High Impact Practices during the First Year & Civic Outcomes

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Agenda

• Introduce Civic Outcomes
• Service Learning and High Impact Practices
• Research Findings
• Small Group Activity
• Q&A
Civic Learning

• Public vs. private benefits of higher education
• Students interacting across difference
• Active citizenship
• Democracy
Democratic Engagement

• The combination of democratic awareness and democratic participation

• Democratic awareness:
  o cognitive, attitudinal, and affective involvement in BOTH civil society and the polity

• Democratic participation
  o individual and collective actions designed to address public issues through the institutions of BOTH civil society and the polity
Previous Literature

Exclusive focus on service learning
Service Learning

• High Impact Practice (HIP)
• What it is
• Default way to promote civic learning
• Conceptual problem behind service learning
Other HIPs

• Learning communities
• Research with faculty
• Senior capstone
• Study abroad
Research Questions

1. How are student and institutional characteristics associated with democratic awareness and engagement?
2. How does participation in service-learning, learning communities, and undergraduate research influence students’ democratic awareness and engagement?
3. How does the estimated effect size of participating in learning communities and undergraduate research compare to the estimated effect size for service learning on democratic awareness and participation?
Data and Methods

• Sample
  o NSSE civic engagement module
  o ~10,000 FY students
  o ~14,000 seniors students
  o >50 institutions

• Variables
  o Outcomes: democratic awareness & participation
  o HIPs
  o Controls: Wide variety of student and institutional characteristics

• Analyses
  o Random intercept models
  o z-tests compared HIP coefficients to service learning
FY Democratic Awareness

- Service learning: 0.17
- Research w/ faculty: 0.32
- Learning community: 0.21
FY Democratic Participation

- Service learning: Effect Size = 0.30
- Research w/ faculty: Effect Size = 0.45
- Learning community: Effect Size = 0.21
Seniors Democratic Awareness

- Service learning: 0.10
- Senior capstone: 0.09
- Research w/ faculty: 0.15
- Study abroad: 0.17
- Learning community: 0.23

Effect Size
Seniors Democratic Participation

- Service learning: 0.22
- Senior capstone: -0.01
- Research w/ faculty: 0.21
- Study abroad: 0.17
- Learning community: 0.36

Effect Size
Implications

• Service learning is not the only HIP that promotes democratic awareness and engagement
• First-year vs. Senior findings
Small Group Work

• Introduction to Civic Outcomes
  o Civic minded graduate (CMG) rubric

• Groups of 3-4
  o Pick a CMG domain/outcome
  o Evaluate this outcome in relation to your FYE programming
Report Out

• Large group discussion

• Q&A
Thank You!

For a copy of the paper, go to:
http://nsse.iub.edu/html/NSSEPubSearch.cfm

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