Identifying Learning Strategies in Princeton University Course Evaluations

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Abstract

Learning strategies are sets of skills and approaches intended to improve student engagement and success in academic coursework. Examples of these strategies include methods for learning effectively from course material, preparing for exams, and improving concentration. At Princeton University, the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning promotes student engagement with learning strategies through workshops and individualized programming. However, there is no existing work quantifying the extent to which Princeton students engage with learning strategies. This paper identifies the prevalence of five categories of learning strategies mentioned by Princeton University undergraduate students in 137,128 undergraduate course evaluations from the Fall 2014 through the Spring 2021 semesters. A logistic regression model is used to determine statistically significant relationships between strategy mentions and course level, size, and discipline. Results can be used to better support the undergraduate academic experience at Princeton by supplementing the McGraw Center's learning strategies programming and other campus resources.