

General Education Course Registrations^{*}

An Overview of Registration Patterns for Fall 2018

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Fall 2018

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Abstract

Assessment is not a spreadsheet; it's a conversation.
— Irmeli Halinen

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Introduction

Methods

Data provenance

Data provenance refers to a system that permits tracking of the origin, movement, modification, and utilization of data sets (?). The provenance of General Education data will be explicitly declared to facilitate the reproducibility and extensibility of these studies.

Location of public website files

All files related to this report can be found online at the Open Science Framework (?). This site contains all of the files needed to reproduce this report from the de-identified data set. The site's url is <https://osf.io/t6u8m/>.

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Session information

This report was written using RStudio (?) and the R statistical programming language (?). These products are free to download for PC, Macintosh, and Linux operating systems. The following information pertains to the session parameters used to generate this report. If you have trouble reproducing this report, it may be due to different session parameters. You may contact Dr. Franklund if you need assistance.

R version 3.5.1 (2018-07-02)

****Platform:**** x86_64-apple-darwin15.6.0 (64-bit)

locale: en_US.UTF-8|en_US.UTF-8|en_US.UTF-8|C|en_US.UTF-8|en_US.UTF-8

attached base packages: stats, graphics, grDevices, utils, datasets, methods and base

other attached packages: pander(v.0.6.2), googlesheets(v.0.3.0), forcats(v.0.3.0), stringr(v.1.3.1), dplyr(v.0.7.6), purrr(v.0.2.5), readr(v.1.1.1), tidyr(v.0.8.1), tibble(v.1.4.2), ggplot2(v.3.0.0) and tidyverse(v.1.2.1)

loaded via a namespace (and not attached): tidyselect(v.0.2.4), xfun(v.0.3), haven(v.1.1.2), lattice(v.0.20-35), colorspace(v.1.3-2), htmltools(v.0.3.6), yaml(v.2.2.0), rlang(v.0.2.2), pillar(v.1.3.0), glue(v.1.3.0), withr(v.2.1.2), modelr(v.0.1.2), readxl(v.1.1.0), bindrcpp(v.0.2.2), bindr(v.0.1.1), plyr(v.1.8.4), munsell(v.0.5.0), gtable(v.0.2.0), cellranger(v.1.1.0), rvest(v.0.3.2), evaluate(v.0.11), knitr(v.1.20), broom(v.0.5.0), Rcpp(v.0.12.18), scales(v.1.0.0), backports(v.1.1.2), jsonlite(v.1.5), hms(v.0.4.2), digest(v.0.6.17), stringi(v.1.2.4), bookdown(v.0.7), grid(v.3.5.1), rprojroot(v.1.3-2), cli(v.1.0.0), tools(v.3.5.1), magrittr(v.1.5), lazyeval(v.0.2.1), crayon(v.1.3.4), pkgconfig(v.2.0.2), xml2(v.1.2.0), lubridate(v.1.7.4), assertthat(v.0.2.0), rmarkdown(v.1.10), httr(v.1.3.1), rstudioapi(v.0.7), R6(v.2.2.2), nlme(v.3.1-137) and compiler(v.3.5.1)

Processing instructions

This project produced a computationally reproducible assessment report (this document). Anyone wishing to recreate this report from the source document will need to install the following on their computer:

1. An installation of the R programming language
2. An installation of the RStudio IDE
3. An installation of LaTeX

The necessary source files include the de-identified data set (BIOL200Data.csv), Rmarkdown code files (index.Rmd, 01-Introduction.Rmd, 02-Methods.Rmd, 03-Results.Rmd, 04-Discussion.Rmd, and 05-References.Rmd), bibtex reference file (references.bib), and custom art file in the /art folder.

To process the files, you must first open the project in RStudio. Click on the “Build Book” button in the Build menu. Bookdown allows you to build this project as git_book (html site), pdf_book (via LaTeX), or epub_book (compatible with iBooks and other e-book readers).

Citation of this work

All of the de-identified data, analysis code, and documentation that constitute this report project may be freely used, modified, and shared. The de-identified data set, BIOL200Data.csv, is released under the Creative Commons CC0 license. All documentation, including README.md, Codebook.md, and this report, are released under the Creative Commons CC-BY licence. Any questions, comments, or suggestions may be sent to Dr. Franklund.

