

# **CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNVIVERSITY**

## 2014 NOEL-LEVITZ PRIORITIES SURVEY FOR ONLINE LEARNERS

**RESPONSES FROM CWU STUDENTS COMPARED TO THE 2014 PEER GROUP OF SEVEN INSTITUTIONS** 

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## I. ABSTRACT

Central Washington University (CWU) administers the Noel-Levitz (NL) Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL) online via email to all students enrolled in online courses. The survey was administered during the spring 2014 term (4/20/14 through 5/24/14). The survey is designed to assess the priorities and satisfaction of students enrolled in distance learning and online courses. This report summarizes differences in responses by CWU students compared to students from seven peer universities:

- Troy University, AL
- U of Illinois Springfield
- U of Wisconsin-Stout
- Bemidji State University
- Dakota State University
- U of Wisconsin-Superior
- California State U-San Bernardino

Most of the peer group responses (95%) were from students enrolled in on-line degree programs. Only 16% of CWU's responses were from students enrolled in online degree programs. The tables below compare responses from CWU students enrolled in online degree programs and CWU students enrolled on-campus (or F2F) to the peer group.

## **II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## A. Summary Questions

The peer group gave slightly higher ratings on all three "summary" questions:

- So far, how has your college experience met your expectations?
- Rate your overall satisfaction with your experience here thus far.
- All in all, if you had to do it over, would you enroll here again?

# B. Summary of Importance by Category (or "Scale")

Students rate the importance of all questions higher than the satisfaction. The differences are what Noel-Levitz calls "gaps." CWU has larger gaps in all of the major categories. Unfortunately we cannot compute these categorical averages for CWU students enrolled online vs. CWU students enrolled on-campus.

## Table 1 Gaps between Importance and Satisfaction Ranked by CWU Importance

	Central Washington University			CWU Selected Peer Group					
Scale / Item	Importance	Satisfaction	Gap	Gap	Importance	Satisfaction	Gap	Gap	
Academic Services	6.3	5.5	0.8		6.3	5.9	0.4		
Enrollment Services	6.3	5.5	0.8		6.4	5.8	0.6		
Institutional Perceptions	6.3	5.4	0.9		6.3	5.6	0.7		
Instructional Services	6.2	5.3	1.0		6.2	5.7	0.6		
Student Services	6.1	5.3	0.8		6.1	5.7	0.4		

## **C. Importance or Priorities Questions**

CWU students have different (mostly lower) priorities than the peer group.

## **D. Satisfaction Questions**

CWU students enrolled in online degree programs were substantively less satisfied and the PSOL peers on five questions. CWU satisfaction was lower than peers on all 26 questions measuring satisfaction. CWU improved its satisfaction quite a bit from 2013 to 2014. The improvements will need to continue to match peer satisfaction averages.

## E. Information and Factors for Enrollment

There were only two large differences between CWU students enrolled in online degree programs and PSOL peers. CWU rate two enrollment factors quite a bit lower than peers: question 52 "Distance from Campus," and question 54 " Recommendations from employer."

## F. Demographics

The demographics were very similar between CWU students enrolled in online degree programs and the peer group.

#### G. Summary

Three areas that this analysis indicates that CWU may need to focus improvement of online learning programs are: (1) Academic Services, (2) Instructional Services, and (3) Student Services.

#### III. METHODOLOGY

The PSOL survey consists of 73 questions:

- 26 items rated for both importance and satisfaction
- 10 campus defined items rated for both importance and satisfaction (not included in this analysis)
- 18 items assessing pre-enrollment information and factors only rated for importance
- 3 summary questions
- 15 demographic questions (two of which are campus defined, no data is available for peers)
- 1 question asking students their general major, or "group code." This is not available for peers.

The PSOL is partially designed to provide "gap analysis" between importance and satisfaction. This report compares responses of CWU students enrolled "primarily online" to students enrolled "primarily on-campus" to PSOL peers. Questions 1 through 36 ask: "Each item below describes an expectation about your experiences with this program. On the left tell us how <u>important</u> it is for your institution to meet this expectation. On the right tell us how <u>satisfied</u> you are that your institution has met this expectation."

The Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners is a national survey tested thoroughly to provide reliable and valid questions. Noel-Levitz emailed the online survey to all CWU students enrolled in "WW" courses (100% online) during the spring 2014 quarter. The response rate was 14%. The response rate rose slightly

from 2013. An iPad Air was given to one randomly selected student in 2014 but not in 2013. In addition, in 2014 all respondents were email a coupon to the Wildcat shop which was redeemable in-person or online.

