Answer	%	Count
In-person	38.5%	25
Virtual/remote	16.9%	11
Hybrid (Mix of in-person and remote)	44.6%	29
Total	100%	65

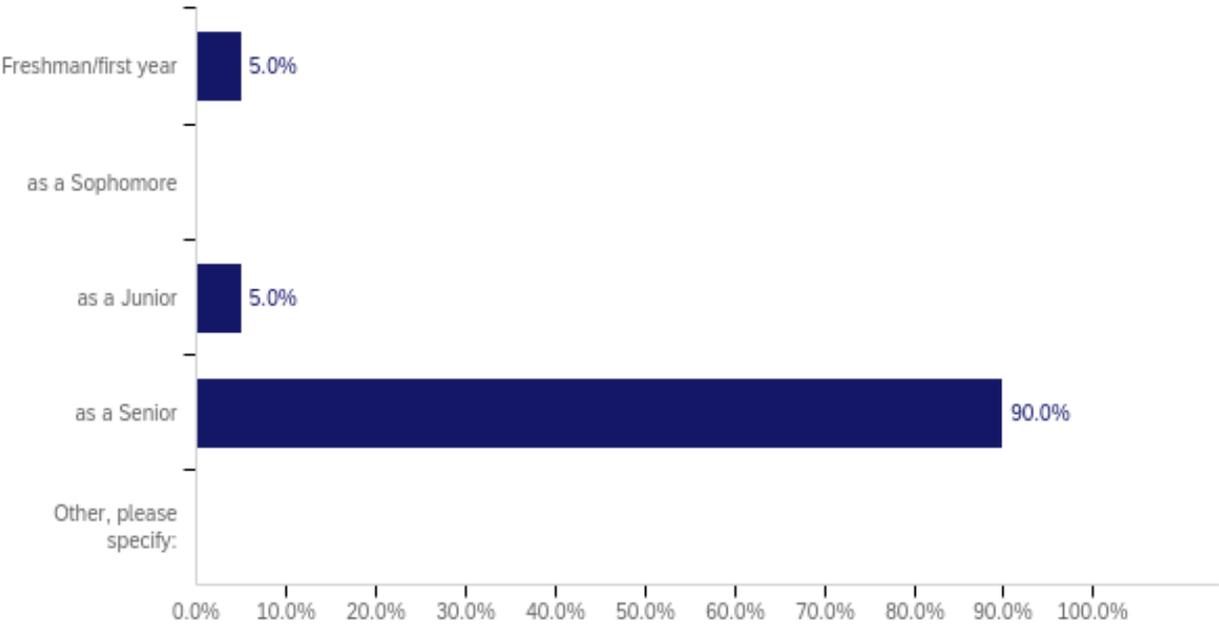
**About how long have you been participating in it?**  
*(Question asked if respondent selected no to the experience being finished)*



Answer	%	Count
1 week or less	0.0%	0
2 weeks	0.0%	0
3 weeks	4.9%	2
More than 3 weeks	95.1%	39
Total	100%	41

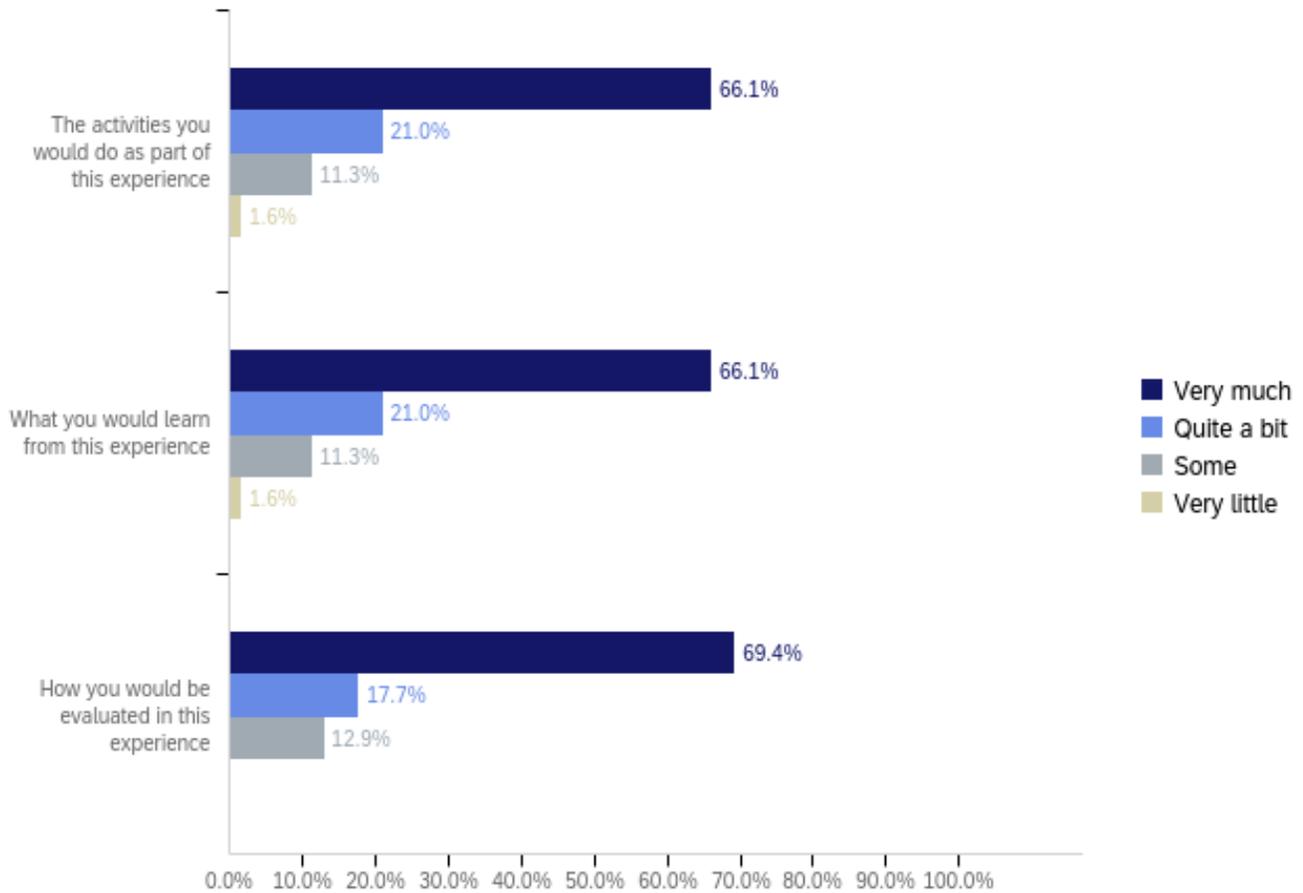
**When did you participate in a Culminating Senior Experience? (If you participated more than once, select the most recent).**

