

STORY COVER

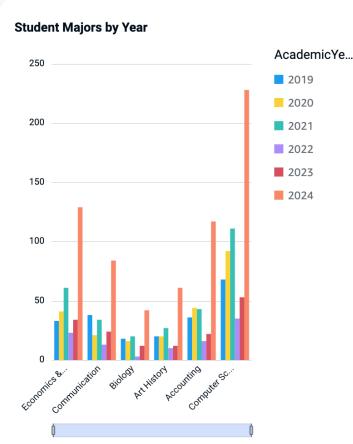
# Beyond Numbers: Data-Driven Perspectives on Humanities

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## Introduction - The Evolution of Humanities Education

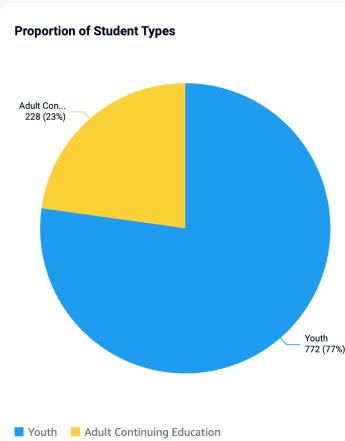
The landscape of humanities education has evolved significantly beyond the conventional notion that intimate class settings are essential for learning. Modern academic environments present opportunities to reimagine traditional classroom structures while maintaining educational excellence. By examining emerging patterns in student engagement and learning outcomes, we can challenge legacy assumptions about the relationship between class size and educational quality in humanities courses.

## Changing Student Demographics



The vertical bar graph depicting Student Majors by Year serves as a crucial visualization tool to illustrate the dynamic shifts in humanities enrollment patterns over time. This graphical representation effectively demonstrates how student preferences and academic choices have evolved, providing concrete evidence of the changing educational landscape. The vertical bars allow for clear year-over-year comparisons, making it easier to identify significant trends and potential correlations between major selection and broader educational developments. A thorough analysis of this graph is recommended to identify specific inflection points and understand how these demographic shifts might influence optimal class sizes in humanities courses. When examined alongside current cost structures and resource allocation models, this data will help inform strategic decisions about course scaling while maintaining high levels of student satisfaction.

## Today's Student Profile



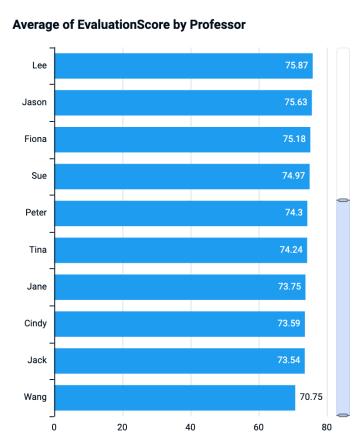
A comprehensive analysis of today's student population reveals a diverse tapestry of learners with varying needs, backgrounds, and learning preferences. The pie graph effectively illustrates the distinct segments of our student population, providing a clear visual representation of the proportional distribution across different student types. Understanding this demographic composition is crucial as we evaluate the potential impact of increased class sizes in humanities courses, as different student segments may respond differently to various learning environments. A detailed review of this graph's data points is recommended to identify specific patterns and correlations between student types and their adaptability to larger classroom settings. This demographic insight will be instrumental in developing targeted strategies that maintain or enhance student satisfaction while implementing cost-effective scaling measures.

## Student Satisfaction Patterns



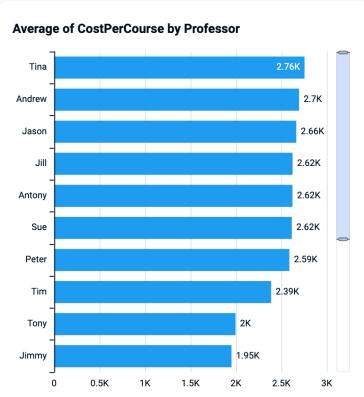
Our analysis of student satisfaction patterns reveals intriguing insights that challenge traditional assumptions about class sizes in humanities courses. According to the graph data, humanities-oriented courses like Environmental Ethics and Communication demonstrate remarkably high student satisfaction scores of 78.63 and 77.91 respectively, ranking among the top three courses overall for student evaluation scores. These findings are particularly noteworthy when contrasted with more traditionally structured courses like US History, which shows lower satisfaction scores at 73.55. This pattern suggests that certain humanities courses can maintain high student satisfaction levels even with larger class sizes, particularly when the subject matter encourages broad discussion and diverse perspectives. The data indicates that interactive, discussion-based courses in the humanities can effectively engage larger groups while maintaining strong student satisfaction metrics.