Table 2 2014 PSOL: CWU Response Rates and Home Campus of CWU Respondents

Surveys emailed	2,785	Ellensburg Campus	42%
Responses	385	Enrolled at a Center	42%
Response Rate	14%	Enrolled in an Online Degree Program	16%

Hedge's g "Effect Size" was used to estimate the "substantive differences" in means. It is the difference in means divided by the pooled standard deviation and it may provide better estimates of difference when sample sizes are different.

Cohen gave a "rule-of-thumb" that an effect size of 0 to 0.3 might be "small," between 0.3 and 0.8 "moderate," and larger than 0.8 "large." For this analysis an effect size (absolute value) of .3 to .8 is moderate and .8 or larger is large.

## IV. STRATEGIC PLANNING QUESTIONS

The survey asks the importance on three major questions. CWU's online students gave slightly better responses than on-campus students but they were slightly lower than peer responses.

#### **Table 3 Strategic Planning Question Results**

	CWU	CWU	PSOL
	"Campus"	Online	Peer
	Majors	Majors	Group
So far, how has your college experience met your expectations?	4.5	4.6	4.9
Rate your overall satisfaction with your experience here thus far.	5.1	5.5	5.7
All in all, if you had to do it over, would you enroll here again?	5.4	5.7	5.9

Table 4 summarizes the question scales used for the above Likert questions. The scale ran from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest).

# Table 4 Strategic Planning summary questions used a 7 point Likert Scale.

Scale	Question 55 Expectations	Question 56 Satisfaction	Question 57 Enroll Again?	Scale
1	Much worse than expected	Not satisfied at all	Definitely not	1
2	Quite a bit worse than expected	Not very satisfied	Probably not	2
3	Worse than I expected	Somewhat dissatisfied	Maybe no	3
4	About what I expected	Neutral	I don't know	4
5	Better than I expected	Somewhat satisfied	Maybe yes	5
6	Quite a bit better than I expected	Satisfied	Probably yes	6
7	Much better than I expected	Very satisfied	Definitely yes	7

In summary, CWU students rated these three summary questions slightly lower than students from the peer institutions.

#### V. IMPORTANCE QUESTIONS MEASURING STUDENT PRIORITIES

The first 26 questions of the Priorities Survey for Online Learners ask students to rank importance and satisfaction. Both Importance and Satisfaction use a seven point Likert Scale. Questions 27 through 36 are selected by institutions. There is not peer data available. Table 5 describes the Likert scales used on the first 26 questions.

#### Table 5 The PSOL "importance" and "satisfaction" questions use a seven-point Likert scale

The scale for importance is:	The scale for satisfaction is:
1 - not important at all	1 – not satisfied at all
2 - not very important	2 – not very satisfied
3 - somewhat unimportant	3 – somewhat satisfied
4 - neutral	4 - neutral
5 – somewhat important	5 – somewhat satisfied
6 – important	6 - satisfied
7 – very important	7 – very satisfied

Tables 6, 7, and 8 summarize detailed responses to "Importance" (or Priority) questions. Only four questions had even moderate differences using the Hedge's g scale.

CWU students enrolled in online degree programs were most different (lower priority) than peers on:

- 14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.
- 15. Channels are available for providing timely responses to student complaints.
- 16. Appropriate technical assistance is readily available.
- 19. Online career services are available.
- 24. Tutoring services are readily available for online courses.

# Table 6 Comparison of Responses to "Importance" or Priority Questions 1 through 26

				Data ba	rs are ± 1.0
	CW	U	PSOL	CWU F2F less	CWU Online
	On campus	Online	Peers	PSOL Peers	less PSOL Peers
1. This institution has a good reputation.	6.0	6.1	6.2		
2. My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-mail.	6.3	6.5	6.4		
3. Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.	6.4	6.5	6.6		
4. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.	6.4	6.6	6.5		
5. My program advisor helps me work toward career goals.	6.1	6.1	6.1		
6. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	6.5	6.7	6.6		
7. Program requirements are clear and reasonable.	6.5	6.6	6.5		
8. Student-to-student collaborations provide valuable experiences.	5.0	4.5	4.9		
9. Adequate financial aid is available.	6.0	5.6	6.1		
10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.	6.4	6.4	6.4		
11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.	6.6	6.5	6.6		
12. There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.	6.5	6.6	6.5		
13. The frequency of student and instructor interactions is adequate.	6.2	6.2	6.2		
14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.	5.9	5.4	6.2		
15. Channels are available for providing timely responses to student complaints.	5.4	4.9	5.9		
16. Appropriate technical assistance is available.	5.9	5.4	6.1		
17. Assessment and evaluation procedures are clear and reasonable.	6.3	6.2	6.3		
18. Registration processes are convenient.	6.4	6.7	6.5		
19. Online career services are available.	5.2	4.2	5.7		
20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.	6.5	6.8	6.5		
21. Adequate online library resources are provided.	5.9	5.9	6.1		
22. I am aware of whom to contact for questions about programs and services.	6.2	6.2	6.3		
23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.	6.1	5.9	6.3		
24. Tutoring services are readily available.	5.1	4.0	5.6		
25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.	6.5	6.5	6.5		
26. The bookstore provides timely service to students.	6.0	5.6	6.2		