*(Question asked if respondent selected yes that the experienced was finished)*



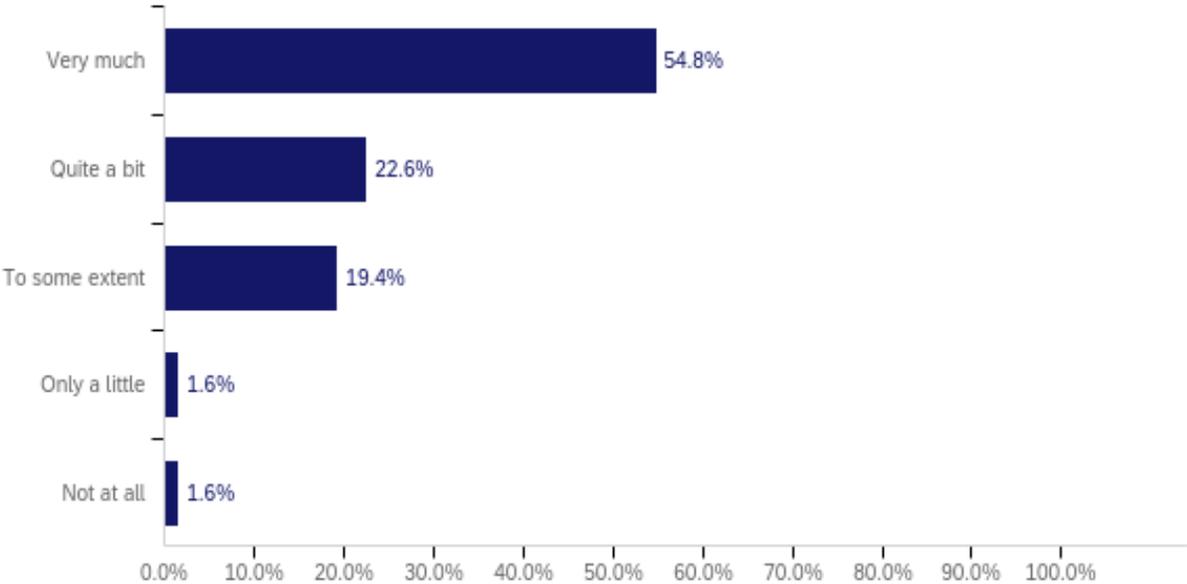
Answer	%	Count
Freshman/first year	5.0%	1
as a Sophomore	0.0%	0
as a Junior	5.0%	1
as a Senior	90.0%	18
Other, please specify:	0.0%	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>

## To what extent were the following explained to you?



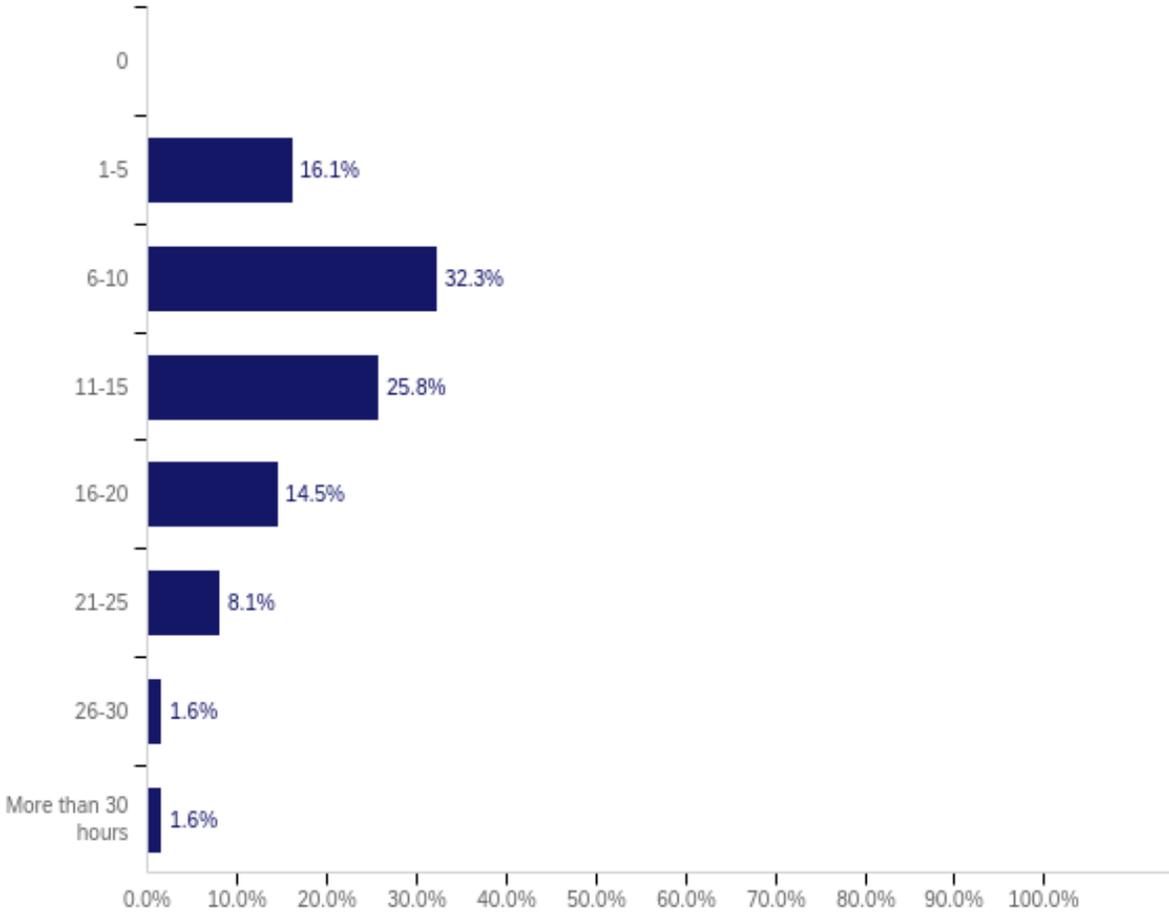
Question	Very much	Quite a bit	Some	Very little	Total
The activities you would do as part of this experience	66.1% 41	21.0% 13	11.3% 7	1.6% 1	62
What you would learn from this experience	66.1% 41	21.0% 13	11.3% 7	1.6% 1	62
How you would be evaluated in this experience	69.4% 43	17.7% 11	12.9% 8	0.0% 0	62

