

Civic Engagement

Assessment Week 2023

Civic Engagement LOs

Civic Engagement Domain	Definition	Course Embedded Learning Outcomes
Political Knowledge	Fundamental understanding of the structures and processes by which laws and policies are created	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrates understanding of how the process, principles, and structure of governments and political institutions affect individuals in society. 2. Examines the importance of key historical struggles and social movements that sought/seek to encourage change
Civic Knowledge	Understanding of the diverse forces that shape political systems and civic life	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connects knowledge from one's own academic study/field/ discipline to civic engagement 2. Analyze and discuss the role that race, ethnicity, class, gender, language, sexual orientation, belief or other forms of social differentiation play in world culture or societies.
Social Responsibility	Framework of obligations and actions by individuals or organizations in the interest of working towards an equitable society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognizes that different attitudes and beliefs are as valuable as one's own. 2. Examines the importance of behaving ethically and with due sensitivity towards social, cultural, economic, environmental, and academic issues. 3. Understands the individual's role in working towards equity.

Assessment of Civic Engagement

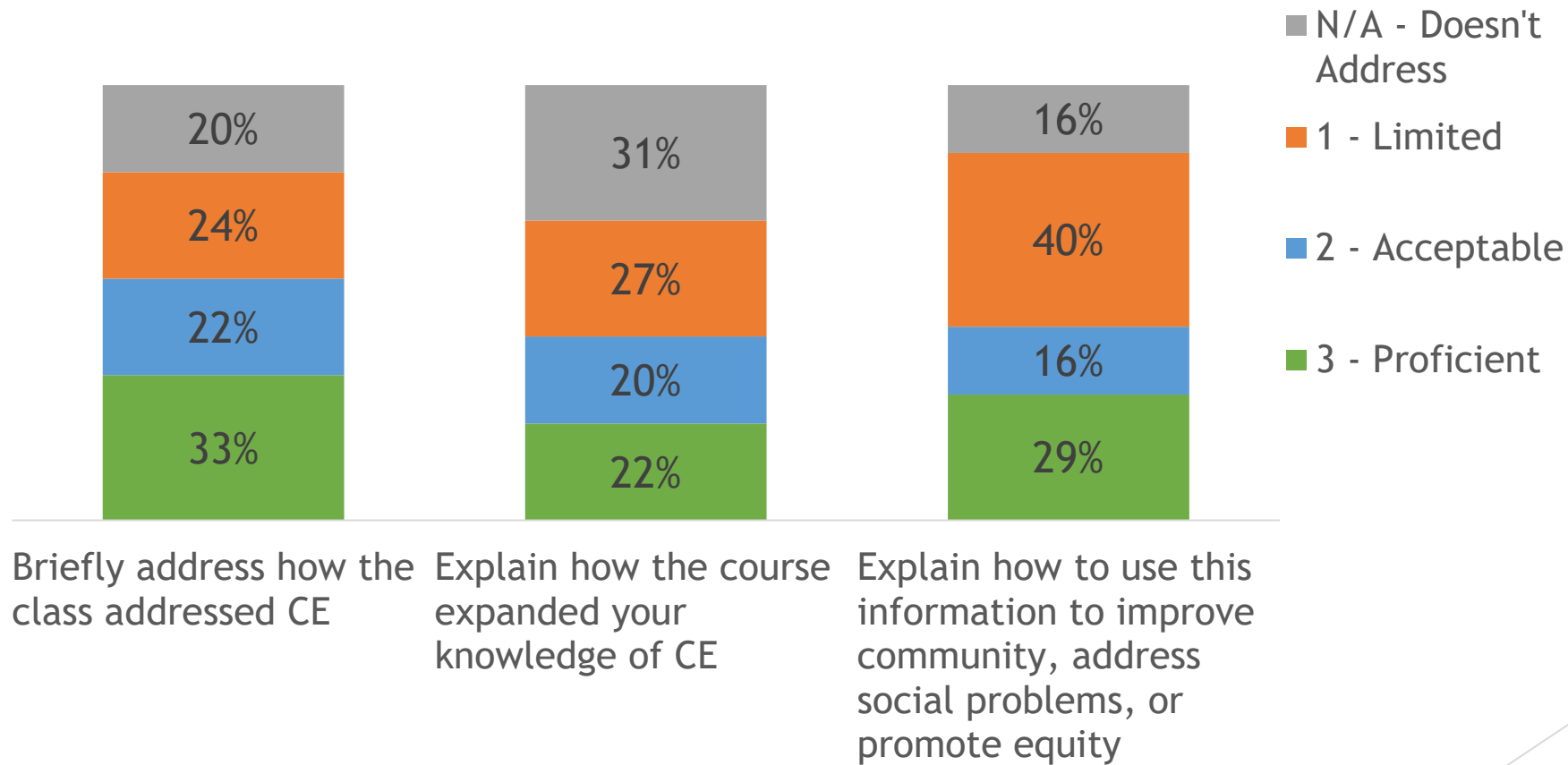
- ▶ Assignment in each course that contains these three prompts:
 1. Briefly describe how your class/activity addressed political knowledge, civic knowledge, and/or social responsibility. You may reference an assignment, class discussion, and/or project in your answer.
 2. Explain how the course/activity expanded your understanding of political knowledge, civic knowledge, and/or social responsibility.
 3. Thinking about your course/activity and the information presented about political knowledge, civic knowledge and/or social responsibility, how could you use this information to improve your community, address social problems, or promote equity?

Assessment of Civic Engagement

- ▶ Each assignment was graded with a Scoring Rubric using a 3-point scale (plus an N/A option):
 1. **Limited - 1:** Response is defined by a **lack of clarity**
 2. **Acceptable - 2:** Response **adequately** addresses the question
 3. **Proficient - 3:** Response **clearly** articulates the student's understanding of and reflection on CE issues
- ▶ Evaluators graded each assignment and selected their top and bottom-ranked writing samples

Results

Based on 45 writing samples from a representative selection of courses collected in Spring and Fall 2022



Results: Qualitative

▶ Characteristics of High-Scoring Samples:

- ▶ Description of specific assignments, readings, or experiences in the course that relate to Civic Engagement
- ▶ Explanation of *specific* Civic Engagement-related concepts
- ▶ Explanation of how to apply content includes a thorough and thoughtful analysis of how *the writer* will engage in the future

▶ Characteristics of High-Scoring *assignments*:

- ▶ Include the three questions directly in the assignment
- ▶ Take place toward the end of the semester to allow for reflection of the entire course

Ideas for Next Steps:

- ▶ Create a repository of assignments and high-scoring responses to serve as a model for Faculty (and potentially students as well)
- ▶ Discuss pedagogical best practices for incorporating Civic Engagement into the course
 - ▶ Embedding Civic Engagement into the curriculum
 - ▶ Scaffolding Civic Engagement-minded thinking and reflection
- ▶ Hold a Winter Workshop and other training activities through KCTL/KCeL to discuss teaching of civic engagement courses
- ▶ Create a Civic Engagement certification program for faculty to demonstrate their dedication to Civic Engagement
- ▶ Identify potential departmental or subject-area liaisons to serve as mentors/consultants for Civic Engagement courses in specific content areas