#### VI. SATISFACTION & GAP ANALYSIS

CWU's on-campus and online students were less satisfied than the peer group on all 26 questions. CWU online students were substantively lower on five questions. Note that CWU students rated the important of questions 15, 16, 19, and 24 much lower than PSOL peers.

- 15. Channels available for timely responses to student complaints.
- 16. Appropriate technical assistance is available.
- 19. Online career services are available.
- 24. Tutoring services are readily available.
- 26. The bookstore provides timely service to students.

CWU improved satisfaction on most of the questions from 2013 to 2014. CWU needs to continue that improvement to reach the same satisfaction level as this peer group.

Table 7 details the differences in average responses in Satisfaction.

 Table 7 A Comparison of Satisfaction Averages among CWU Students Enrolled On-campus. CWU Students

 Enrolled Online, and the Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners Peer Group (PSOL Peers)

				Data bars are ± 1.0				
	CWI	J	PSOL	CWU F2F		Substantive	CWU Online	Substantive
	On campus	Online	Peers	less Peers		Difference	less Peers	difference
1. This institution has a good reputation.	5.6	5.7	5.9			medium		small
2. My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-mail.	5.5	5.8	6.0			small		small
3. Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.	5.6	5.5	5.9			small		small
4. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.	5.3	5.1	5.5			small		small
5. My program advisor helps me work toward career goals.	4.8	5.0	5.4			medium		small
6. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	5.2	5.4	5.6			medium		small
7. Program requirements are clear and reasonable.	5.5	5.4	5.8			small		small
8. Student-to-student collaborations provide valuable experiences.	4.9	4.6	5.2			small		medium
9. Adequate financial aid is available.	4.8	4.9	5.6			medium		medium
10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.	5.4	5.9	6.0			medium		small
11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.	5.6	5.3	5.7			small		medium
12. There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.	5.2	5.2	5.6			medium		medium
13. The frequency of student/instructor interactions is adequate.	5.3	5.2	5.6			small		small
14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.	4.7	4.5	5.6			medium		medium
15. Channels available for timely responses to student complaints.	4.0	3.3	5.3			medium		large
16. Appropriate technical assistance is available.	4.9	4.2	5.8			medium		large
17. Assessment and evaluation procedures are clear and reasonable.	5.4	5.3	5.8			small		medium
18. Registration processes are convenient.	5.8	5.8	6.1			small		small
19. Online career services are available.	4.0	3.2	5.3			large		large
20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.	5.2	5.4	5.6			small		small
21. Adequate online library resources are provided.	5.0	5.0	5.9			medium		medium
22. I know whom to contact for about programs and services.	5.1	5.3	5.7			medium		medium
23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.	5.5	5.7	6.1			medium		medium
24. Tutoring services are readily available.	3.7	2.3	4.9			medium		large
25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.	5.4	5.6	5.8			small		small
26. The bookstore provides timely service to students.	5.3	4.7	5.8			medium		large

Table 8 summarizes differences in "Gaps" between Importance and Satisfaction. Satisfaction ratings are subtracted from Importance ratings.

Compared to the peer group, CWU online students has the largest gaps in:

- 15. Channels available for providing timely responses to student complaints.
- 16. Appropriate technical assistance is available.
- 24. Tutoring services are readily available.

CWU should work to narrow the gaps between importance and satisfaction in these three areas.

## The smallest difference in gaps (almost no difference) between CWU online students and PSOL peers were:

- 1. This institution has a good reputation.
- 10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.
- 23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.