**To what extent did [does] this experience challenge you to do your best work?**



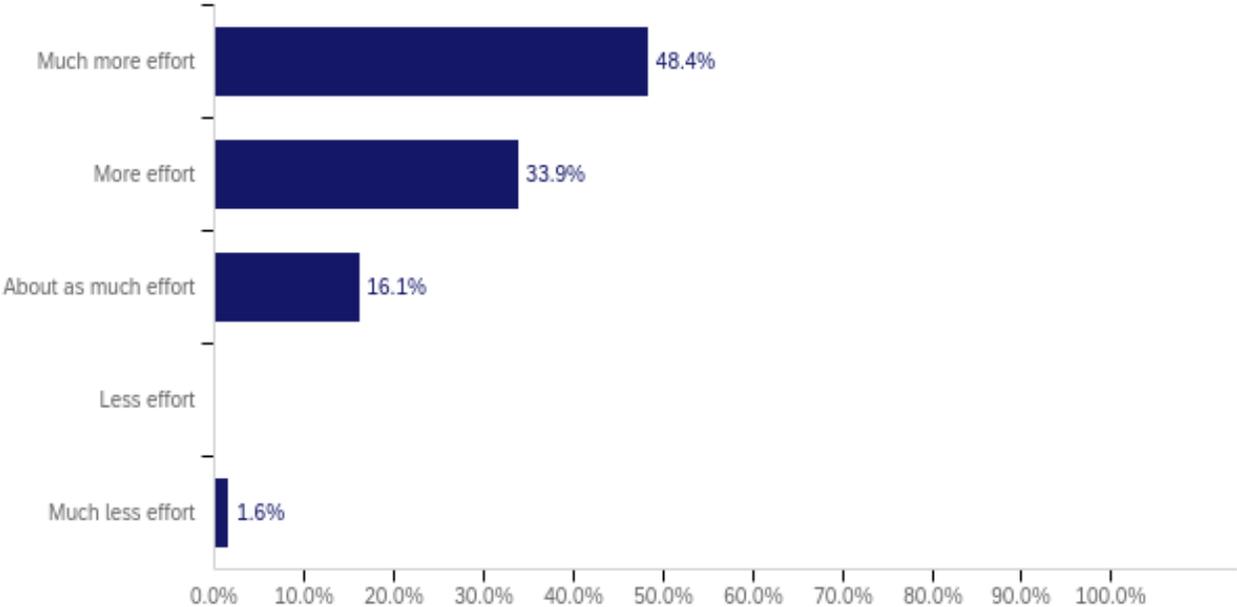
Answer	%	Count
Very much	54.8%	34
Quite a bit	22.6%	14
To some extent	19.4%	12
Only a little	1.6%	1
Not at all	1.6%	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62</b>

**About how many hours did [do] you spend in a typical 7-day week on a Culminating Senior Experience?**



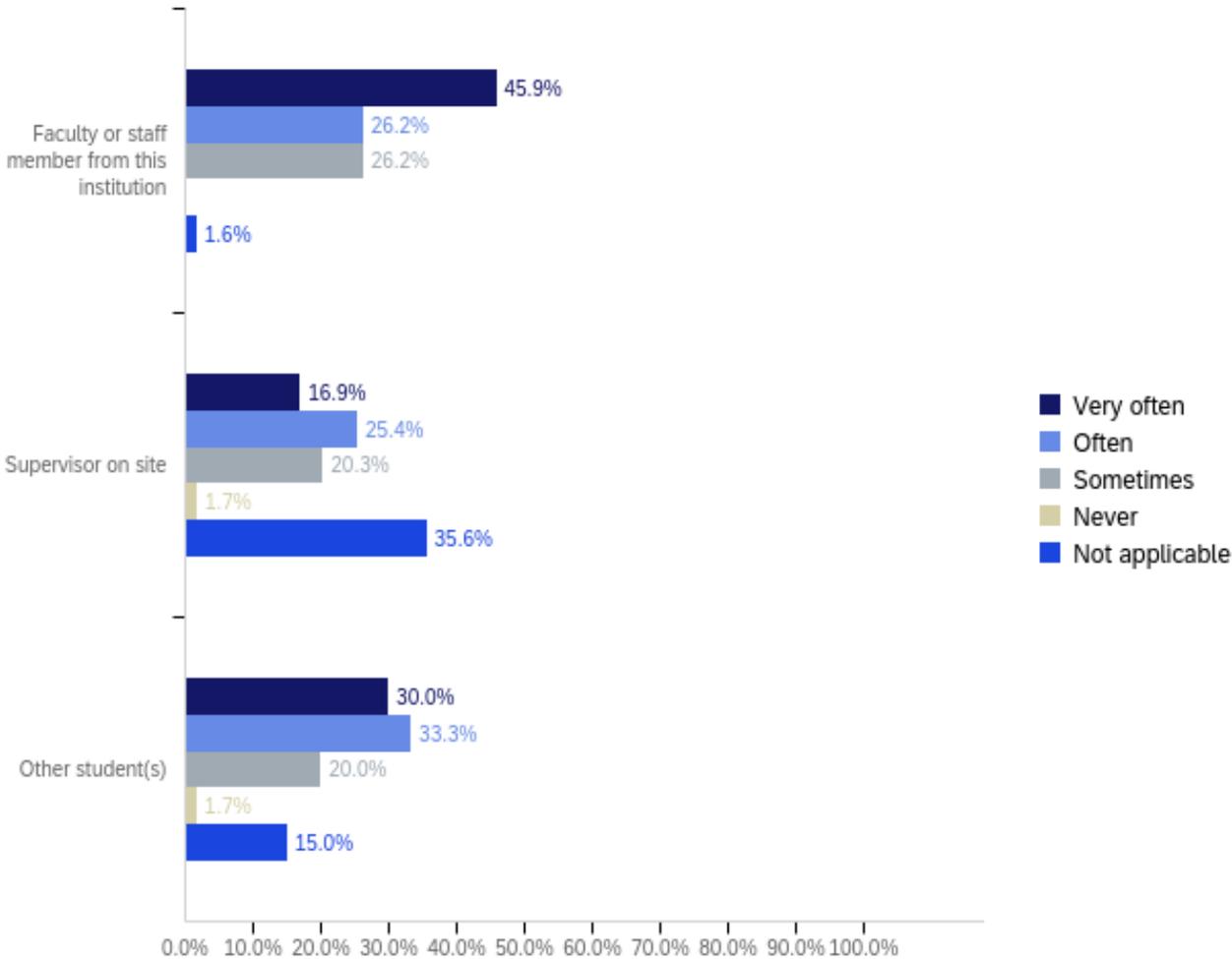
Answer	%	Count
0	0.0%	0
1-5	16.1%	10
6-10	32.3%	20
11-15	25.8%	16
16-20	14.5%	9
21-25	8.1%	5
26-30	1.6%	1
More than 30 hours	1.6%	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62</b>

