

The Evergreen State College  
 Evergreen New Student Survey 2005  
 Tacoma Analysis

**How important are the following goals for you in earning your college degree?**

New students were asked to indicate how important a series of goals are in earning a college degree. The tables below show the series of questions sorted from the highest to lowest mean (or average) response for Tacoma respondents. The goals with the highest mean responses were personal growth and development, achieving personal success or satisfaction, helping others or contributing to the community, and developing creative and effective communication skills.

*How important are the following goals for you in earning your college degree? (N=58)*

*Scale: 0=Not Important, 1=Slightly Important, 2=Important, 3=Very Important*

	Mean	Not Important (0)	Slightly Important (1)	Important (2)	Very Important (3)	Missing
Personal growth and development	2.83	0.0%	1.7%	13.8%	84.5%	0
Achieving personal success or satisfaction	2.81	1.7%	1.7%	10.3%	86.2%	0
Helping others or contributing to the community	2.69	0.0%	5.2%	20.7%	74.1%	0
Developing creative and effective communication skills (e.g. speaking and writing)	2.67	1.7%	3.4%	20.7%	74.1%	0
Getting a job of your choice or making a career change	2.64	0.0%	6.9%	22.4%	70.7%	0
Being prepared for further education (graduate, professional, or doctoral)	2.62	0.0%	8.6%	20.7%	70.7%	0
Having expertise in a particular field	2.60	0.0%	5.2%	29.3%	65.5%	0
Becoming an informed citizen	2.54	1.8%	7.0%	26.3%	64.9%	1
Having a better understanding and appreciation for differences (ethnic, political, etc.)	2.53	0.0%	8.6%	29.3%	62.1%	0
Gaining an understanding of a broad range of ideas and fields of study	2.43	1.7%	6.9%	37.9%	53.4%	0
Having a professional career	2.43	3.4%	10.3%	25.9%	60.3%	0
Having computer technology skills	2.28	0.0%	14.0%	43.9%	42.1%	1
Improving and protecting the environment	2.16	0.0%	20.7%	43.1%	36.2%	0
Having the ability to apply scientific principles and methods	2.12	7.0%	15.8%	35.1%	42.1%	1
Making more money	2.09	8.6%	12.1%	41.4%	37.9%	0
Having the ability to use quantitative reasoning (e.g. statistics, mathematics, etc.)	1.91	6.9%	22.4%	43.1%	27.6%	0
Influencing or changing the political system	1.88	8.8%	29.8%	26.3%	35.1%	1
Starting or improving a business	1.60	22.4%	25.9%	20.7%	31.0%	0
Developing artistic abilities using one or more media (e.g. sculpture, painting, film, video, photo)	1.43	19.0%	36.2%	27.6%	17.2%	0
Meeting the expectations of friends and family	1.07	34.5%	41.4%	6.9%	17.2%	0