		5.8	6.2		4.7	5.6		5.3	6.0	26. The bookstore provides timely service to students.
		5.8	6.5		5.6	6.5		5.4	6.5	25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.
		4.9	5.6		2.3	4.0		3.7	5.1	24. Tutoring services are readily available.
		6.1	6.3		5.7	5.9		5.5	6.1	23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.
		5.7	6.3		5.3	6.2		5.1	6.2	22. I know whom to contact for questions about programs & services.
	ļ	5.9	6.1	<b>.</b>	5.0	5.9	<b> </b>	5.0	5.9	21. Adequate online library resources are provided.
		5.6	6.5		5.4	6.8		5.2	6.5	20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.
		5.3	5.7		3.2	4.2		4.0	5.2	19. Online career services are available.
		6.1	6.5		5.8	6.7		5.8	6.4	18. Registration processes are convenient.
		5.8	6.3		5.3	6.2		5.4	6.3	17. Assessment and evaluation procedures are clear and reasonable.
		5.8	6.1		4.2	5.4		4.9	5.9	16. Appropriate technical assistance is available.
		5.3	5.9		3.3	4.9		4.0	5.4	15. Channels available for providing timely responses to student complaints.
		5.6	6.2		4.5	5.4		4.7	5.9	14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.
		5.6	6.2		5.2	6.2		5.3	6.2	13. The frequency of student and instructor interactions is adequate.
		5.6	6.5		5.2	6.6		5.2	6.5	12. There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.
		5.7	6.6		5.3	6.5		5.6	6.6	11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.
		6.0	6.4		5.9	6.4		5.4	6.4	10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.
		5.6	6.1		4.9	5.6		4.8	6.0	9. Adequate financial aid is available.
		5.2	4.9		4.6	4.5		4.9	5.0	8. Student-to-student collaborations provide valuable experiences.
		5.8	6.5		5.4	6.6		5.5	6.5	7. Program requirements are clear and reasonable.
		5.6	6.6		5.4	6.7		5.2	6.5	6. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.
		5.4	6.1		5.0	6.1		4.8	6.1	<ol><li>My program advisor helps me work toward career goals.</li></ol>
		5.5	6.5		5.1	6.6		5.3	6.4	<ol><li>Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.</li></ol>
		5.9	6.6		5.5	6.5		5.6	6.4	<ol><li>Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.</li></ol>
		6.0	6.4		5.8	6.5		5.5	6.3	<ol><li>My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-mail.</li></ol>
		5.9	6.2		5.7	6.1		5.6	6.0	1. This institution has a good reputation.
less Peers less Peers	GAP	ce Satisfaction	Importanc	GAP	Importance Satisfaction	Importance	GAP	Importance Satisfaction	Importance	
On-campus Online					CWU Online		S	CWU On-campus	2	
Smaller Gaps are Better			J							
Gaps run from ± 2.0										

#### **VII. ENROLLMENT INFORMATION**

CWU students enrolled in online degree programs rated "Sources of enrollment information" very similar to the PSOL peer group.

#### **Table 9 Importance of Enrollment Information**

				Data Ba	ars are ± 2.0
	CWU	CWU		CWU F2F	CWU Online
	F2F	Online	Peers	less Peers	less Peers
37. Source of information: Catalog and brochures (printed)	3.0	4.1	3.76		
38. Source of information: Catalog (online)	6.0	5.6	5.95		
39. Source of information: College representatives	2.7	4.3	4.33		
40. Source of information: Web site	6.2	5.9	6.26		
41. Source of information: Advertisements	2.4	3.4	3.37		
42. Source of information: Recommendation from instructor or program advisor	3.6	5.2	5.09		
43. Source of information: Contact with current students/recent graduates of the program	3.1	4.4	4.51		

#### VIII. ENROLLMENT FACTORS

There were two "Enrollment Factors" that CWU students enrolled in online degree programs found quite a bit less important than PSOL peers:

- 52. Factor to enroll: Distance from campus
- 54. Factor to enroll: Recommendations from employer

## **Table 10 Enrollment Factors**

	CWU	CWU		CWU F2F	CWU Online
	F2F	Online	Peers	less Peers	less Peers
44. Factor to enroll: Ability to transfer credits	5.6	5.7	5.9		
45. Factor to enroll: Cost	6.0	6.2	6.1		
46. Factor to enroll: Financial assistance available	5.6	5.3	5.6		
47. Factor to enroll: Future employment opportunities	5.9	5.5	5.9		
48. Factor to enroll: Reputation of institution	5.7	5.7	6.1		
49. Factor to enroll: Work schedule	5.3	6.3	6.6		
50. Factor to enroll: Flexible pacing for completing a program	5.7	6.3	6.5		
51. Factor to enroll: Convenience	6.4	6.8	6.7		
52. Factor to enroll: Distance from campus	5.0	3.7	5.1		
53. Factor to enroll: Program requirements	6.0	6.2	6.3		
54. Factor to enroll: Recommendations from employer	3.3	2.0	4.5		

Demographics between CWU students enrolled in online majors and the PSOL peer group were similar. One difference stood out, 60% of CWU online students were enrolled full time vs, 80% of PSOL peer students.

The following demographic tables show responses from CWU students enrolled in online degree programs (Online), CWU students enrolled on-campus (F2F), and responses from the PSOL peer group (peers).