**Compared to your typical learning experiences at this institution, about how much effort did [does] a Culminating Senior Experience require?**



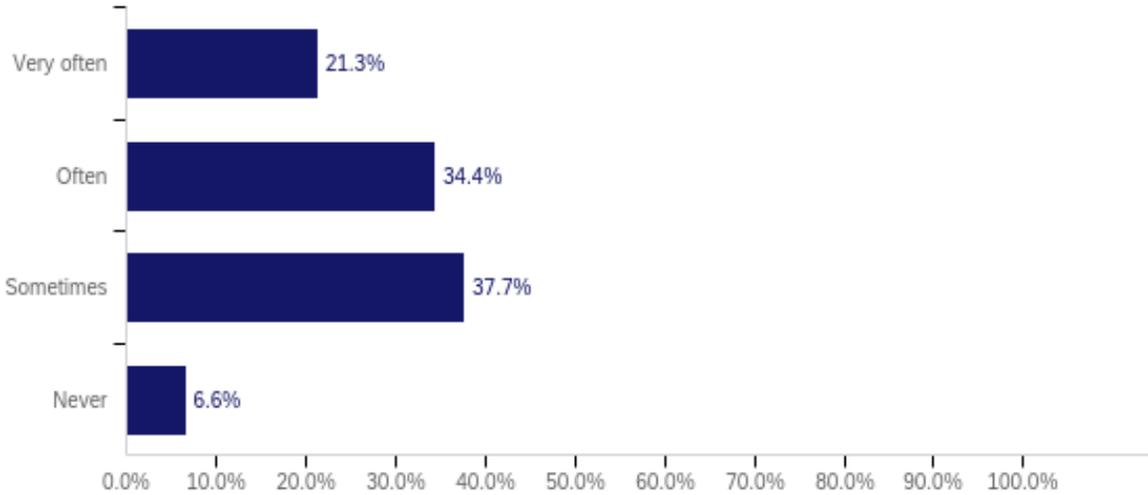
Answer	%	Count
Much more effort	48.4%	30
More effort	33.9%	21
About as much effort	16.1%	10
Less effort	0.0%	0
Much less effort	1.6%	1
Total	100%	62

During a Culminating Senior Experience, about how often did [do] you receive helpful feedback from the following individuals? If this does not apply to your experience, please select "Not applicable".



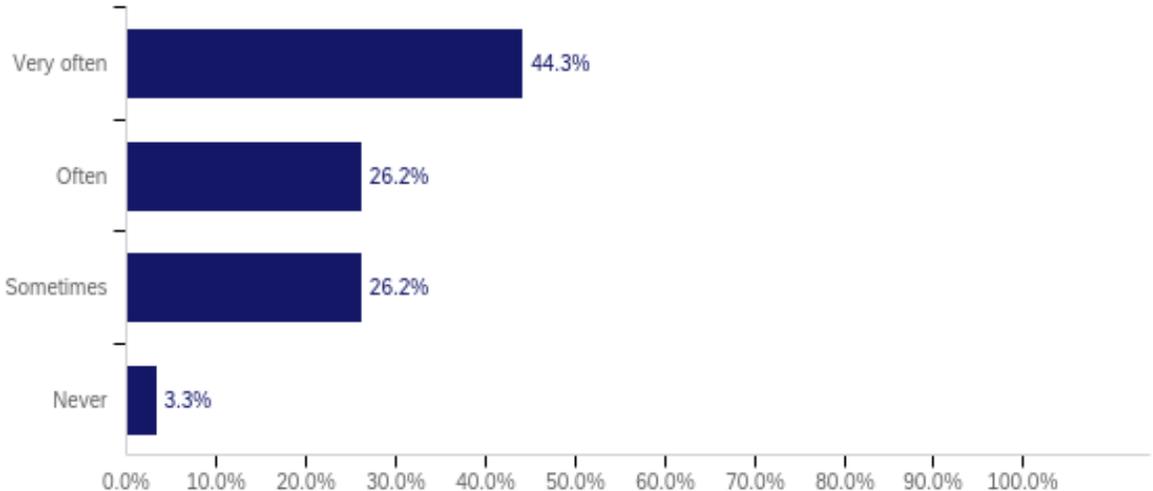
Question	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Never	Not applicable	Total
Faculty or staff member from this institution	45.9%	26.2%	26.2%	0.0%	1.6%	61
Supervisor on site	16.9%	25.4%	20.3%	1.7%	35.6%	59
Other student(s)	30.0%	33.3%	20.0%	1.7%	15.0%	60

**As part of a Culminating Senior Experience, about how often did [do] you find yourself in settings or circumstances that were [are] new or unfamiliar to you?**



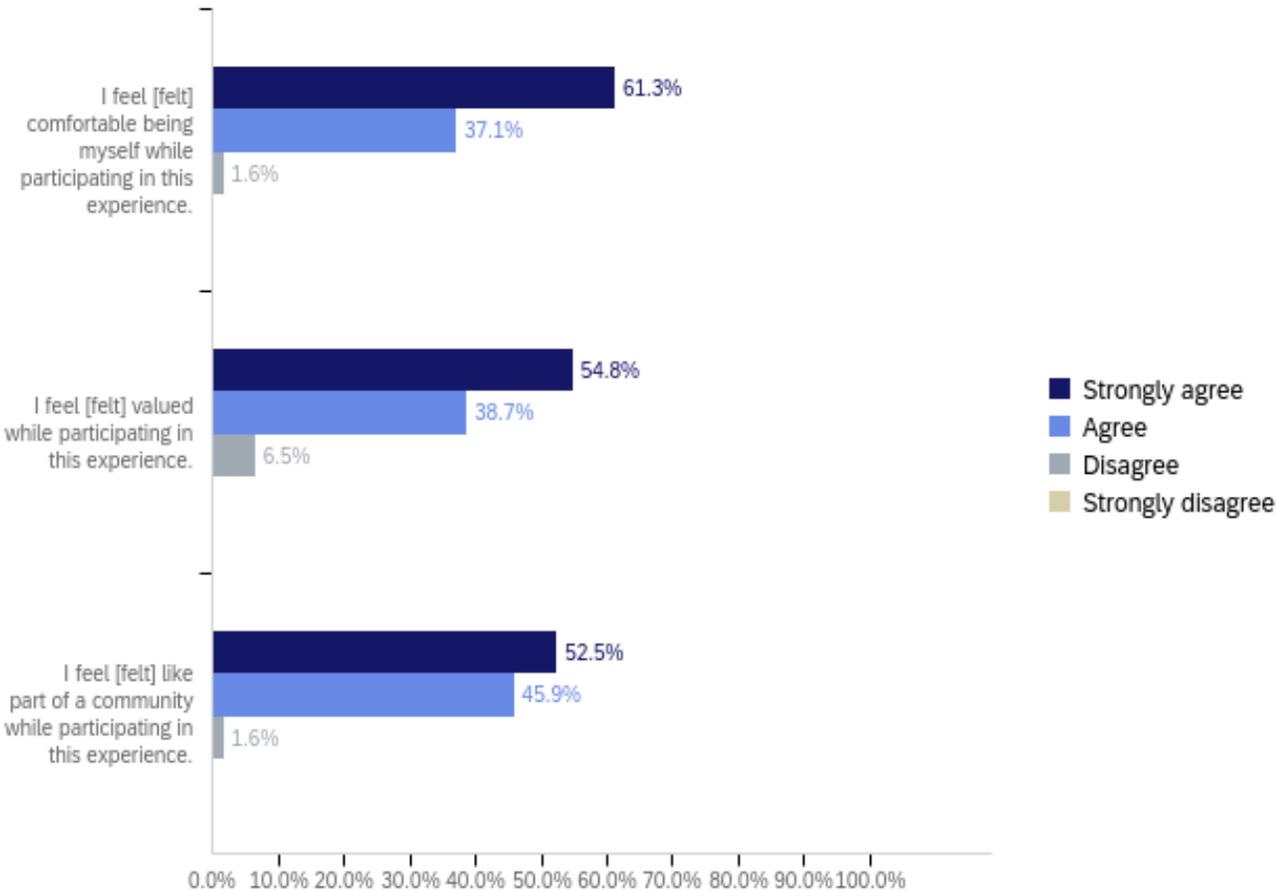
Answer	%	Count
Very often	21.3%	13
Often	34.4%	21
Sometimes	37.7%	23
Never	6.6%	4
Total	100%	61

