

Methodology

Student Selection

A stratified sample of students, balanced by academic major, sex, ethnicity, cumulative GPA, and composite ACT, was selected for the study according to specific criteria. Prior to 1997, students were selected from across all the professional schools on the Lawrence campus and all areas within the College. After three administrations, it was believed that too few students (8 from each of the schools, and 12 from each area within the College) were selected from any one school to form a representative group.

In 1997 the methodology was changed so that 30 students would be interviewed from each of only four disciplines each year—three professional schools and one area within the College.

The 2003 student sample was selected based on the following criteria:

- Students were first-time entering freshmen in Fall 1998 or 1999; and
- Students were enrolled as level four seniors in Fall 2002.

Ethnic minorities were oversampled to ensure their representation in the final sample