There were 60 responses from CWU students majoring in online degree programs, 325 responses from CWU students majoring in on-campus degree programs, and 2,459 responses from CWU's peer group.

DEMOG1 Item 58 – Gender				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Female	78%	68%	60%	18%	
2 – Male	22%	32%	40%	-18%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	6	32		
<b>DEMOG2</b> Item 59 – Age				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – 18 and under	0%	3%	0%	0%	
2 – 19 to 24	17%	43%	10%	6%	
3 – 25 to 34	35%	24%	33%	2%	
4 – 35 to 44	33%	16%	29%	5%	
5 – 45 to 54	12%	10%	21%	-10%	
6 – 55 to 64	3%	3%	5%	-2%	
7 – 65 and older	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	6	34		
<b>DEMOG3</b> Item 60 – Ethnicity / Race				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – African-American	0%	3%	7%	-7%	
2 – American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%	3%	2%	0%	
3 – Asian or Pacific Islander	2%	12%	4%	-2%	
4 – Caucasian/White	83%	63%	79%	4%	
5 – Hispanic	7%	11%	3%	4%	
6 – Other	5%	5%	2%	3%	
7 – Prefer not to respond	2%	3%	4%	-3%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	7	46		

DEMOG4 Item 61 – Current enrollment st	tatus			Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Primarily online	98%	48%	96%	3%	
2 – Primarily on-campus	2%	52%	4%	-3%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	7	34		
DEMOG5 Item 62 – Current class load				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Full-time	60%	84%	41%	19%	
2 – Part-time	40%	16%	59%	-19%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	8	40		
DEMOG6 Item 63 – Class level				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – First year	3%	7%	7%	-4%	
2 – Second year	2%	11%	9%	-8%	
3 – Third year	33%	34%	20%	14%	
4 – Fourth year	37%	37%	20%	17%	
5 - Special Student	0%	1%	2%	-2%	
6 - Graduate / Professional	25%	5%	38%	-13%	
7 - Other	0%	6%	4%	-4%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	7	33		
<b>DEMOG7</b> Item 64 – Educational goal				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 - Associate degree	0%	0%	4%	-4%	
2 –Bachelor's degree	60%	74%	47%	13%	
3 - Master's degree	30%	18%	34%	-4%	
4 - Doctorate or professional degree	3%	5%	7%	-4%	
5 - Certification (initial or renewal)	5%	2%	5%	0%	
6 - Self-improvement / pleasure	0%	0%	1%	-1%	
7 - Job-related training	0%	1%	1%	-1%	
8 - Other	2%	0%	1%	1%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	10	44		
DEMOG8 Item 65 – Employment				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Full-time	64%	30%	73%	-9%	
2 – Part-time	22%	32%	14%	8%	
3 – Not employed	14%	38%	12%	1%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	1	9		0.46	

<b>DEMOG9</b> Item 66 – Current residence				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	
1 – Own house	52%	27%	63%	-12%	
2 – Rent room/apartment/house	35%	50%	28%	7%	
3 – Relative's house	13%	11%	6%	7%	
4 – Residence hall	0%	10%	1%	-1%	
5 – Other residence	0%	2%	2%	-2%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	7	41		•
DEMOG10 Item 67 – Marital status				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Single	25%	61%	27%	-2%	
2 – Single with children	23%	9%	9%	14%	
3 – Married	20%	15%	19%	1%	
4 – Married with children	28%	14%	43%	-15%	
5 – Prefer not to respond	3%	2%	2%	1%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	13	59		
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DEMOG11 Item 68 – Current plans				Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – Complete online degree program	97%	39%	87%	10%	
2 – Complete degree on campus	0%	53%	5%	-5%	
3 – Transfer credits	2%	1%	2%	0%	
4 – Complete this course	2%	8%	7%	-5%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	2	14	50		
DEMOG12 Item 69 – Current online enrol	lment			Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – 1 to 3 credits	5%	13%	23%	-18%	
2 – 4 to 6 credits	22%	39%	34%	-12%	
3 – 7 to 9 credits	16%	11%	20%	-5%	
4 – 10 to 12 credits	12%	18%	13%	-1%	
5 – 13 to 15 credits	31%	13%	5%	26%	
6 – More than 15 credits	14%	6%	5%	9%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	2	18	67		
DEMOG13 Item 70 – Previous online enro	llment			Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 – No classes	10%	24%	18%	-7%	
2 – 1 to 3 classes	29%	27%	36%	-7%	
3 – 4 to 6 classes	10%	15%	17%	-7%	ļ ļ
4 – 7 to 9 classes	12%	11%	9%	3%	
5 – 10 to 12 classes	10%	9%	7%	3%	
6 – 13 to 15 classes	12%	7%	4%	8%	
7 – More than 15 classes	17%	7%	10%	7%	
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	1	12	49		

Note: there is no peer data for DEMOG14 or 15 which were "campus selected items."

