

BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AND STUDENT ATTITUDES—YEAR 3

FALL 2000

Variable	P 314 students N=29	
	Number	Percentage
Female	15	51%
Freshman	0	0%
Sophomore	5	17%
Junior	10	34%
Senior	12	41%
5 th year	1	3%
Graduate student	0	0%
Anthropology/Archaeology major	20	69%
One or both parents attended college	23	79%
One or both parents received graduate degrees	11	38%
Average comfort using technology to access materials (1 [comfort] – 5 [discomfort])		1.8
Average comfort using technology to present materials (1 [comfort] – 5 [discomfort])		2.8

Table 1: Characteristics of P314 Students.

COMPUTER ATTITUDES & PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

1= strong disagree, 5= strongly agree

1. I am very comfortable using technology to access class material.	3.2
2. I am very comfortable using technology to make presentations.	3.1
3. I prefer to access information rather than have it presented to me.	3.1
4. Computers are impersonal tools.	3.0
5. I enjoy using the Internet as an educational resource.	3.6
6. It is important for students to take advantage of a variety of learning resources.	4.0
7. Computers are valuable instructional tools.	4.0
8. I use a variety of resources available for answering questions related to archaeology.	3.8
9. I would consider myself a critical thinker.	3.8
10. I am very skilled in terms of problem solving.	4.0
11. I am good at collecting information and drawing conclusions from it.	4.1
12. I like learning by exploring.	4.0
13. I learn very effectively when I do the readings and take notes during the lectures.	4.2
14. I learn very effectively when I discuss things with my classmates in groups.	4.1
15. I learn very effectively when I work with my classmates in labs (hunter-gatherer game; working with stone tools).	3.6
16. I like doing readings and listening to lectures.	3.4
17. I like discussing research questions with my classmates.	3.4
18. I like working in the archeology labs or on computers in groups.	3.3
19. I am learning a lot about how to do research in this course	3.4
20. I am confident in my ability to solve problems in archeology.	3.2
21. I am learning a lot about how to do problem-solving in this course.	3.6
22. I am interested in learning more about different ways to solve problems in archeology.	4.0
23. I have no trouble visualizing patterns in archeological evidence.	3.6
24. Using a time-line is the best way for me to understand time in archeology.	3.5
25. I like to come up with my own essay and research topics.	3.2
26. I like it best when the professor chooses an essay topic for me.	3.2

Table 2: Results of questionnaire about technology use and problem-solving.

FEELINGS ABOUT THE COURSE & GROUP WORK

1= strong disagree, 5= strongly agree

1. In general, I enjoy working with other students on class assignments.	3.5
2. I enjoy researching questions related to the field of archaeology.	4.2
3. I could name four different resources available for answering questions related to archaeology.	3.6
4. I am comfortable asking classmates questions about the course (due dates, assignments, etc.).	4.1
5. I am comfortable asking classmates questions about the course content.	4.1
6. I am very comfortable working in a group during class.	3.6
7. I find that in group work, one person tends to dominate the discussion or do all the tasks and others don't get a chance to participate.	3.1
8. I find that often, when working in a group on assignments, I end up doing more work than my teammates.	3.1
9. In group work in this class, I've done more work than my teammates.	2.7
10. I have had discussions out of class about the content of this course with classmates.	3.0
11. I enjoy attending this class.	4.2
12. I am learning a lot about archaeology in this course.	4.2
13. This course is too hard for me.	1.9
14. This course is too easy for me.	2.1
15. I am learning about a wide variety of archaeological sites in this course.	4.0
16. I am interested in African archaeological sites.	4.3
17. I am more interested in archaeological sites than I was before I started taking this course.	3.7
18. I am familiar with African geography.	3.2
19. The content of this course is not what I thought it was going to be.	2.2
20. I am interested in the subject matter of this course.	4.3
21. It is important for students to discuss course content with each other.	3.9

The following questions are based on a 5-point scale where 1 = not at all familiar/comfortable and 5 = very familiar/comfortable.

22. How familiar are you with African geography?	2.9
23. How comfortable are you in associating different types of artifacts with specific time periods?	2.6
24. How comfortable are you in associating different types of artifacts with different regions of Africa?	2.1
25. How complex a process do you think determining the age of ancient sites is?	4.2
26. How well do you understand the different problems archaeologists face in reconstructing patterns of culture change within and between regions?	3.4
27. How comfortable are you in associating different prehistoric culture groups with different ancient environmental zones of Africa?	2.5
28. How familiar are you with the idea that information from the modern world can be used to interpret evidence from the past?	3.5

Table 3: Results of questionnaire about the course and attitudes toward group work