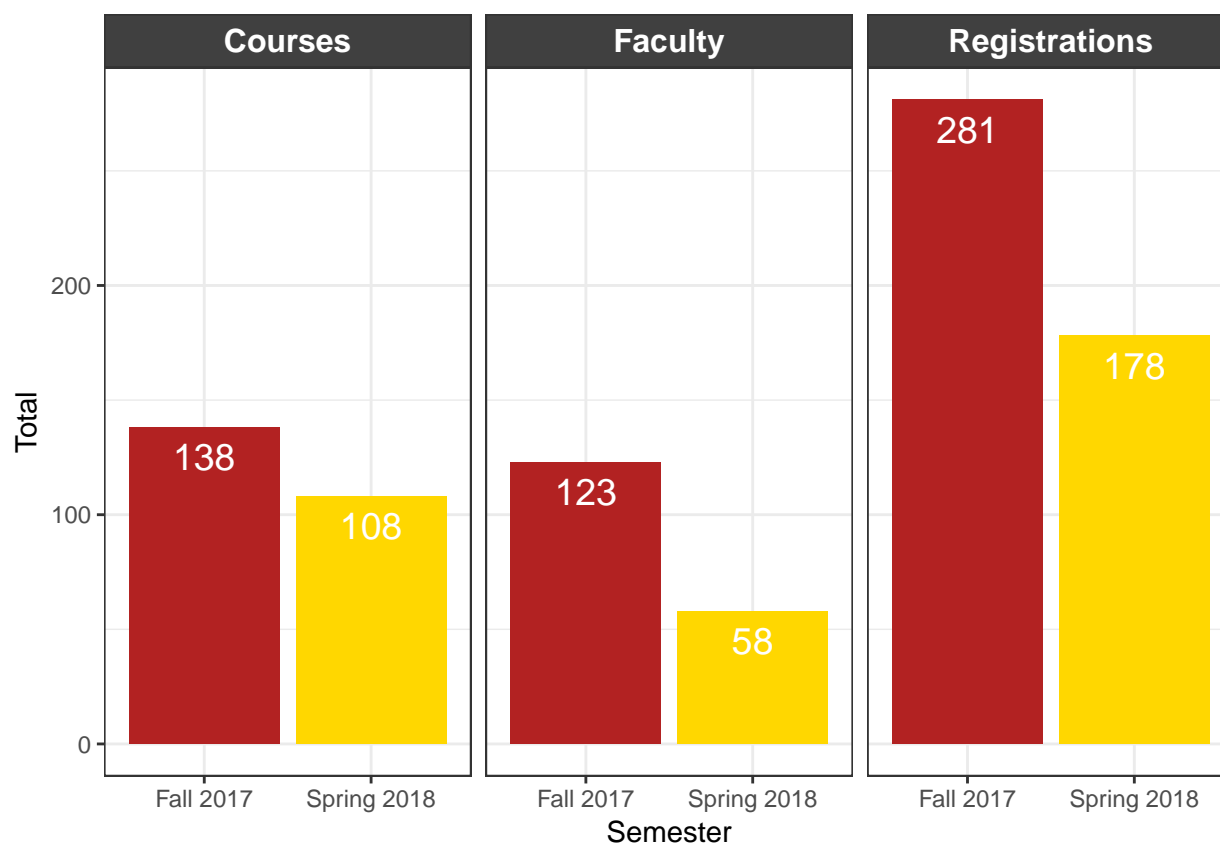


Figure 1: Comparison of registrations between Fall 2017 and Spring 2018.

Retrieving the registration data

Data collection

All registration records for the fall of 2017 were collated and de-identified. The data file, 'registrations.csv', contains only the course name (e.g. BIOL 101), the core competency (e.g. Natural Sciences), and the standardized measure (e.g. Selected Response Exam). The datafile is available [here](#).

Results and Discussion

A total of 178 registrations have been completed as of November 14, 2018. This represents the efforts of 58 faculty, and includes a total of 108 different courses. These numbers are down from last semester as shown by Figure ??.

As compared to Fall 2017, the total number of registrations was down by 36.7%. Moreover, the number of faculty members registering to report assessment was strongly down (by 52.8%). This primarily reflects the fact the the Ferris Non-Tenured Faculty Organization members have elected to not participate in assessment. Since those members registered but did not report data last semester, the actual amount of data that we collect this semester may still be similar to that of last semester. Finally, the number of courses reporting is also down this semester (by 21.7%). This may reflect an actual difference in the number of General Education courses offered each semester. Or... it may just reflect a decreasing rate of participation in this process.