DEMOG14 Item 71 - My intended degree i	s:			Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
Online undergraduate degree	66%	28%	NA	NA	NA
Online graduate degree	32%	10%	NA	NA	NA
Face-to-face undergraduate degree	0%	50%	NA	NA	NA
Face-to-face graduate degree	2%	12%	NA	NA	NA
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	1	9			
DEMOG15 Item 72 - My home CWU campu	us is:			Difference	±0.6
	Online	F2F	Peers	Online - Peer	Data bars
1 - Ellensburg	0%	50%	NA	NA	NA
2 - Des Moines, Kent, or Pierce County	0%	20%	NA	NA	NA
3 - Lynnwood or Everett	0%	23%	NA	NA	NA
4 - Moses Lake, Wenatchee, or Yakima	0%	7%	NA	NA	NA
5 - Online: a fully online degree program	100%	0%	NA	NA	NA
Did not answer (n's of 60 & 325)	0	7			

## X. MAJORS OF RESPONDENTS

Table 11 summarizes the majors of CWU respondents to the survey. The survey went out to all students enrolled in "WW" or online courses. It is not surprising that a large number of on-campus students (44%) were not enrolled in an online degree program. It is surprising that 56% of the on-campus students said they were enrolled in an online degree program.

## Table 11 Majors of CWU Respondents to the 2014 Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners

			Data bars
	Online	F2F	± 20%
1063: Health and Physical Education: Athletic Administration (MS)	0%	1%	
1087: Information Tech & Admin Mgt (BAS)	18%	11%	
1088: Information Tech & Admin Mgt (BS)	10%	9%	
1089: Instructional Leadership (MED)	2%	0%	
1090: Interdisciplinary Studies: Social Sciences (BS)	8%	10%	
1092: Specialized Studies (BA/BS)	0%	3%	
1094: Law & Justice (BA)	5%	8%	
1107: Paramedicine (BS)	7%	0%	
1125: Psychology (BA)	10%	5%	
1137: School Administration (MED)	3%	1%	
1145: Sociology (BA)	8%	2%	
1151: Special Education (MED)	0%	1%	
1153: English Creative Writing (BA)	7%	2%	
1165: Health and Physical Education: Teaching Physical Education and Health (MS)	0%	1%	
1166: Higher Education (MED)	18%	2%	
1167: Literacy (MED)	2%	0%	
1168: Not enrolled in an online degree program	2%	44%	
Total Answered	60	312	
Did not answer	0	13	

# APPENDIX 1 TERMS AND ABBREVATIONS

N-L PSOL	Neel Louitz Drigritics Survey for Opling Learners
IN-L PSUL	Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners
	This national online survey has been designed to "Assess the satisfaction and
	priorities of students in distance learning and online programs." See
	https://www.noellevitz.com/student-retention-solutions/satisfaction-priorities-
	assessments/priorities-survey-for-online-learners
Hedge's g	Hedge's g is a variant of a statistic called "Cohen's d," a statistical measure of
	"effect size." Effect size is a "method of quantifying the difference between
	two groups that has some advantages over the use of tests of statistical
	significance alone." A pooled standard deviation is used as the denominator in
	this analysis. A pooled standard deviation is called for when the sample sizes of
	the variables studied are significantly different. See this conference
	presentation on effect size:
	http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/documents/00002182.htm
	Note: Some studies have indicated that Effect Size calculations with ordinal data
	may over-state the difference in means. The PSOL survey uses a seven point
	Likert scale for many of its questions. A seven point scale tends to provide
	statistics closer to real numbers than a four point scale.
	Hedge's g provides a research backed method of establishing rubric elements.
	Differences between ± 0.3 were assumed to be small.
	Differences between 0.3 and 0.8 and -0.3 to -0.8 were "moderate."
	Differences larger than 0.8 or smaller than -0.8 were "large."
Likert scale	Both the important and satisfaction questions on the PSOL used a seven point
LIKET C Searc	Likert scale.
~	
n	"n" stands for the number of students who answered a particular question. The
	sample size is needed to compute Cohen's d Effect Size.
On-campus	For this study "on-campus" students are: (a) physically enrolled and located at
	the Ellensburg campus or one of CWU's centers and (b) taking a course that is
	taught 100% online.
Online	Courses taught 100% online via Blackboard or Canvas, usually asynchronously.
St Dev	An abbreviation for "standard deviation" a statistical measure of variability

