

Academic Qualifications of Faculty Teaching First-Year Students At Two-year Campuses

Questions: Are faculty with graduate degrees teaching first-year students at Ohio's state-supported two-year institutions and university branch campuses? Does the use of faculty with graduate degrees, for first-year student instruction, vary by specific college or branch campus?

Note: These questions are posed only for the two-year institutions as a measure of faculty qualifications. The related measure of faculty qualifications that is addressed for the university main campuses and regional campuses is academic rank of faculty.

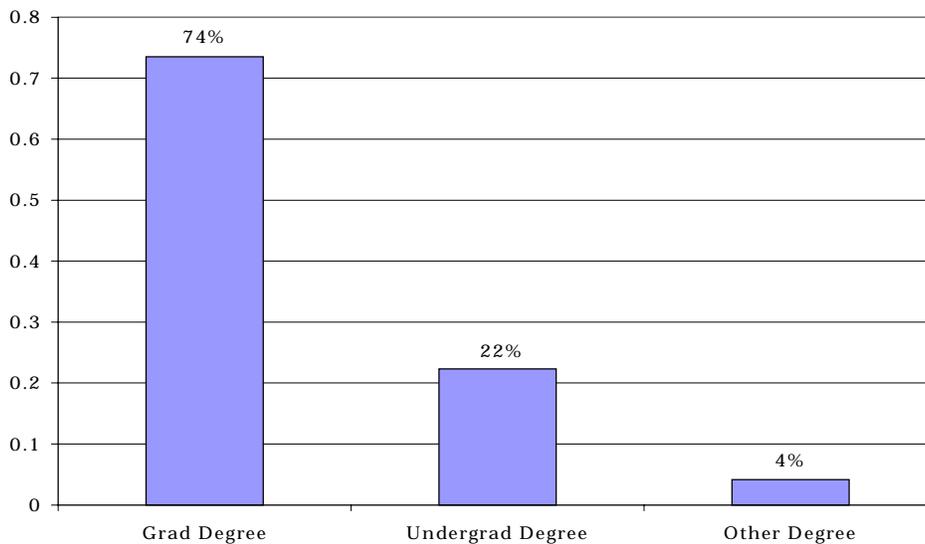
Why ask about the qualifications of faculty teaching first-year students? High quality instruction may occur with faculty who do not possess a graduate degree as well as faculty who do have graduate degrees. Generally though, faculty with graduate degrees are more likely to have mastered their disciplines than are faculty whose highest degree is the baccalaureate. Prospective students and their families may view having faculty with graduate degrees teaching first-year students as a measure of a college or university's commitment to helping first-year students succeed with attention and instruction from faculty who are the most knowledgeable about their disciplines.

National Answers: *There are no known benchmark indicators addressing the qualifications of faculty teaching first-year students.*

Statewide Answers: *Most first-year student credit hours on two-year colleges and universities are earned by students being taught by faculty with graduate degrees.*

- Seventy-four percent of first-year student credit hours are taught by faculty with graduate degrees at two-year institutions and on regional campuses.
- Twenty-two percent of first-year student credit hours are taught by faculty whose highest degree is baccalaureate or less.
- Four percent are being taught by faculty whose highest degree is unknown.

Percentage of First Student Credit Hours Taught by Faculty With Graduate Degrees, Autumn 1998



Sector Answers: *First-year students are earning a greater percentage of credit hours taught by faculty with graduate degrees at Ohio's state-supported university branch campuses (82%) and community college campuses (81%) than on other types of campuses.*

- Sixty-nine percent of first-year student credit hours are taught by faculty with graduate degrees at state community colleges.
- Technical colleges have the lowest percentage of faculty with graduate degrees teaching first-year students (63%). Many of the first-year students at technical colleges are taking technical coursework (e.g. culinary arts) in which a graduate degree may not represent the highest level of preparation of faculty (e.g. an Executive Chef with international reputation may not have a graduate degree).

Percentage of First-Year Student Credit Hours Taught by Faculty with Graduate Degrees by Sector, Autumn 1998

Sector	Grad Degree	Undergrad Degree	Other Degree	Grand Total
Community Colleges	81%	16%	2%	100%
State Community Colleges	69%	28%	3%	100%
Technical Colleges	63%	35%	2%	100%
University Branch Campuses	82%	9%	10%	100%
Grand Total	74%	22%	4%	100%

Campus Answers: *Two-year colleges and university branch campuses vary in their use of faculty with graduate degrees.*

- Community colleges range from a high of eighty-eight percent to a low of seventy-three percent of first-year student credit hours being taught by faculty with graduate degrees.
- The state community colleges ranged on this issue from a high of eighty-six percent to a low of thirty-nine percent of faculty with graduate degrees teaching first-year students.
- Technical colleges ranged in their use of faculty with graduate degrees to teach first-year students from a high of seventy-one percent to a low of forty-nine percent of first-year student credit hours being taught by faculty with graduate degrees.

Percentage of First-Year Student Credit Hours Taught by Faculty with Graduate Degrees, Autumn 1998

Community Colleges

Institution	Campus	
Cuyahoga Community College	Eastern	83%
	Metro	82%
	Western	88%
Jefferson Community College		73%
Lakeland Community College		80%
Lorain County Community College		82%
Sinclair Community College		78%

State Community Colleges

Cincinnati State Technical & Community College		39%
Clark State Community College		80%
Columbus State Community College		75%
Edison State Community College		86%
Northwest State Community College		76%
Owens State Community College	Findlay	78%
	Toledo	69%
Southern State Community College	Central	86%
	North	81%
	South	75%
Terra State Community College		50%
Washington State Community College		59%

Technical Colleges

Belmont Technical College		49%
Central Ohio Technical College		64%
Hocking Technical College		66%
Lima Technical College		71%
Marion Technical College		63%
Muskingum Area Technical College		69%
North Central State College		66%
Stark State College of Technology		50%

**Percentage of First-Year Student Credit Hours Taught by Faculty with Graduate Degrees,
Autumn 1998**

University Branch Campuses

Institution	Campus	
Bowling Green State University	Firelands	89%
Kent State University	Ashtabula	95%
	East Liverpool	87%
	Geauga	81%
	Salem	93%
	Stark	96%
	Trumbull	90%
	Tuscarawas	84%
Miami University	Hamilton	82%
	Middletown	86%
The Ohio State University	Agricultural Technical Institute	79%
	Lima	89%
	Mansfield	NA
	Marion	81%
	Newark	68%
Ohio University	Chillicothe	84%
	Eastern	85%
	Lancaster	94%
	Southern	79%
	Zanesville	79%
University of Akron	Wayne	88%
University of Cincinnati	Clermont	95%*
	Raymond Walters	75%
Wright State University	Lake	90%

*Corrected by hand from campus data. Not factored into statewide or sector totals