

**THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE**  
**Excerpt from the 2006 Alumni Survey of the Class of 2004-05**

**OLYMPIA SOCIETY, POLITICS, BEHAVIOR, & CHANGE SUBSET**

The overall response rate for locatable members of the class of 2004-05 was 31%. Respondents identified their primary areas of study as presented in the following chart.

Primary area of study (concentration) at Evergreen	Total N=360
Social Sciences (Society, Politics, Behavior, and Change)	(N=105) 29.2%
Humanities, Language Arts (Culture, Text & Language)	(N=72) 20.0%
Science, Math, Computers (Scientific Inquiry)	(N=46) 12.8%
Media, Visual Arts, Drama (Expressive Arts)	(N=43) 11.9%
Environmental Studies	(N=36) 10.0%
Liberal Arts/Interdisciplinary Study <i>(this category includes alumni who chose more than one primary area of study, or wrote in "Liberal Arts")</i>	(N=21) 5.8%
Education	(N=16) 4.4%
Business	(N=16) 4.4%
Native American Studies	(N=5) 1.4%

The following data include only responses from students who primarily attended the Olympia campus and who identified Social Sciences, Business, or Education as their primary area of study or among their primary areas of study at Evergreen. 122 alumni respondents met these criteria.

- 1 respondent earned a B.S. degree, 1 earned a dual BAS degree, and the other 120 respondents earned B.A. degrees.

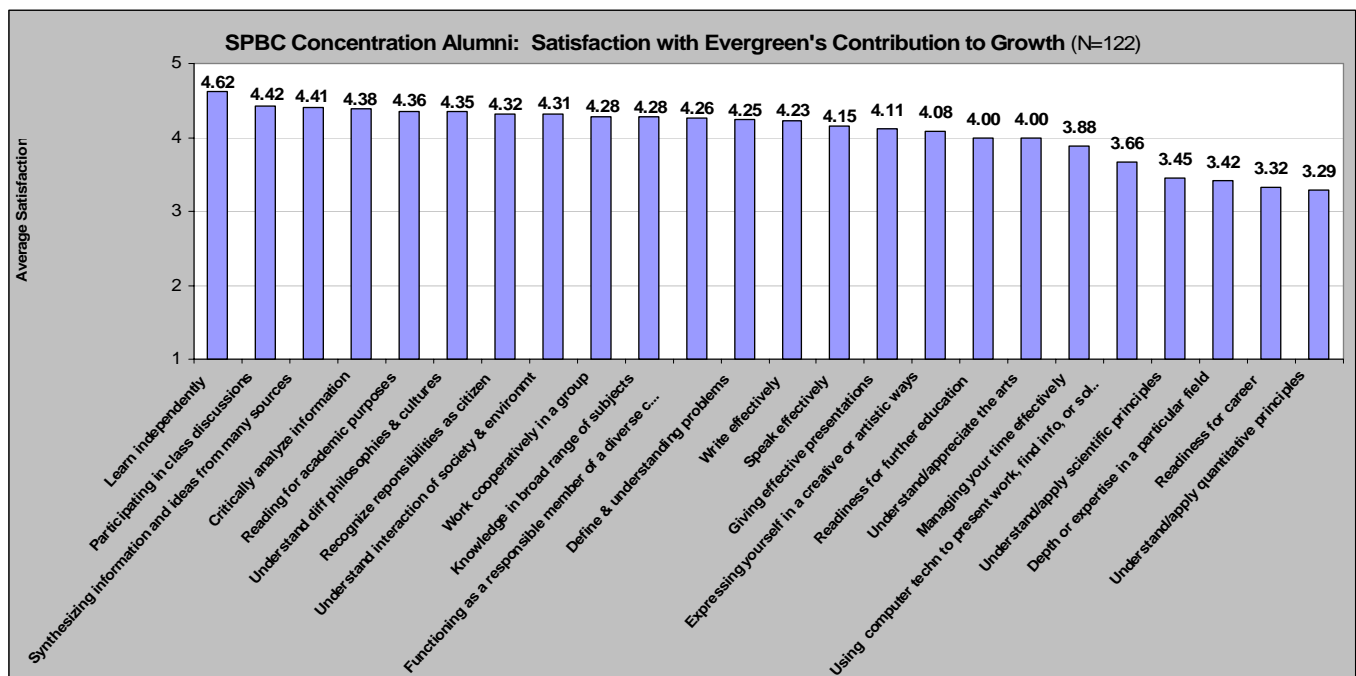
**Evergreen's Contribution to Academic and Personal Growth**

Alumni were asked to rate their satisfaction with Evergreen's contribution to their academic and personal growth in each of the following academic areas on a five-point scale from 1=not at all satisfied to 5=very satisfied.