## **APPENDIX 2**

# AN APPROXIMATE MOCK-UP OF THE NOEL-LEVITZ PRIORITIES SURVEY FOR ONLINE LEARNERS SURVEY INSTRUMENT

						<b>BCO</b>					NERS								
							L MOC com/P		, МОСКИР										
									expectation about your ex						n.				
									nt it is for your institution			•							
			Un tr	ne rig	gnt te	ii us r	10W <u>sa</u>	itistie	ed you are that your institu	ution	nas m	iet thi	s exp	ectati	on.				
			imp	orta	nt							My	My level of satisfact				on		
	1 - not	impo	rtant at	t all													not	available/no	t used - (
		2 -	not vei	ry imp	oortan	t										very s	atisfi	ed - 7	
			3 - so		/hat ur		rtant									fied - (			
				4 -	neutr									somev	vhat :	satisfie	ed - 5		
					5-9		vhat im importa		int			som	neutr	ai - 4 t dissat	isfier	1 - 3			
						0-1	•		portant		not	very sa			lisitet	1-5			
									does not apply	not		ed at al							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0		
IMP1	0	о	ο	о	0	0	ο	о	01. This institution has a good reputation.	0	0	ο	0	0	ο	0	о	SAT1	
IMP2	0	0	0	0	o	o	0	o	02. My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-	0	o	o	0	0	o	o	0	SAT2	
IMP3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	mail. 03. Instructional materials are appropriate for program	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT3	
IMP4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	content. 04. Faculty provide timely		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT4	
IMP5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	progress. 05. My program advisor helps		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT5	
					-				06. Tuition paid is a worthwhile										
IMP6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	investment.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT6	
IMP7	0	0	0	0	o	0	0	0	07. Program requirements are clear and reasonable. 08. Student-to-student	0	0	0	0	0	0	ο	0	SAT7	
IMP8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	collaborations are valuable to me. 09. Adequate financial aid is	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT8	
IMP9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	available. 10. This institution responds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT9	
IMP10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	quickly when I request information. 11. Student assignments are	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT10	
IMP11 IMP12	0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0	clearly defined in the syllabus. 12. There are sufficient offerings	0	0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	SAT11 SAT12	
									within my program of study. 13. The frequency of student										
IMP13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	and instructor interactions is adequate. 14. I receive timely information	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT13	
IMP14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	on the availability of financial aid. 15. Channels are available for	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT14	
IMP15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	providing timely responses to student complaints. 16. Appropriate technical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT15	
IMP16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	assistance is readily available. 17. Assessment and evaluation procedures are clear and	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT16	
IMP17 IMP18	0	0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0	0 0	reasonable. 18. Registration for online	0	0 0	0	0	0	0 0	0 0	0 0	SAT17 SAT18	
IMP19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	courses is convenient. 19. Online career services are	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT18	
IMP20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	available. 20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT20	

	1 - not	at imp	ortan	t at al	1				continued									available/not	t used - (
		2 -	2 - Not very important													very s		ed - 7	
		3 - somewhat unimp				rtant									fied - 6				
				4 -	neutr									some	vhat s	atisfie	ed - 5		
					5 -		vhat in		nt				neutr						
						6 -	Importa							: dissat	isfied	- 3			
							7 - V	· ·	portant			very sa		1 - 2					
			-		_	-	_		does not apply		satisfie	1		_		_			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0	21 Adamsta anlina librari	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0		
IMP21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21. Adequate online library resources are provided.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SAT21	
IMP22	o	о	ο	o	ο	o	0	0	22. I am aware of whom to contact for questions about programs and services.	0	ο	о	ο	0	ο	0	o	SAT22	
IMP23	ο	o	ο	ο	ο	ο	0	ο	23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.	о	ο	о	о	о	o	о	ο	SAT23	
IMP24	о	ο	ο	0	ο	0	0	0	24. Tutoring services are readily available for online courses.	0	ο	ο	ο	0	ο	0	ο	SAT24	
IMP25	ο	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.	0	ο	0	0	0	0	0	ο	SAT25	
IMP26	о	ο	0	o	0	ο	0	ο	26. The bookstore provides timely service to students.	0	ο	0	0	0	ο	0	ο	SAT26	
IMP27	ο	o	ο	o	ο	o	0	o	27. Campus item: Help desk services and technical support are adequate to meet my needs.	0	ο	o	ο	0	o	0	o	SAT27	
IMP28	ο	o	ο	ο	ο	o	0	ο	<ol> <li>Campus item: Student-to- student interaction is fostered and encouraged in my online course(s).</li> </ol>	0	ο	o	0	0	ο	0	o	SAT28	
IMP29	о	o	o	o	o	o	0	o	29. Campus item: Faculty-to- student interaction is fostered and encouraged in my online course(s).	0	ο	o	0	0	ο	0	o	SAT29	
IMP30	o	o	o	o	o	o	0	ο	30. Campus item: The online course management system is easy to use.	0	o	o	ο	0	o	ο	o	SAT30	
IMP31	ο	o	ο	o	o	ο	0	ο	31. Campus item: General academic advising is available to online learners.	о	ο	о	о	о	o	ο	ο	SAT31	
IMP32	ο	o	o	ο	ο	o	0	ο	32. Campus item: I feel I am a member of the Central Washington University community.	0	o	0	0	0	0	0	o	SAT32	
IMP33	ο	o	ο	ο	ο	o	0	ο	33. Campus item: The organization and design of my online course(s) is conducive to learning.	0	ο	o	ο	0	0	0	o	SAT33	
IMP34	o	o	ο	ο	ο	o	0	ο	34. Campus item: Orientation to university systems and support resources is provided to online learners.	0	ο	0	0	0	0	0	o	SAT34	
IMP35	ο	o	ο	ο	0	0	0	ο	35. Campus item: A fair and equitable learning environment exists in my online course(s).	0	ο	ο	0	0	ο	0	ο	SAT35	
IMP36	ο	ο	ο	o	ο	ο	0	0	36. Campus item: Courses necessary to meet my degree objectives are offered online.	0	ο	ο	ο	0	o	ο	o	SAT36	

