



INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

GOAL 1: INCREASE AWARENESS AND EXPERIENCE OF THE BENEFITS OF INTERCULTURAL LEARNING AND DEVELOPING INTERCULTURAL FLUENCY

Objective: Increasing Intercultural Awareness and Experiences

Purpose: The University engages in reflection and action to build intercultural aptitudes, create a strong sense of inclusion and enrich our intellectual and social life. This metric measures how students feel about the atmosphere of inclusion at UBC.

Definition: The metric for intercultural understanding was created with responses from the 2013 Undergraduate Experience Survey (UES) that was included only for the Vancouver campus. It is a combined score that includes 10 related survey items that were measured on a 6-point scale. The cultural appreciation and social awareness scale was developed for both campuses using results from the 2013 UES, and then only the results from fourth-year students were included for understanding the changes in level of comfort in working with other cultures, and ability to understand racial and ethnic differences.

Overall Metrics:

	Okanagan		Vancouver	
	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13
Campus Climate for Diversity	4.9 (0.71)	4.9 (0.78)	Not asked at this campus	
Intercultural Understanding Scale	Not asked at this campus		Not asked this year	4.4 (0.91)
Cultural Appreciation and Social Awareness	4.9 (0.76)	4.7 (0.83)	4.4 (0.77)	4.4 (0.83)
4 th year students' level of comfort in working with other cultures	Not asked at this campus		71%	73%
4 th year students' ability to understand racial and ethnic differences	82%	73%	62%	66%

Note: the standard deviation associated with the mean is presented in parentheses. This table reports the percentage of 4th year students who rated this item "excellent", "very good" or "good."

Explanation of the Results and Next Steps:

Campus Climate for Diversity: This metric was calculated only for our Okanagan campus with results from the Undergraduate Experience Survey. It was comprised of 9 survey questions about our students' perceptions of how they feel students are respected at our campus, regardless of their personal or background characteristics. The overall average was 4.9 out of 6.0, which is equal to about 78% out of 100%.

Next Steps: We will continue to monitor these results each year, and the programs related to these metrics in strengthening our efforts to promote student well-being and campus life at UBC.

Intercultural Understanding: Overall average of 4.4 on the metric represents the positive side of a 6-point scale, or in other words about 68% out of 100%. The most positive responses were associated with students making new friends with people from other countries since coming to UBC, and that they believe UBC values diversity and inclusion.

Cultural Appreciation and Social Awareness: Overall average of 4.7 on the Okanagan campus and 4.4 in Vancouver represents the positive side of a 6-point scale. Results were particularly strong in “Appreciate, tolerate, and understand racial and ethnic diversity” and “Understanding the importance of personal social responsibility”.

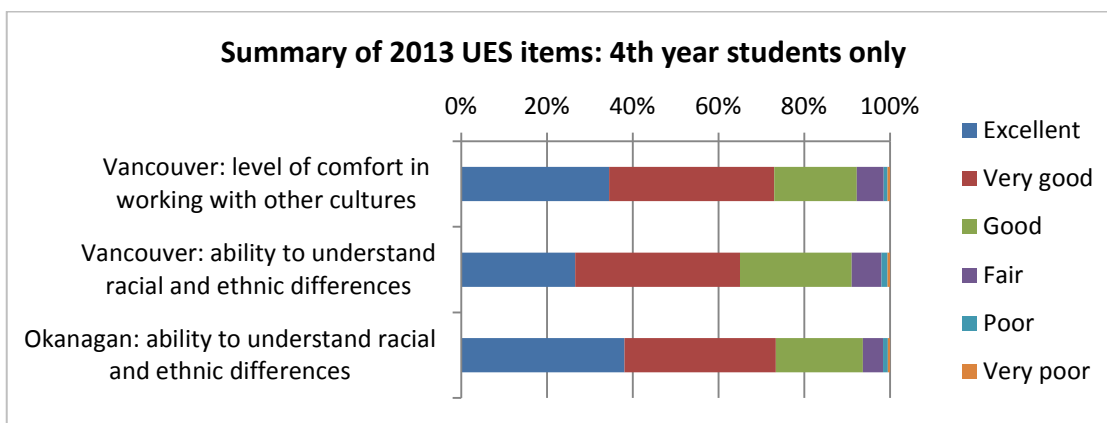
Next Steps: These questions will continue to form part of the UES surveys on both campuses and the results monitored from year to year.

