Who Attends Prefect Sessions? The Data from Fall 2010

Courses and Clients: Findings for the Fall 2010 Trimester

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A substantial portion of Carleton students attended a prefect session

- Prefects were assigned to 17 science and social science courses during the fall and held 270 sessions
- Around 380 students attended a prefect session – more than 1/5th of students on campus.
- Over 60% of students enrolled in a prefected course attended at least one prefect session. 20% of students attended at least half of the offered prefect sessions.
- The average student enrolled in a prefected course attends three prefect sessions. For students who attended at least one session, the average is almost five.
- The average prefect session had 6.3 students, around 20% of the class in attendance.

Students of all course years worked with prefects, though first-year students worked especially closely with them

- 43% of all students attending a prefect session were first-year students. 36% were sophomores, 12% were juniors, and 7% were seniors.
- First-year students were the most likely to attend prefect sessions, with 69% of all first-year students enrolled in a prefected course attending at least one session. This compares to an attendance rate of 57% among sophomores, 61% among juniors, and 54% among seniors.
- First-year students attended around 4 prefect sessions on average. For all other class years, the average number of courses attended was around 2.

Students met with prefects for introductory and advanced science and social science courses

- 72% of students taking a course in the sciences and 53% of students taking a course in the social sciences attended at least one prefect session.
- In sciences courses, the average prefect session had 22% of the class in attendance. For the social sciences the average prefect session had 11%.
- Only 52% of students taking an introductory (100 level) course with a prefect attended at least one session, compared to 82% of students taking an advanced (200- or 300-level) course. A prefect session for an introductory class drew 14% of the class on average, whereas a session for an advanced course drew 27%.
- Over 20% of students who attended a prefect session in science courses attended at least half of the sessions, while 18% of those in social science courses did.

Students who attended the first prefect session were more likely to attend future sessions

- Students who attended the first prefect session attended 6.5 sessions on average. Students who did not attend the first session attended 4.1 sessions on average.
- 20% of students attended their prefect's first session.

Females were more likely to attend sessions and went more often

- 82% of females attended at least one prefect session compared to 77% of males
- The average female attended 5.3 sessions, while the average male attended 4.7
Distribution of Attendance by Class Year

- First-Year: 44%
- Sophomore: 37%
- Junior: 12%
- Senior: 7%

% of Students Who Attended a Prefect Session by Class Year

- First-Year: 70%
- Sophomore: 60%
- Junior: 65%
- Senior: 55%
% of Students Who Attended Zero, One or More than Half of the Prefect Sessions

Average Number of Sessions per Student
Average Number of Sessions Attended

Overall Average: 3

Those who attended average: 5