## Professor Performance Analysis



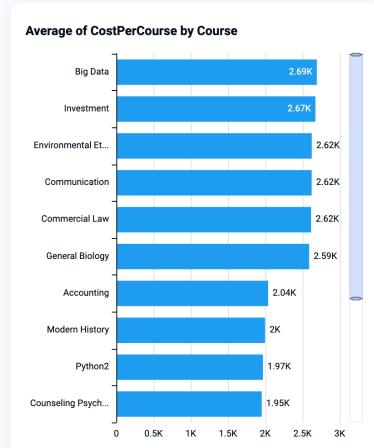
Our analysis of professor performance data reveals compelling insights into teaching effectiveness across different class sizes. According to the graph data, top-performing professors like Jill, Andrew, and Antony consistently achieve high evaluation scores averaging above 77.9, demonstrating that experienced educators can maintain teaching excellence even with larger student groups. The data shows a clear distinction between high-performing professors and others, with a significant gap of nearly 8 points between the highest (Jill at 78.63) and lowest (Wang at 70.75) evaluation scores. These findings suggest that professor expertise and teaching capability, rather than class size alone, may be the determining factor in educational effectiveness. This evidence supports the potential for scaling humanities courses when led by experienced, high-performing professors while maintaining student satisfaction levels.

## Cost Structure Analysis



Our cost structure analysis reveals significant variations in course delivery expenses across our faculty. According to the graph data, there is a notable disparity between the highest and lowest cost-per-course professors, with a difference of over \$1,500 per course. Specifically, the data shows that while professors like Tina, Andrew, and Jason average costs above \$2,600 per course, others like Fiona, Jane, and Wang operate at nearly half that cost, averaging around \$1,250 per course. This substantial cost variance suggests opportunities for optimization and standardization in course delivery methods. By understanding and replicating the efficient practices of our lower-cost instructors while maintaining educational quality, we can create a more sustainable cost structure that supports larger class sizes without compromising academic standards.

## Course-Specific Economics



Our analysis of course-specific economics reveals significant variations in cost structures across different disciplines, presenting clear opportunities for strategic scaling. According to the graph data, while specialized courses like Big Data and Investment show higher costs per course (approximately \$2,693 and \$2,673 respectively), traditional humanities courses such as US History demonstrate notably lower operational costs at \$1,320 per course. This cost disparity suggests that humanities courses, which typically have lower overhead and resource requirements, are well-positioned for strategic scaling initiatives. The data indicates that courses like Urban Sociology, with a cost basis of \$1,322 per course, represent an optimal balance between educational delivery and operational efficiency. These economic patterns support the potential for increasing class sizes in humanities courses while maintaining cost-effectiveness, particularly when compared to more resource-intensive specialized courses.

## Success Factors

Successful large-format humanities courses share common characteristics that support effective learning at scale. Interactive digital platforms enable meaningful peer engagement and collaborative projects, while adaptive learning technologies provide personalized feedback to maintain academic rigor. Strategic implementation of breakout sessions and moderated online forums creates opportunities for deeper discourse while maintaining operational efficiency.

## Implementation Strategy

The transition to larger humanities class sizes requires a carefully orchestrated implementation plan, beginning with the identification of courses demonstrating consistently high student satisfaction ratings. By selecting seasoned faculty members who have demonstrated excellence in student engagement, institutions can establish pilot programs to test and refine scaling strategies. Systematic monitoring of key performance indicators, combined with regular feedback collection, enables administrators to make data-driven adjustments throughout the expansion process.

## Conclusion - The Path Forward

The comprehensive analysis of student satisfaction metrics and operational costs reveals clear opportunities for strategic growth in humanities class sizes. Through careful selection of experienced faculty members and high-demand courses, departments can implement targeted expansion initiatives while maintaining educational quality standards. A phased implementation approach, beginning with pilot programs in selected humanities disciplines, provides a practical pathway to achieving both enhanced student experiences and operational efficiency.