

## **Integrated Learning Assessment (ILC) Pilot Spring 2016 and Spring 2017**

Here is the description of the ILC requirement from the new curriculum (adopted 2013):

*Integrated learning helps students combine the benefits of the breadth and depth in their education by fostering a synthetic understanding directed toward a particular question, topic, or theme.*

*Learning Goals: Integrated learning offers students the opportunity to:*

*1. enhance their knowledge of a particular question, topic, or theme by bringing into conversation some combination of written, visual, artistic, experiential, or laboratory-based inquiry; and*

*2. use two or more ways of knowing and/or theoretical approaches to cultivate a more nuanced understanding of a particular question, topic or theme.*

Students can meet the ILC requirements through (a) an integrated learning component by selecting four courses from two different departments or programs around a particular question, topic, or theme in consultation with the academic advisor; (b) a semester-long off-campus study program that has been approved by CIIS as meeting the ILC learning goals; or (c) through an interdisciplinary major or minor, a combined major, or a multifield major or minor.

In the spring of 2016, a member of the assessment committee conducted a small-scale focus group with two students. In the Spring of 2017, a number of closed- and open-ended questions on the ILC were embedded in the end-of-the-year surveys of first-year students and the Senior Survey. The senior class of 2017 was the first class graduating under the new curriculum and so those students were required to present an ILC.

Preliminary findings from these assessments suggest that students are—while able to articulate their integrated and interdisciplinary learning—generally not as intentional in how they fulfill the Integrated Learning requirement as the curriculum intended. Most meet the requirement through an interdisciplinary or combined major or minor or through study abroad. Those who need to fulfill the requirement through the four interconnected courses often do not plan accordingly, but get the courses approved after the fact. Findings from the surveys, including extensive comments and suggestions, have been shared with the Academic Affairs Committee for discussion on how students and advisors could better plan and execute the ILC.

## I. College Success Questionnaire – First Year Students

Have you planned how you will complete your Integrative Learning Component (ILC)?

	Spr 16	Spr 17
Yes - I know how I will complete it	13%	10%
Somewhat - I have some vague idea/have thought about it	24%	22%
<b>No - I have not thought about it yet</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Never heard of the ILC</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>33%</b>
Total	<b>595</b>	<b>521</b>

Have you spoken to your advisor yet about your ILC requirement?

	Spr 16	Spr 17
Yes	22%	19%
<b>No</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>81%</b>
Total	<b>595</b>	<b>522</b>

## II. 2017 Senior Supplemental Survey

How did you fulfill the ILC?

	Total n	Total %	Male	Female	% Male	STEM n	Stem %	BusLA n	BusLA %	All other n	All other %
Never Heard of the ILC	9	2%	5	4	56%	4	3%	2	2%	4	2%
Through a cluster of 4 courses organized around a common topic or theme approved by my academic advisor	193	39%	93	100	48%	78	54%	38	29%	87	36%
Through an interdisciplinary or multi-field major	98	20%	47	51	48%	38	26%	31	24%	34	14%
Through an interdisciplinary or multi-field minor	16	3%	8	8	50%	4	3%	6	5%	6	3%
Through an off-campus study program	160	32%	49	111	31%	16	11%	44	34%	103	43%
Unsure	19	4%	15	4	79%	5	3%	10	8%	5	2%
Total	495		217	278	44%	145	29%	131	26%	239	48%

**When did you start planning how to meet the ILC? Total responses and by method of fulfilling the ILC**

	Total n	Total %	Never Heard of the ILC	Through a cluster of 4 courses organized around a common topic or theme	Through an interdisciplin ary or multi- field major	Through an interdisciplin ary or multi- field minor	Through an off- campus study program	Unsure
In my first year with my FYP advisor	34	7%	1	5	7	0	16	5
During my sophomore year, when I declared my major	98	20%	0	48	19	2	27	2
I didn't plan- knew I would meet it with my interdisciplinary major/minor or with my off-campus study	194	40%	2	26	50	8	106	2
In my late junior/senior year, after I received the degree audit from the Registrar's Office	137	28%	0	99	17	6	6	9
Other (please explain):	23	5%	5	11	2	0	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>452</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>13</b>

Other Responses:

- Abroad
- By myself first year
- came in 2012
- Didn't know about it really- transferred here, then got an email saying I needed it
- I always knew I would study abroad
- I didn't
- I don't know
- I just picked 4 classes I had taken that seemed to have a common theme.
- I just took a wide variety of classes and knew I would find a way to meet it.
- I looked back at my classes in my Junior fall and realized I had already completed the 4 course requirement so I filled it out and completed it
- I made it up.
- I never heard of it or cared about it until a week before it was due. Liberal arts educations should be already set up to be implicitly integrated in learning. My abroad covered it which is great because I didn't feel like explaining obvious connections between four courses of mine.
- I thought my off study program would cover it, but I got an audit that it didn't and had to fulfill it late
- In my early Junior year, when a professor had suggested to focus on a time period that she had noticed I was interested in.
- It came to me in a dream
- My advisor and I looked through my transcript to find classes that would fit together.
- Never
- Senior year discussions with my advisor
- Spring 2017
- The first semester I transferred. (Spring 2015)