**As part of this experience, about how often did [do] you interact with people from a different background or identity (racial/ethnic, economic, political, religious, etc.)?**



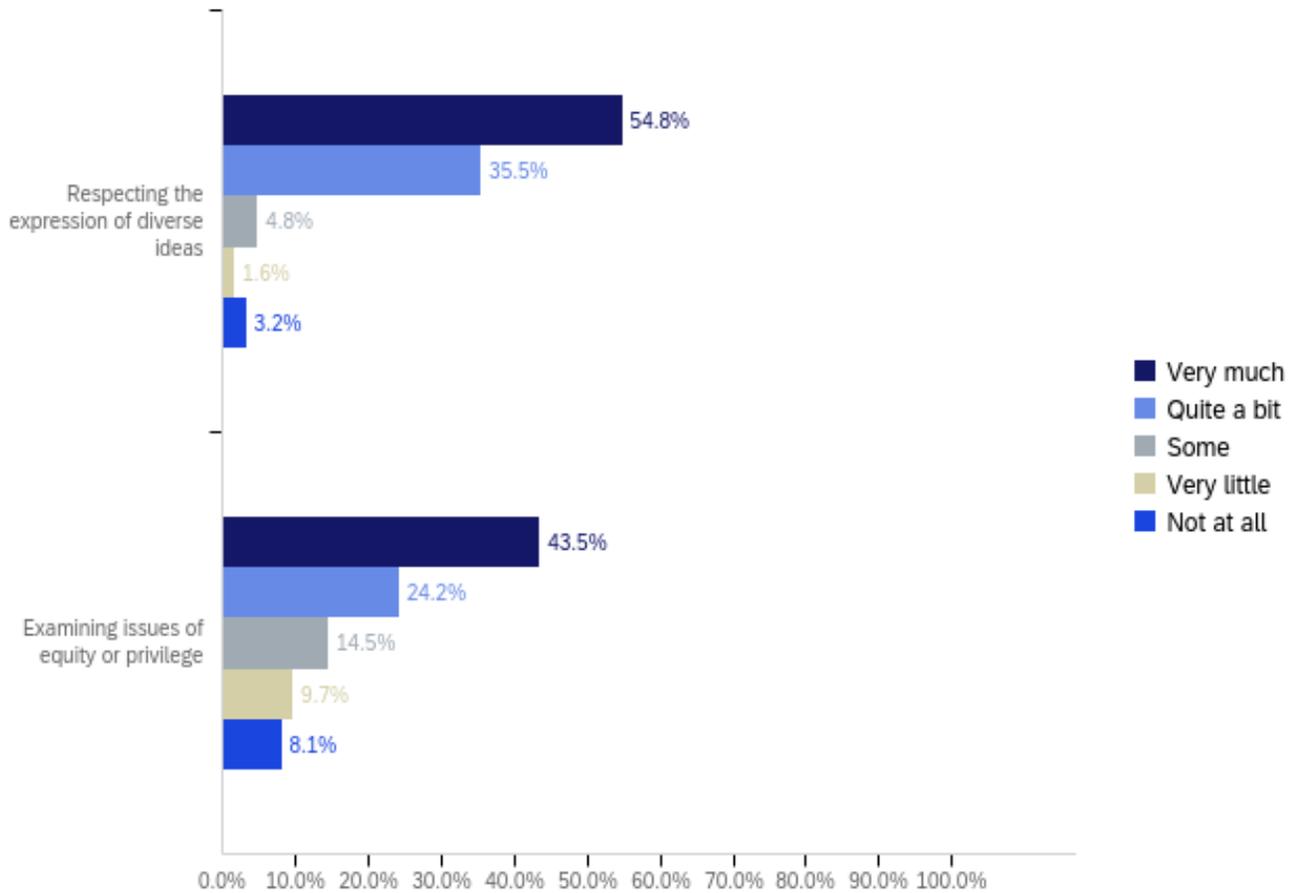
Answer	%	Count
Very often	44.3%	27
Often	26.2%	16
Sometimes	26.2%	16
Never	3.3%	2
Total	100%	61