Academic Areas	1 Not at all satisfied	2 Little satisfaction	3 Somewhat satisfied	4 Mostly satisfied	5 Very satisfied	N missing
Writing effectively	.8%	4.2%	12.5%	35.8%	<b>46.7%</b>	2
Speaking effectively	0	4.2%	17.5%	37.5%	<b>40.8%</b>	2
Critically analyzing information	.8	1.7%	11.7%	30.0%	<b>55.8%</b>	2
Learning independently	.8%	.8%	5.1%	22.0%	<b>71.2%</b>	4
Understanding and appreciating the arts	2.6%	7.7%	21.4%	23.9%	<b>44.4%</b>	5
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	5.2%	16.4%	<b>29.3%</b>	26.7%	22.4%	6
Understanding and applying quantitative principles	6.1%	16.5%	<b>34.8%</b>	27.8%	14.8%	7
Defining and understanding problems	1.7%	2.5%	13.3%	34.2%	<b>48.3%</b>	2
Working cooperatively in a group	2.5%	2.5%	14.2%	26.7%	<b>54.2%</b>	2
Readiness for a career	11.0%	12.7%	<b>30.5%</b>	24.6%	21.2%	4
Readiness for further education (graduate, professional, or doctoral)	1.7%	6.8%	22.2%	28.2%	<b>41.0%</b>	5
Understanding different philosophies and cultures	1.7%	3.4%	8.4%	31.1%	<b>55.5%</b>	3
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	.9%	2.6%	13.7%	30.8%	<b>52.1%</b>	5
Recognizing your rights, responsibilities and privileges as a citizen	1.7%	2.5%	13.6%	26.3%	<b>55.9%</b>	4
Reading for academic purposes	.8%	3.3%	10.8%	29.2%	<b>55.8%</b>	2
Giving effective presentations	.8%	5.1%	18.6%	33.1%	<b>42.4%</b>	4

Academic Areas	1 Not at all satisfied	2 Little satisfaction	3 Somewhat satisfied	4 Mostly satisfied	5 Very satisfied	N missing
Participation in class discussion	.8%	1.7%	10.8%	28.3%	<b>58.3%</b>	2
Knowledge in a broad range of subjects	2.6%	0	15.4%	30.8%	<b>51.3%</b>	5
Synthesizing information and ideas from many sources	0%	1.7%	14.4%	25.4%	<b>58.5%</b>	4
Managing your time effectively	3.4%	5.1%	24.6%	<b>33.9%</b>	33.1%	4
Functioning as a responsible member of a diverse community	1.7%	2.5%	13.6%	32.2%	<b>50.0%</b>	4
Expressing yourself in creative or artistic ways	1.7%	6.0%	20.5%	26.5%	<b>45.3%</b>	5
Using computer technology to present work, find information, or solve problems	5.1%	7.6%	25.4%	<b>39.8%</b>	22.0%	4
Depth or expertise in a particular field	5.9%	18.6%	<b>27.1%</b>	24.6%	23.7%	4

The mean satisfaction rating for each academic area was calculated and the results are presented in the next chart. SPBC alumni were most satisfied with their growth in learning independently, participating in class discussions, Synthesizing information and ideas from many sources, and reading for academic purposes. This group was least satisfied with their growth in understanding and applying quantitative principles and readiness for career. Average satisfaction for every area of learning growth fell above the “somewhat satisfied” midpoint of the scale for this subset of alumni.



Note: Satisfaction was rated on a five-point scale where 1=not at all satisfied, 2=little satisfaction, 3= somewhat satisfied, 4=mostly satisfied, and 5=very satisfied.

## Work-related skills and abilities

Alumni rated their skill levels in a series of work-related activities. Then the alumni who rated their skill levels also rated how well the education they received at Evergreen prepared them in each area. The following table provides the frequencies of the alumni responses about their work-related skills. The most common rating category for each work-related skill is presented in bold print for emphasis.