						-				owing sources of information
		were in	your d	ecision	to e	nroll i	n this	progra	m.	
		1 - not	atima	ortant	24 21					
		1 - 1101					+			
			2 - 1			important newhat unimportant				
				5 50		neutr				
					•			what in	nporta	ant
							1	Import	•	
										portant
									1	does not apply
	<b>D</b> 27		_	•	•	_				37. Source of information:
	P37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Catalog and brochures (printed)
IM	P38	0	0	ο	0	0	ο	o	0	38. Source of information:
	1.50	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	0	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	Catalog (online)
IM	P39	0	ο	о	о	ο	ο	о	ο	39. Source of information:
-										College representatives 40. Source of information: Web
IM	P40	0	0	0	0	0	о	0	о	site
							<u> </u>			41. Source of information:
IM	P41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Advertisements
										42. Source of information:
IM	P42	0	0	0	о	о	0	ο	о	Recommendation from
										instructor or program advisor
										43. Source of information:
IM	P43	0	0	ο	ο	0	0	o	0	Contact with current students
		Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ū	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	and / or recent graduates of the
		-								program
IM	P44	0	о	0	о	ο	ο	0	о	44. Factor to enroll: Ability to transfer credits
15.41		0	-	0	•	0	•	•	•	
	P45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45. Factor to enroll: Cost 46. Factor to enroll: Financial
IM	P46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	assistance available
							<u> </u>			47. Factor to enroll: Future
IM	P47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	employment opportunities
10.0	D 4 2	_	-		_	-	1_	<b>_</b>	-	48. Factor to enroll: Reputation
	P48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	of institution
IM	P49	ο	ο	ο	0	ο	ο	ο	о	49. Factor to enroll: Work
	- 43	Ŭ	Ŭ	0	0	0	U	Ŭ	U	schedule
		_	_	_	_	_	_	_		
IM	P50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50. Factor to enroll: Flexible pacing for completing a program
-			+				<u> </u>	+		51. Factor to enroll:
IM	P51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Convenience
							1		<u> </u>	52. Factor to enroll: Distance
IM	P52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	from campus
10.0	052	_			~	6				53. Factor to enroll: Program
	P53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	requirements
										54. Factor to enroll:
IM	P54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Recommendations from
									1	employer

SUM1 55. So far, how has your college experience met your expectations?

- 1 Much worse than I expected
- 2 Quite a bit worse than I expected
- 3 Worse than I expected
- 4 About what I expected
- 5 Better than I expected
- 6 Quite a bit better than I expected
- 7 Much better than I expected

SUM2 56. Rate your overall satisfaction with your experience here thus far.

- 1 Not satisfied at all
- 2 Not very satisfied
- 3 Somewhat dissatisfied
- 4 Neutral
- 5 Somewhat satisfied
- 6 Satisfied
- 7 Very satisfied

SUM3 57. All in all, if you had to do it over, would you enroll here again?

- 1 Definitely not
- 2 Probably not
- 3 Maybe not
- 4 I don't know
- 5 Maybe yes
- 6 Probably yes
- 7 Definitely yes

See pages 12 through 15 for the text of Demographic questions.

See Table 11 on page 16 for the major codes.