# To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your Culminating Senior Experience?



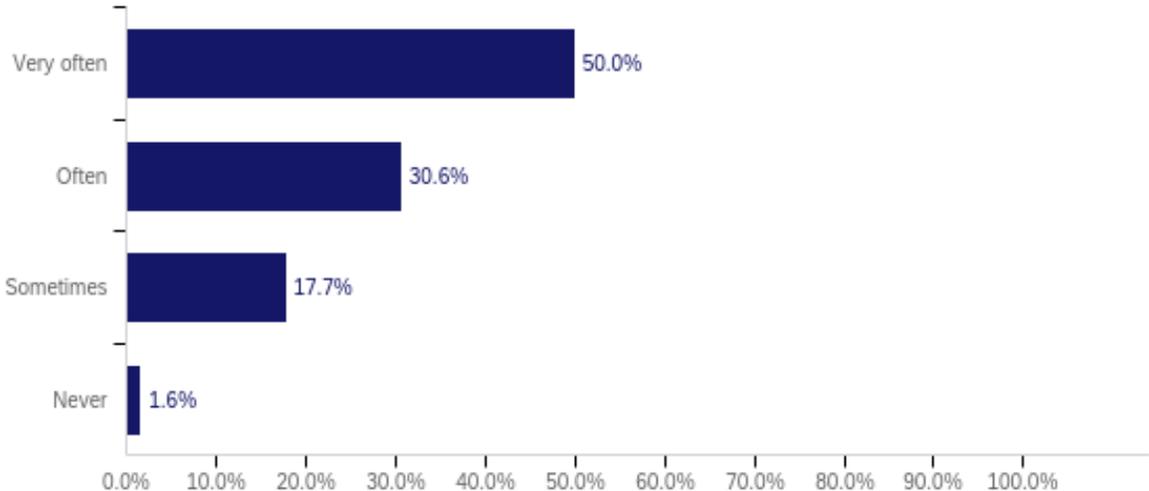
Question	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total
I feel [felt] comfortable being myself while participating in this experience.	61.3% 38	37.1% 23	1.6% 1	0.0% 0	62
I feel [felt] valued while participating in this experience.	54.8% 34	38.7% 24	6.5% 4	0.0% 0	62
I feel [felt] like part of a community while participating in this experience.	52.5% 32	45.9% 28	1.6% 1	0.0% 0	61

## How much does [did] the Culminating Senior Experience emphasize the following?



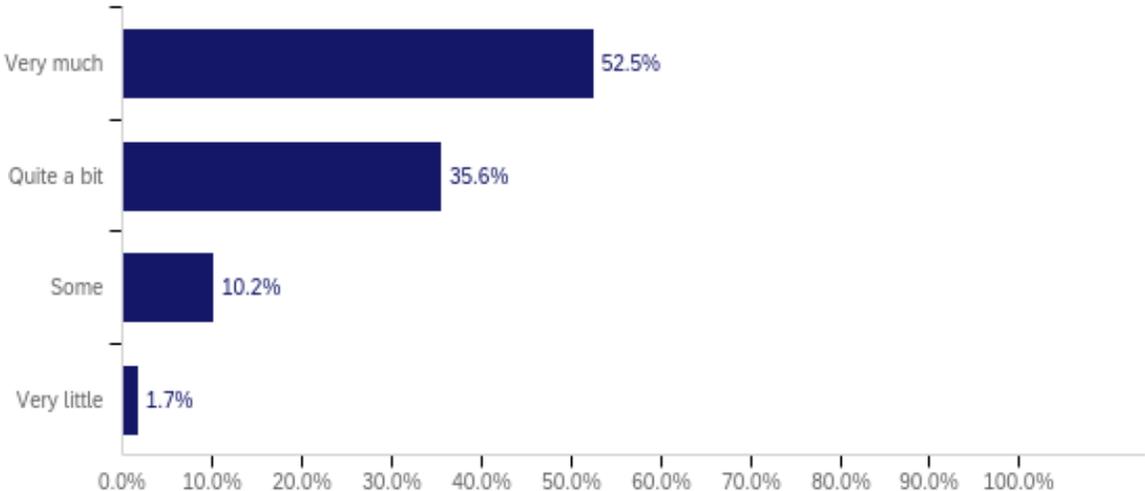
Question	Very much	Quite a bit	Some	Very little	Not at all	Total
Respecting the expression of diverse ideas	54.8% 34	35.5% 22	4.8% 3	1.6% 1	3.2% 2	62
Examining issues of equity or privilege	43.5% 27	24.2% 15	14.5% 9	9.7% 6	8.1% 5	62

**As part of the Culminating Senior Experience, about how often did [do] you meet with a faculty or staff member from this institution?**



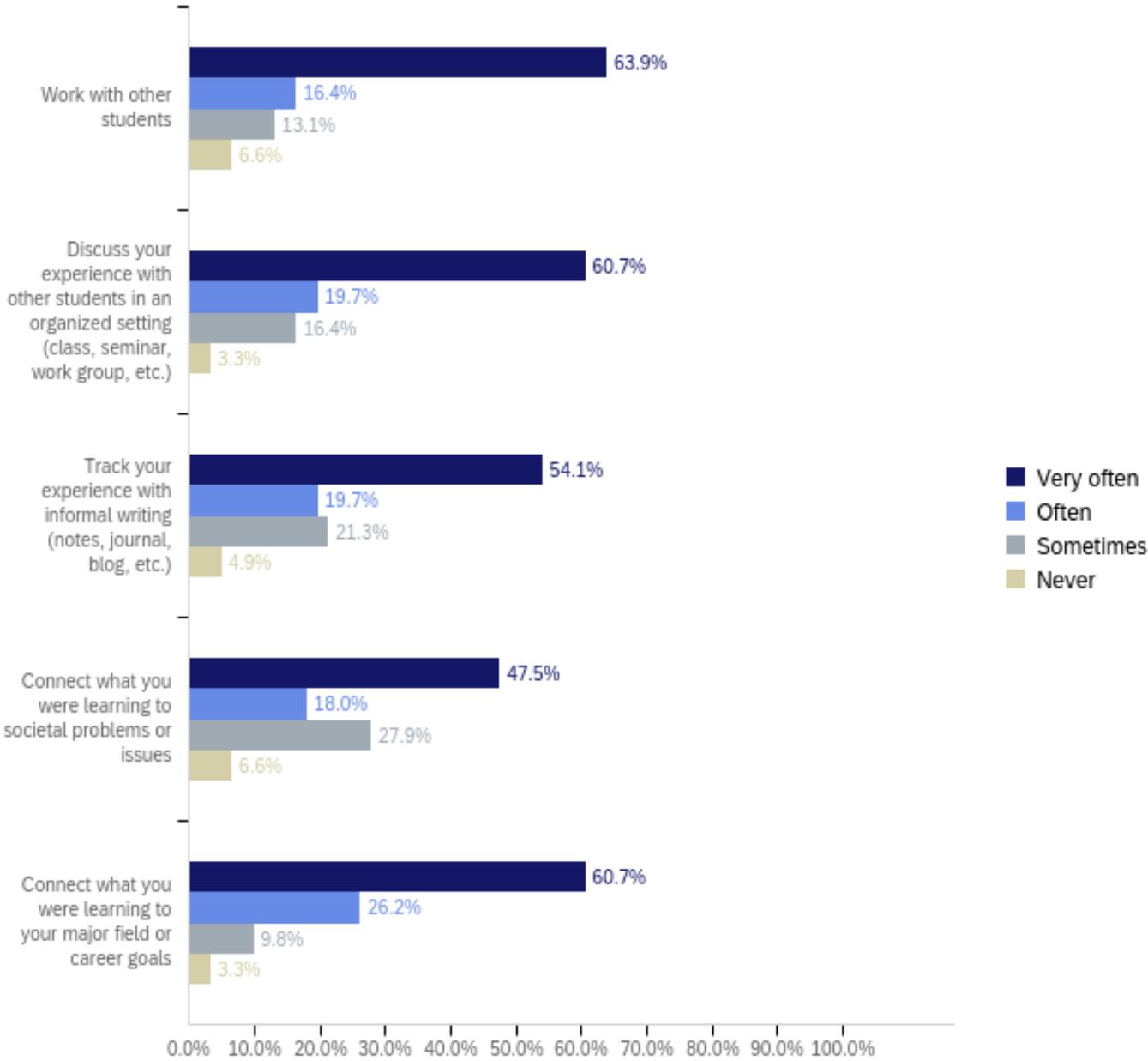
Answer	%	Count
Very often	50.0%	31
Often	30.6%	19
Sometimes	17.7%	11
Never	1.6%	1
Total	100%	62