### Who did you have conversations with about completing the ILC?

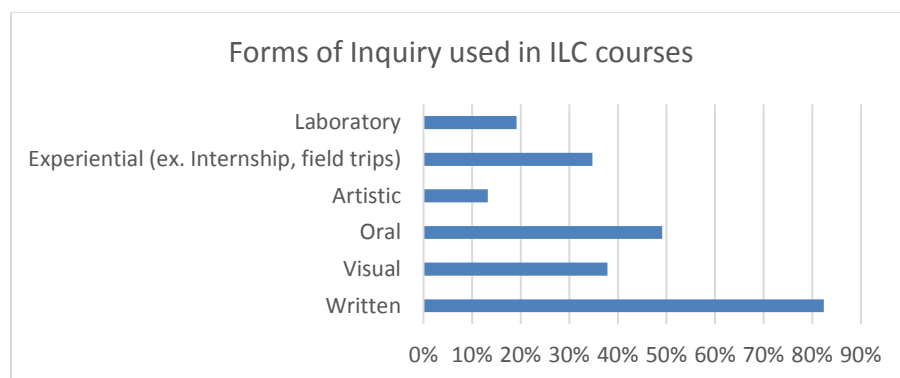
	n	%
My FYP advisor	62	13%
My major advisor	407	84%
Other faculty	41	8%
Peers	68	14%
Parents	18	4%
Staff members from other offices (ex advising, career services, CBL, etc..)	20	4%
Registrar's Office	20	4%
Other (Explain)	19	4%
Unduplicated Responses to Question	485	100%
Duplicated Responses	655	235%

#### Other Responses:

- APR
- came in 2012
- Coach
- Did not have conversation
- Didn't know about it until I completed it
- I attended college in 2012
- I did not. I just got the form signed when I returned from Kenya
- I figured it out on my own when looking over APR
- Maybe you should talk to the staff about it because absolutely nobody in the school takes it seriously
- myself
- No one (n=4)
- No one. I went to my advisor to get her to sign off on a sheet that said I went abroad, which seemed redundant.
- Read the requirement
- St. Lawrence County NYSARC, Little River Community School

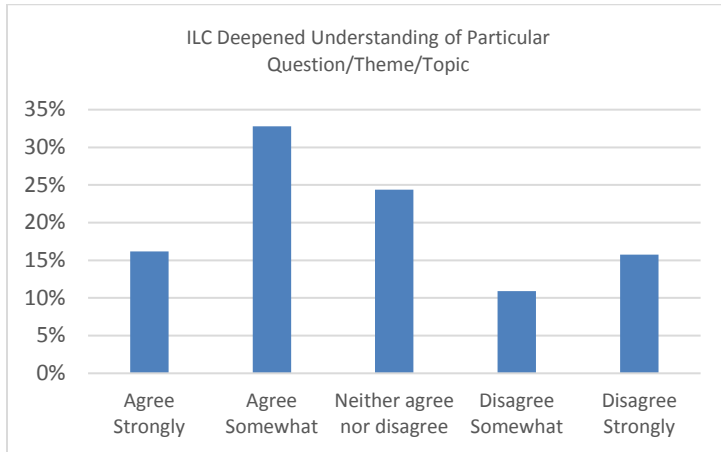
### Which of the following forms of inquiry did you use in courses that counted toward your ILC?

	n	%
Written	379	82%
Visual	174	38%
Oral	226	49%
Artistic	61	13%
Experiential (ex. Internship, field trips)	160	35%
Laboratory	88	19%
Unduplicated Responses to Question	460	100%
Duplicated Responses	1088	237%



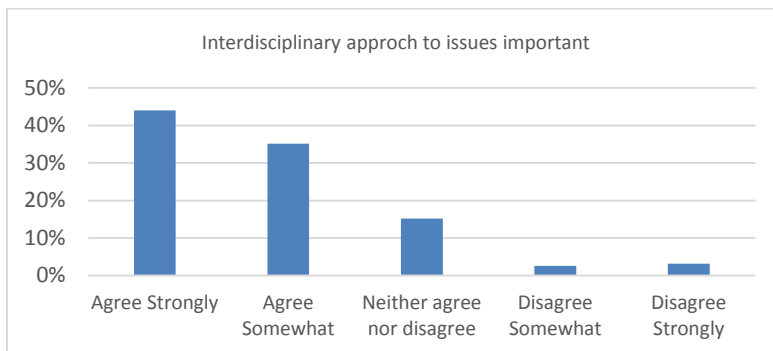
**The ILC has deepened my understanding of a particular question, theme or topic.**

	n	%
Agree Strongly	77	16%
Agree Somewhat	156	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	116	24%
Disagree Somewhat	52	11%
Disagree Strongly	75	16%
Total	476	100%



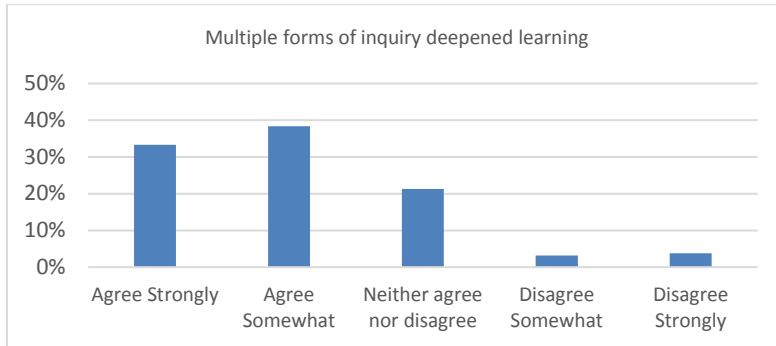
**It is important to approach questions, themes or topics from more than one disciplinary way of thinking.**

	n	%
Agree Strongly	209	44%
Agree Somewhat	167	35%
Neither agree nor disagree	72	15%
Disagree Somewhat	12	3%
Disagree Strongly	15	3%
Total	475	100%



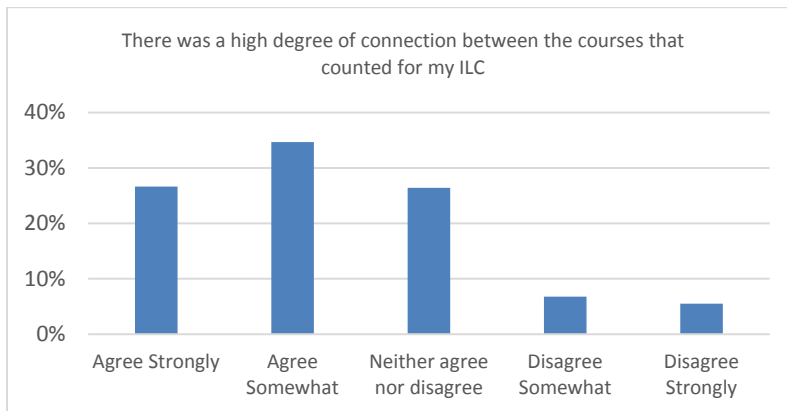
**Using multiple forms of inquiry (e.g. written, experiential, etc.) has led to deeper learning than if I had used only a single form of inquiry.**

	n	%
Agree Strongly	158	33%
Agree Somewhat	182	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	101	21%
Disagree Somewhat	15	3%
Disagree Strongly	18	4%
Total	474	100%



**There was a high degree of connection between the courses that counted for my ILC.**

	n	%
Agree Strongly	126	27%
Agree Somewhat	164	35%
Neither agree nor disagree	125	26%
Disagree Somewhat	32	7%
Disagree Strongly	26	5%
Total	473	100%



Please indicate now all of the methods which you could have used to meet the ILC requirement.

	n	%
Through an interdisciplinary or multi-field major	182	38%
Through an interdisciplinary or multi-field minor	61	13%
Through an off-campus study approved for the ILC	203	42%
Through a cluster of 4 courses organized around a common topic or theme	302	63%
Unduplicated Responses to Question	478	100%
Duplicated Responses	748	156%

Which method do you think was most effective at meeting the university learning goals of the ILC? Why would you say that?

	n	%
Cluster of 4 courses	26	15%
Off Campus	79	46%
Multifield major	31	18%
Multifield minor	3	2%
Multiple ways	6	4%
Other	25	15%
Students who think the best method is the method they took	101	59%
Unduplicated Responses to Question	170	100%

Feel free to share any additional thoughts on the ILC with us below - quantified responses overall, by when the ILC was declared, and by gender

	Total n	Total %	FY	SO	JR/SR	Didn't Plan	Other	Male	Female
Dislike the ILC	33	32%	0	3	17	10	2	17	16
<b>Liked the ILC</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
Constructive Criticism	41	40%	1	7	11	16	5	16	25
Thought ILC wasn't explained well	16	16%	0	1	4	8	3	3	13
Other	9	9%	2	2	1	3	1	4	5
Unduplicated Responses to Question	103	100%	4	14	33	39	11	43	60