4th year students’ comfort levels working with other cultures: Nearly half (48%) of UBC Vancouver students reported starting at UBC with a very good or excellent level of comfort in working with other cultures, while almost three-quarters (73%) rated their current ability as very good or excellent.

Next Steps: UBC continues its efforts to promote intercultural understanding on both of its campuses. This survey item will be included on the UES administered on the Okanagan campus in 2014.

4th year students’ ability to understand racial and ethnic differences: 73% of 4th year students on the Okanagan campus and 66% of 4th year students on the Vancouver campus reported their ability to understand racial and ethnic differences as very good or excellent. If students who responded “good” are added to these percentages, they rise to 94% and 92%, respectively.

Next Steps: UBCV has begun to implement the mid-level strategic plan for the Vancouver campus, which addresses intercultural understanding amongst students, faculty and staff in six key areas of development: fostering high-quality peer relationships across cultures; building capacity of more difficult conversations around cultural differences; intercultural understanding as classroom content; the integration of intercultural understanding into the faculty vision for excellence; tightening the coordination of efforts and activities; and leadership and staff development. As part of the plan’s implementation, new metrics are being developed for faculty and staff and will be included in future annual reports. The development of a mid-level plan for UBCO has also begun.



Summary of Items to Create Metrics

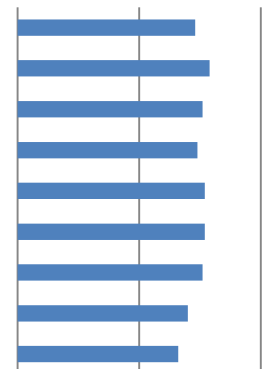
Campus climate for Diversity

(Percentage of students who responded "Strongly Agree" or "Agree")

Q83: Students are respected here regardless of their economic or social class	73
Q84: Students are respected here regardless of their gender	79
Q85: Students are respected here regardless of their race or ethnicity	76
Q86: Students are respected here regardless of their religious beliefs	74
Q87: Students are respected here regardless of their political beliefs	77
Q88: Students are respected here regardless of their sexual orientation	77
Q89: Students are respected here regardless of their disabilities	76
Q90: I feel free to express my political beliefs on campus	70
Q91: I feel free to express my religious beliefs on campus	66

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% %

■ Okanagan
■ Vancouver

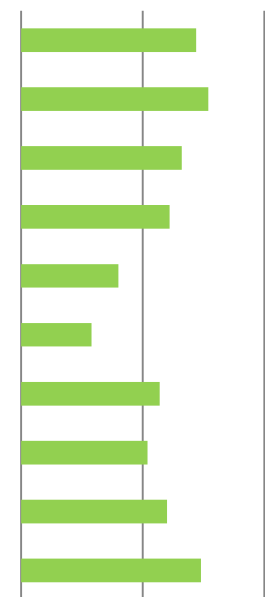


Intercultural Understanding Scale

(Percentage of students who responded "Strongly Agree" or "Agree")

Q119: I am hoping that through my university experience my social circle will become more diverse.	n/a	72
Q120: Since coming to UBC I have made new friends with people from other countries.	n/a	77
Q121: Making new friends at UBC from different cultures and backgrounds from my own has enriched my life.	n/a	66
Q122: The diversity (ethnic, linguistic, national, geographic, etc.) of my fellow students while at UBC has contributed to my personal and intellectual growth.	n/a	61
Q123: I will probably visit again with friends I have made while studying abroad (I may travel or my friends may travel here).	n/a	40
Q124: The linguistic diversity of students at UBC has encouraged me, or assisted me in learning new languages.	n/a	29
Q125: As a result of coming to UBC, my circle of friends is more diverse in terms of culture, language, ethnicity or life experiences.	n/a	57
Q126: As a result of student diversity, the learning experiences in my courses are richer (exposure to new points of view, a wider range of life experiences, language differences, different styles of teamwork, etc)	n/a	52
Q127: I know more about some foreign countries as a result of my new friends at UBC.	n/a	60
Q128: I believe UBC values diversity and inclusion	n/a	74

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% %



Current Cultural Appreciation and Social Awareness

(Percentage of students who responded "Excellent" or "Very Good")

Q77.1: Ability to appreciate, tolerate and understand racial and ethnic diversity	74	64
Q78.1: Ability to appreciate the fine arts (e.g., painting, music, drama, dance)	49	53
Q79.1: Ability to appreciate cultural and global diversity	67	43
Q80.1: Understanding the importance of personal social responsibility	69	59
Q82.1: Ability to understand and appreciate aboriginal cultures	44	29

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