

The UW-Green Bay First Year Seminar Program

Overview and Select Data

The problem: Low engagement among our first year students

Our solution: Provide first semester students with a high impact, content-based class that incorporates information and activities found to promote student engagement and achievement → The First Year Seminar

First Year Seminar Program Objectives:

- To promote engagement (with the class, students, professors, and UW Green Bay) and to facilitate a positive adjustment to college
- To introduce students to a problem-focused, interdisciplinary education
- To promote the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills
- To develop students' communication skills
- To promote information literacy

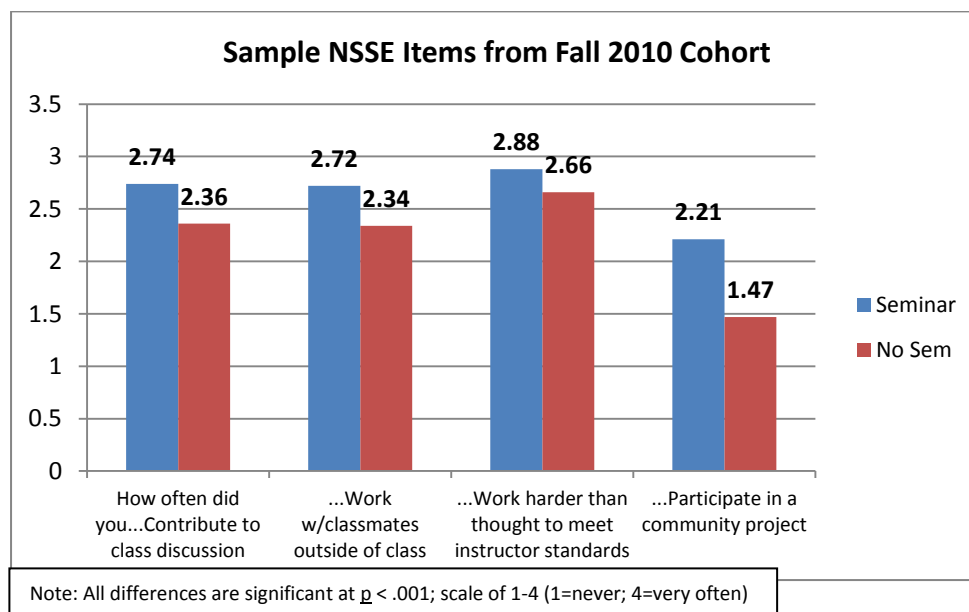
Why it works –Seminar class elements:

- Small class (n=25 maximum) of first semester freshmen
- Content-based course that fulfills a UW Green Bay General Education course requirement
- Significant interaction with faculty
- Writing emphasis course
- Includes an overview of college-level information literacy competencies and opportunities to practice
- Introduces students to the interdisciplinary mission of the university
- Students attend at least 3 university-sponsored co-curricular activities/programs over the course of the semester
- Students are provided with student success resources (e.g., information on: note-taking, studying, time management, classroom expectations)

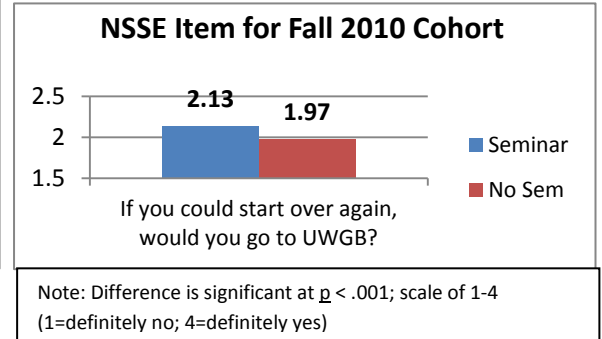
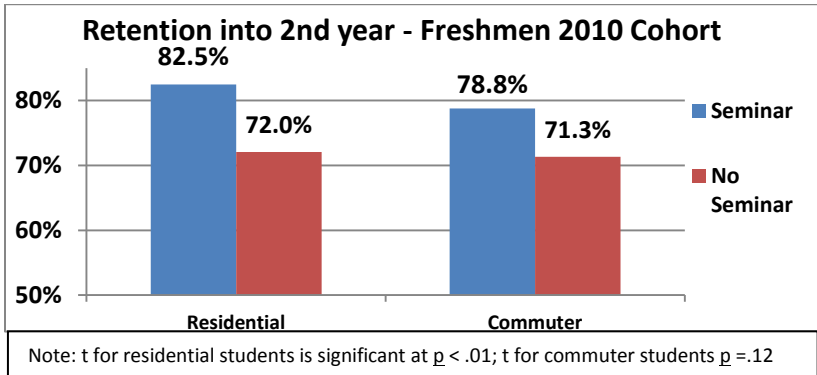
Why it works – Institutional factors:

- Focused plan with clear objectives, common elements and continuous assessment
- Cross-campus collaboration in development and implementation, and integration of program into the broader activities of the university
- Emphasis on engaging pedagogy and rigorous, yet supportive learning environment
- Faculty development and instructor support network

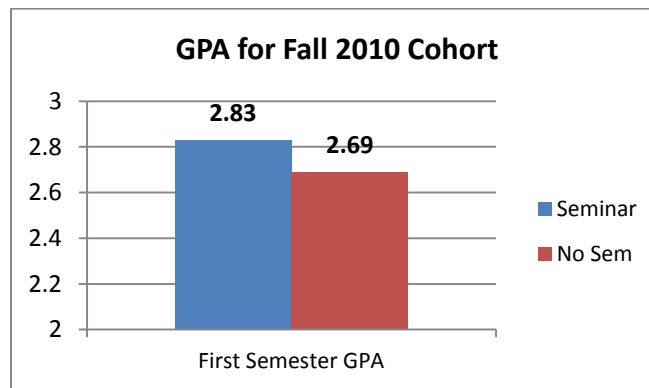
How we know it works → THE DATA on Engagement:



THE DATA on Retention:



THE DATA on Achievement:



THE Longitudinal DATA:

