Writing Center Data (Winter 10)

Carleton students make frequent use of the Writing Center
- The Writing Center staff conducted over 375 sessions
- 64% of appointments at the Writing Center were return visits
- 41% of students using the Writing Center were first year students, 24% were sophomores, 10% were juniors, and 25% were seniors
- Monday (74 total) and Wednesday (79 total) were the most popular days to visit the Writing Center
- The Writing Center was busiest on Sundays, with the highest average number of appointments per hour
- On weekdays, there were an average of 1-2 appointments every hour

Students bring a variety of projects to the Writing Center
- Students came with projects from all departments, even foreign language and sciences
- 9% of visits from seniors were for applications, 19% for comps
- Most projects were essays (68%), over half of which ranged from 3-5 pages (X%)
- 16% of papers were 1-2 pages, 44% were 3-5, 20% were 6-10, 8% were 10-20, and 12% were over 20 pages

Students visit the Writing Center to make substantive improvements to their work
- Students mostly focused on issues of clarity (63%), organization (60%), and thesis refinement (47%)
- A quarter of students made an appointment with the goal of better integrating support into their paper (26%)
- Students also made appointments in order to improve their writing skills in the long run: 39% visited for assistance with brainstorming, 27% visited for proofreading, and 14% visited for help with citations
- The Writing Center is available even for last minute help: a third of students visited on the day before their project was due (30%), a fifth of students visited two days before the due date (18%)
- Other students planned for long term goals: a fifth of students visited up to 7 days in advance (20%), and 15% visited with more than a week to spare!
Carleton students make frequent use of the Writing Center

Appointments by Class Year

- 2013: 41%
- 2012: 24%
- 2011: 10%
- 2010: 25%

Shows the appointments by class year, out of a total of 375.
Many of the appointments made at the Writing Center are for return visits.
Students bring a variety of projects to the Writing Center

Appointments by Department

Shows the total appointments for each academic department.
Shows the frequencies of different project types. Students mostly make appointments for essays.
Seniors often went to the Writing Center for help on Comps.
Students visit the Writing Center to make substantive improvements to their work.

Project Focus

- Clarity: 241
- Thesis: 181
- Organization: 230
- Citation: 52
- Brainstorm: 39
- Integration: 97
- Proofreading: 102

Shows the frequency of each focus for the appointment.
Shows the percentage of different project lengths. Most essays were 3-5 pages.
Students worked on projects at the Writing Center at all stages of the writing process.
Typical Attendance:

Total Appointments

Shows the total number of appointments on each day of the week.
Shows the average number of appointments per day, although Friday and Sunday have fewer hours. Distribution of appointments is about the same across weekdays, slightly more on Sunday.
Number of Appointments, Winter 2010

Shows the number of appointments over winter term 2010.