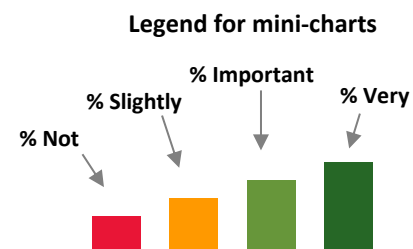


In pursuing your college education, how important are the following goals?

First-time, First-year Students were asked to indicate how important a series of goals were in earning their degree. The table below shows the series of questions sorted from the highest to the lowest mean response. The most common response for each item is bolded. The most important goal for First-time, First-year Students was Personal growth and development. The least important goal was Starting or improving a business.



In pursuing your college education, how important are the following goals?

First-time, First-years

<i>Listed in order of importance</i>		Mean	Not Important (0)	Slightly Important (1)	Important (2)	Very Important (3)	N
	Personal growth and development	2.75	0.0%	2.6%	20.1%	77.3%	189
	Gaining depth or expertise in a particular field	2.57	0.0%	3.2%	37.0%	59.8%	189
	Developing creative and effective communication skills	2.51	0.0%	6.9%	35.4%	57.7%	189
	Getting a job of your choice or making a career change	2.46	1.6%	9.0%	31.4%	58.0%	188
	Gaining an understanding of a broad range of ideas and fields of study	2.41	0.5%	6.9%	43.4%	49.2%	189
	Gaining a better understanding and appreciation for differences (ethnic, political, etc.)	2.37	1.1%	11.1%	37.6%	50.2%	189
	Helping others or contributing to the community	2.29	2.6%	12.2%	39.2%	46.0%	189

In pursuing your college education, how important are the following goals?

<i>First-time, First-years</i>		Mean	Not Important (0)	Slightly Important (1)	Important (2)	Very Important (3)	N
<i>Listed in order of importance</i>							
	Conserving and restoring the environment	2.24	3.2%	16.5%	33.5%	46.8%	188
	Readiness for further education (graduate or professional)	2.19	2.7%	20.9%	31.0%	45.5%	187
	Developing artistic abilities (e.g. fine arts, media, performing arts, etc.)	1.96	10.1%	23.4%	26.6%	39.9%	188
	Getting involved or initiating change in community, state, or national politics	1.89	8.5%	25.5%	34.0%	31.9%	188
	Making more money	1.72	9.5%	31.2%	36.5%	22.8%	189
	Developing the ability to understand and use science, scientific principles, or methods	1.64	14.8%	30.2%	31.2%	23.8%	189
	Developing computer skills	1.24	22.2%	40.7%	27.5%	9.5%	189
	Developing the ability to understand and use mathematics, statistics, or quantitative reasoning	1.19	27.0%	38.6%	22.8%	11.6%	189
	Starting or improving a business	1.18	31.4%	33.5%	20.7%	14.4%	188