**To what extent did [do] these meetings focus on what you were [are] learning in this experience?**



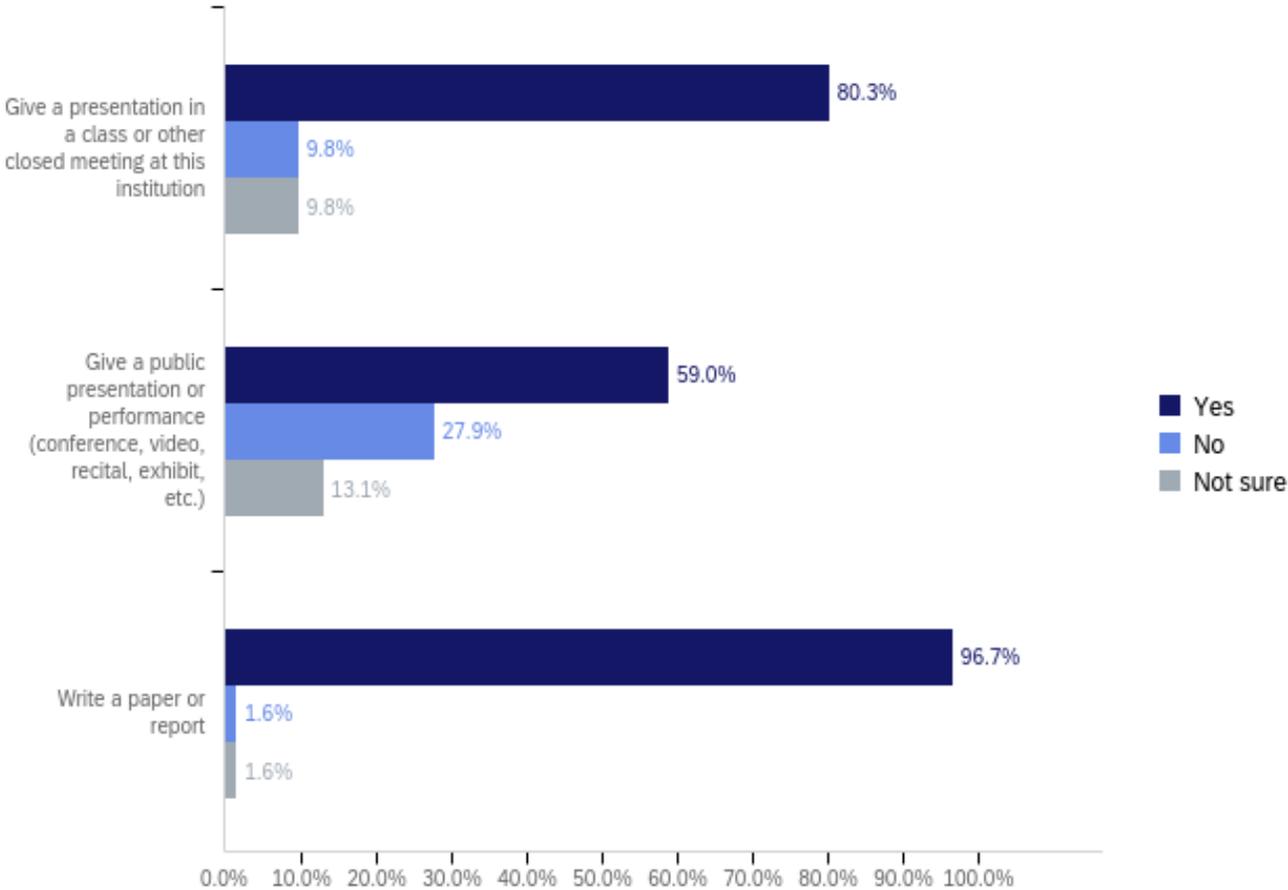
Answer	%	Count
Very much	52.5%	31
Quite a bit	35.6%	21
Some	10.2%	6
Very little	1.7%	1
Total	100%	59

