

## Students' Self-Reported Gains in Educational Outcomes: Results from the First Destination Survey, AY 2018-2019

### Introduction

Each year, graduating seniors are sent an electronic survey from Career Services and the Office of Assessment and Research (OAR) asking them to self-report their success and/or growth on a variety of student outcome measures. In AY 2018-2019, 657 of the total 703 graduating seniors participated for a response rate of 93%.

The remainder of this report presents the survey results question by question in terms of the number and percentage of students who selected each answer option. For "Select All That Apply" questions, the percentages are calculated by dividing the number of students who selected a given answer option by the total number of students who answered that question, which will often result in percentages that do not sum to 100%. For questions where students were allowed to provide open-ended responses in addition to their closed-ended response (e.g. "Other, please specify:"), their written-in responses are shown in the table(s) immediately following the summary tables of students' closed-ended responses to the question.

### Survey Results by Question

To what extent did you **grow** in the following skills, abilities, or competencies during your time at Holy Cross?

|  | I have not improved in this area during my time at Holy Cross |    | I have improved a little in this area during my time at Holy Cross |    | I have improved in this area during my time at Holy Cross |     | I have greatly improved in this area during my time at Holy Cross |     |
|--|---|----|--|----|---|-----|---|-----|
|  | N   | %  | N  | %  | N   | %   | N   | %   |
| <b>Thinking critically.</b> Ability to identify and challenge assumptions.                                   | 6   | 1% | 18   | 3% | 150   | 25% | 433   | 71% |
| <b>Professionalism.</b> Understanding and ability to apply knowledge of acceptable workplace behaviors.      | 11  | 2% | 26   | 4% | 158   | 26% | 412   | 68% |
| <b>Breadth of knowledge.</b> Able to draw upon, interconnect and extend knowledge from multiple disciplines. | 6   | 1% | 19   | 3% | 173   | 28% | 410   | 67% |
| <b>Self-agency.</b> Sense of being the author of ones own actions.   | 13  | 2% | 29   | 5% | 174   | 29% | 393   | 65% |

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|--|---|----|--|-----|---|-----|---|-----|
|  | N   | %  | N  | %   | N   | %   | N   | %   |
| <b>Mastering a discipline.</b> Depth of knowledge in your major(s).  | 11  | 2% | 34   | 6%  | 187   | 31% | 378   | 62% |
| <b>Writing effectively.</b> The ability to write and express oneself clearly.  | 11  | 2% | 37   | 6%  | 189   | 31% | 373   | 61% |
| <b>Reflection.</b> Ability to understand your behaviors, assumptions and values through discovery, inquiry and contemplation   | 17  | 3% | 39   | 6%  | 184   | 30% | 371   | 61% |
| <b>Care (appreciation) of others.</b> Able to relate positively and demonstrate empathy towards others.  | 16  | 3% | 35   | 6%  | 193   | 32% | 365   | 60% |
| <b>Reasoning using quantitative information.</b> Ability to use quantitative information appropriately to solve problems or make arguments.                                    | 16  | 3% | 48   | 8%  | 183   | 30% | 362   | 59% |
| <b>Discernment.</b> Being attentive to your passions, desires, abilities and the needs of the world to determine how you are called to live your life with purpose and meaning | 13  | 2% | 63   | 10% | 172   | 28% | 360   | 59% |
| <b>Speaking effectively.</b> The ability to speak and express oneself clearly.   | 11  | 2% | 39   | 6%  | 207   | 34% | 353   | 58% |
| <b>Making effective presentations.</b> The ability to present material and visually convey information in a clear and compelling manner.                                       | 8   | 1% | 51   | 8%  | 196   | 32% | 355   | 58% |
| <b>Thinking creatively.</b> Ability to combine or synthesize existing ideas, images or expertise in original ways.   | 11  | 2% | 48   | 8%  | 199   | 33% | 352   | 58% |
| <b>Information Literacy.</b> Locating, evaluating and using information to make decisions or solve problems.   | 7   | 1% | 41   | 7%  | 218   | 36% | 343   | 56% |

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|--|---|----|--|-----|---|-----|---|-----|
|  | N   | %  | N  | %   | N   | %   | N   | %   |
| <b>Intercultural knowledge.</b> Ability to define diversity in its broadest sense and to understand the struggles associated with marginalized groups.                             | 21  | 3% | 52   | 9%  | 204   | 33% | 333   | 55% |
| <b>Multicultural competence.</b> Ability to assess ones own perspectives, beliefs, behaviors and values and engage in meaningful conversations about differences and similarities. | 24  | 4% | 46   | 8%  | 210   | 34% | 329   | 54% |
| <b>Care (appreciation) of self.</b> Developing a meaningful philosophy of life that considers ones ethics, morals and sense of well-being.   | 31  | 5% | 54   | 9%  | 193   | 32% | 331   | 54% |
| <b>Reading closely.</b> Reading for deep understanding, detailed analysis and understanding.   | 11  | 2% | 60   | 10% | 216   | 35% | 322   | 53% |
| <b>Technological literacy.</b> Able to effectively use such tools as Excel, SPSS, etc. to access, manage and analyze information.  | 45  | 7% | 130  | 21% | 218   | 36% | 217   | 36% |

