

**PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM
COMPREHENSIVE EXAM
TREND ANALYSIS DUG AND PACE
2011-2015
8/11/15**

At the end of the Spring Day term, undergraduate students majoring in psychology (DUG) are assessed on their cumulative comprehension and theoretical knowledge (declarative knowledge) of the Psychology program student learning outcomes (PLO). Beginning with the Spring 2015 term, an additional 5 questions were added to cover the topic of Evolutionary Psychology. The Integrated Systems question was added to the Evolutionary Psychology items. This 60 item multiple choice comprehensive exam is used to assess overall cumulative performance and specific scale performance (PLOs). The reliability of this comprehensive exam is .78 for the DUG program.

Given the additional 5 questions no real comparison can be made regarding total score with previous exams. However, comparing percentage wise (number of correct answer divide by total items), there appears to be a significant difference ($45/60=75\%$ correct for 2015 and $37/55=67\%$ correct for 2014). The total score percentage of 2015 has returned to the 2011 level of 75% ($41/55=75\%$). At this point no real trend can be determined. The individual scales (program learning outcomes) are also fairly stable as the new scale took all five of the new questions.

DUG	Student N Size	Item Total	Mean	Standard Deviation
Spring 2015	26	60	44.85	5.76
Spring 2014	21	55	37.48	6.15
Spring 2013	20	55	37.35	6.16
Spring 2012	21	55	34.71	6.39
Spring 2011	19	55	40.79	4.06

DUG	Student N Size	Life Span	Scientific Method	Applied Psy	Counseling Theories	Social/Cross Cultural	Integrated Systems	Marianist Ed Values	Evolutionary Psy
Spring 2015	26	9/13	10/12	8/11	5/7	6/6	N/A	4/5	4/6
Spring 2014	21	9/13	8/12	8/11	3/7	5/6	1/1	3/5	
Spring 2013	20	9/13	9/12	7/11	4/7	5/6	1/1	3/5	
Spring 2012	21	7/13	8/12	7/11	4/7	5/6	1/1	3/5	
Spring 2011	19	9/13	9/12	8/11	5/7	5/6	1/1	4/5	

Unlike the DUG program, which is offered in the traditional two semester format, the Professional and Continuing Education program (PACE) is offered in an accelerated format consisting of four terms (not quarters) a year. Depending on the need, PACE undergraduate students majoring in Psychology are assessed on their cumulative comprehension and theoretical knowledge (declarative knowledge) of the Psychology program student learning outcomes (PLO) during various terms with the same exam as the DUG students. The reliability for the PACE students, on ground, on this exam is .83. With the current online format we are unable to obtain complete data such as scale scores and reliability for this population.

Given the additional 5 questions, incorporated in Spring 2015 no real comparison can be made regarding total score with previous exams. However, comparing percentage wise (number of correct answer divide by total items), there is a difference ($44/60=73\%$ correct for 2015 and $38/55=69\%$ correct for 2014, but it is questionable if 4% is significant. The individual scales (program learning outcomes) are also fairly stable as the new scale took all five of the new questions.

PACE	Student N Size	Item Total	Mean	Standard Deviation
Spring 2015	12	60	44.16	6.95
Fall 2014	18	55	37.89	8.7
Spring 2014	5	55	36.80	5.08
Fall 2013	9	55	28.0	6.67
Spring 2013	8	55	36.5	7.33
Winter 2013	5	55	36.0	4.15
Fall 2012	9	55	30.11	5.15
Spring 2012	10	55	32.0	6.69
Winter 2012	3	55	31.67	3.30

The overall results when comparing the Spring 2015 DUG total score with the Spring 2015 PACE UG total scores show essentially the same performance: DUG 45/60 PACE 44/60. This suggests that both the on campus program and the online program are providing similar learning experiences and outcomes. The current problem is finding out how to get a complete report (reliability and scale scores) from the online program.