**As part of the Culminating Senior Experience, about how often did you do [have you done] the following?**



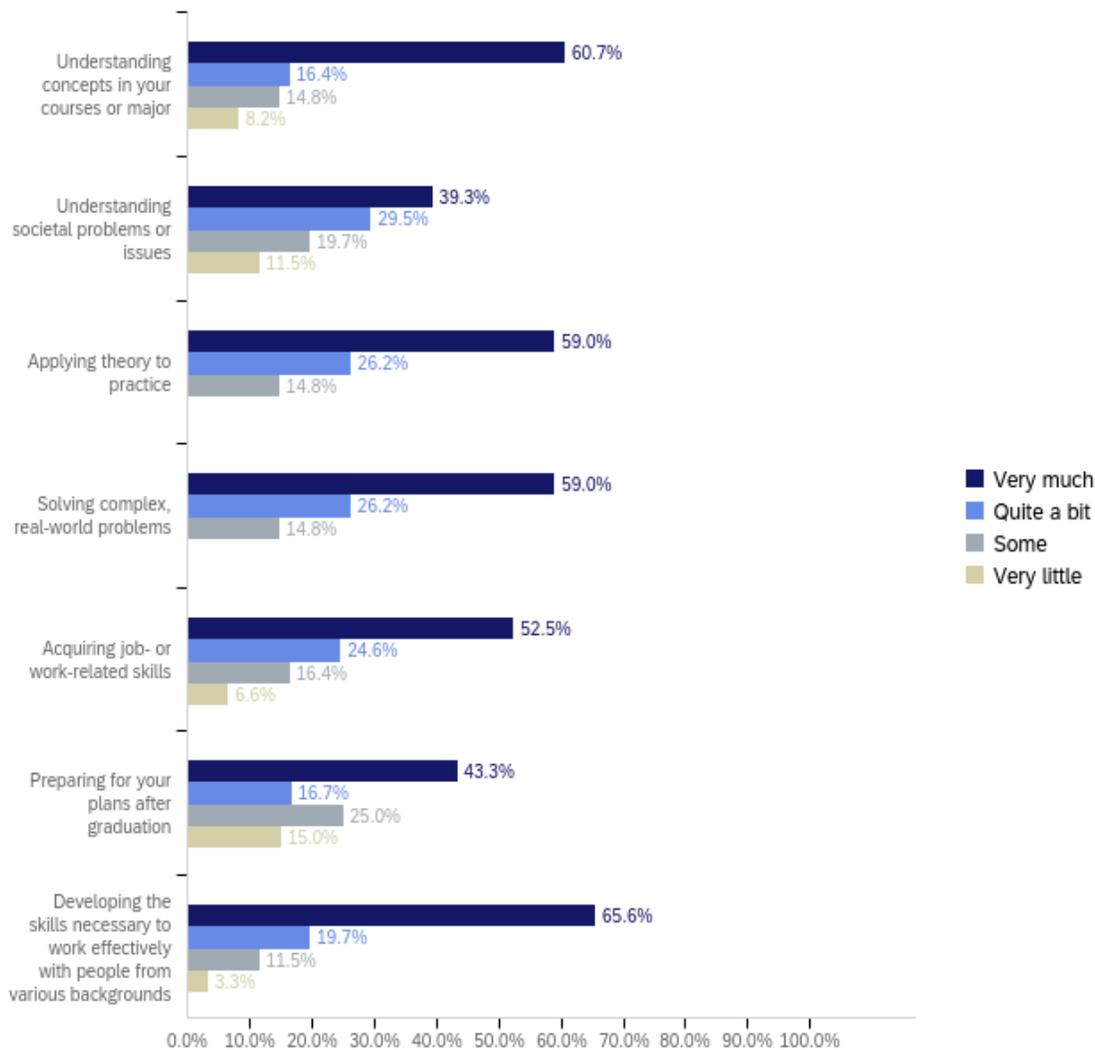
Question	Very often		Often		Sometimes		Never		Total
Work with other students	63.9%	39	16.4%	10	13.1%	8	6.6%	4	61
Discuss your experience with other students in an organized setting (class, seminar, work group, etc.)	60.7%	37	19.7%	12	16.4%	10	3.3%	2	61
Track your experience with informal writing (notes, journal, blog, etc.)	54.1%	33	19.7%	12	21.3%	13	4.9%	3	61
Connect what you were learning to societal problems or issues	47.5%	29	18.0%	11	27.9%	17	6.6%	4	61
Connect what you were learning to your major field or career goals	60.7%	37	26.2%	16	9.8%	6	3.3%	2	61

**At or near the conclusion of the Culminating Senior Experience, which of the following did you do [will you have done]?**



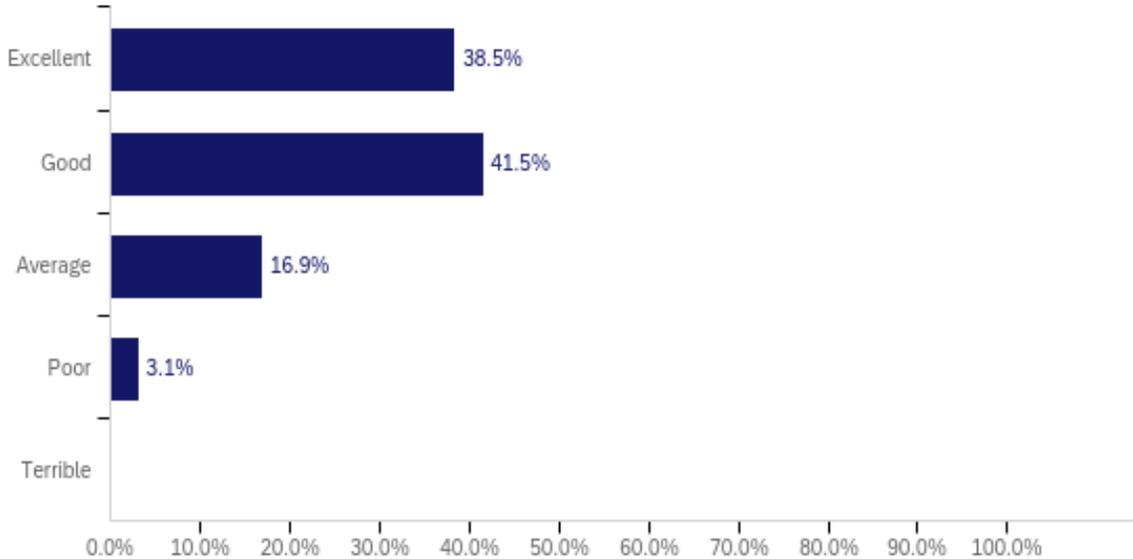
Question	Yes		No		Not sure		Total
Give a presentation in a class or other closed meeting at this institution	80.3%	49	9.8%	6	9.8%	6	61
Give a public presentation or performance (conference, video, recital, exhibit, etc.)	59.0%	36	27.9%	17	13.1%	8	61
Write a paper or report	96.7%	59	1.6%	1	1.6%	1	61

## To what extent has the Culminating Senior Experience contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?



Question	Very much	Count	Quite a bit	Count	Some	Count	Very little	Count	Total
Understanding concepts in your courses or major	60.7%	37	16.4%	10	14.8%	9	8.2%	5	61
Understanding societal problems or issues	39.3%	24	29.5%	18	19.7%	12	11.5%	7	61
Applying theory to practice	59.0%	36	26.2%	16	14.8%	9	0.0%	0	61
Solving complex, real-world problems	59.0%	36	26.2%	16	14.8%	9	0.0%	0	61
Acquiring job- or work-related skills	52.5%	32	24.6%	15	16.4%	10	6.6%	4	61
Preparing for your plans after graduation	43.3%	26	16.7%	10	25.0%	15	15.0%	9	60
Developing the skills necessary to work effectively with people from various backgrounds	65.6%	40	19.7%	12	11.5%	7	3.3%	2	61

**Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of this Culminating Senior Experience?**



Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of this Culminating Senior Experience?	Percentage
Excellent	38.5%
Good	41.5%
Average	16.9%
Poor	3.1%
Terrible	0.0%
Total	65