Work-Related Skills	Your level of skill					Preparation from your Evergreen education		
	1= Poor	2= Fair	3= Good	4= Excellent	N/A	Not at all	To some extent	A great deal
<b>Organize and conduct work effectively</b> (N=116)	.9%	3.4%	37.1%	<b>58.6%</b>	0%	9.6%	<b>66.7%</b>	23.7%
<b>Work in a culturally diverse environment</b> (N=115)	.9%	3.5%	33.0%	<b>61.7%</b>	.9%	7.9%	<b>49.1%</b>	43.0%
<b>Effective communication skills</b> (N=116)	0%	.9%	39.7%	<b>59.5%</b>	0%	3.4%	42.2%	<b>54.3%</b>
<b>Creative thinking skills</b> (N=113)	0%	5.3%	37.2%	<b>57.5%</b>	0%	4.4%	39.8%	<b>55.8%</b>
<b>Decision-making ability</b> (N=115)	0%	7.8%	40.0%	<b>50.4%</b>	1.7%	13.3%	<b>67.3%</b>	19.5%
<b>Independence and initiative</b> (N=115)	0%	6.1%	27.8%	<b>65.2%</b>	.9%	4.4%	43.4%	<b>52.2%</b>
<b>Leadership</b> (N=116)	0%	8.6%	<b>45.7%</b>	44.0%	1.7%	14.0%	49.1%	<b>36.8%</b>
<b>Negotiating skills</b> (N=116)	.9%	13.8%	<b>44.8%</b>	38.8%	1.7%	19.3%	<b>55.3%</b>	25.4%
<b>Research skills</b> (N=116)	1.7%	14.7%	38.8%	<b>42.2%</b>	2.6%	7.1%	41.6%	<b>51.3%</b>
<b>Willingness and aptitude to learn new skills</b> (N=116)	0%	2.6%	25.0%	<b>70.7%</b>	1.7%	7.9%	36.0%	<b>56.1%</b>

Note: The number provided by each item reflects the number of alumni who rated their initial skill level; the number varies for some skill areas, since some alumni skipped questions.

## Satisfaction with Evergreen Experiences

Alumni rated their level of satisfaction with a series of Evergreen educational experiences. They rated their satisfaction on a four-point scale from 1=very dissatisfied to 4=very satisfied. They also had the option of indicating if an educational experience did not apply to them.

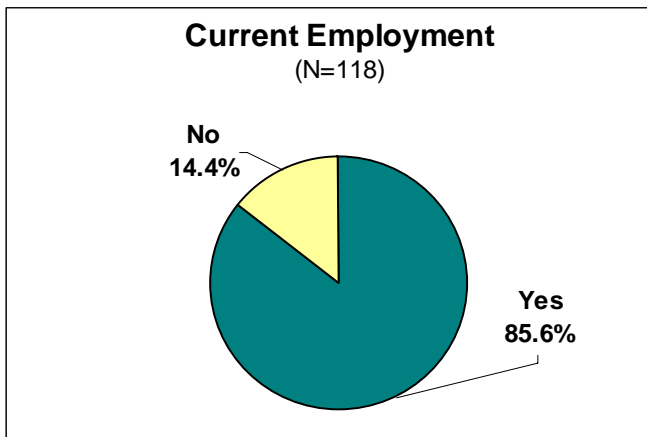
Educational Experiences at Evergreen	% Participated	1= Very Dissatisfied	2= Somewhat dissatisfied	3= Somewhat satisfied	4= Very satisfied	Missing N
<b>Evergreen's interdisciplinary approach to education</b>	99%	0%	5.2%	11.2%	<b>83.6%</b>	5
<b>Narrative evaluations written by faculty</b>	100%	0.9%	8.5%	32.5%	<b>58.1%</b>	5
<b>The quality of instruction</b>	99%	1.0%	4.3%	36.2%	<b>58.6%</b>	5
<b>Quality of learning interaction with other students, for example, in seminars</b>	100%	4.3%	8.5%	<b>43.6%</b>	<b>43.6%</b>	5
<b>The education you were able to construct as an Evergreen student</b>	100%	1.7%	6.8%	21.4%	<b>70.1%</b>	5
<b>Tolerance and respect shown for different or opposing viewpoints</b>	98%	10.6%	15.0%	27.4%	<b>46.9%</b>	7
<b>Academic advice from faculty</b>	97%	7.1%	9.7%	34.5%	<b>48.7%</b>	6
<b>Opportunities for advanced undergraduate work at Evergreen</b>	89%	5.8%	13.6%	<b>44.7%</b>	35.9%	6
<b>Self-evaluation process</b>	100%	0.9%	13.7%	41.0%	<b>44.4%</b>	5

The following table shows how many students participated in special learning opportunities while at Evergreen. Alumni who participated then rated their satisfaction with the experience. For alumni who had participated in these learning opportunities, *very satisfied* was the most common response category.

Educational Experiences at Evergreen	% Participated	1= Very Dissatisfied	2= Somewhat dissatisfied	3= Somewhat satisfied	4= Very satisfied	Missing N
Contracts and other individual work with faculty	78.8%	6.5%	5.4%	23.9%	<b>64.1%</b>	4
Community service or volunteer work	50.8%	3.4%	10.2%	35.6%	<b>50.8%</b>	4
Culminating senior experience (capstone, thesis, or senior summative self-evaluation)	29.9%	11.8%	11.8%	<b>38.2%</b>	<b>38.2%</b>	5
Internships	50.0%	8.8%	3.5%	22.8%	<b>64.9%</b>	4
Study abroad	18.8%	0%	4.8%	14.3%	<b>81.0%</b>	5

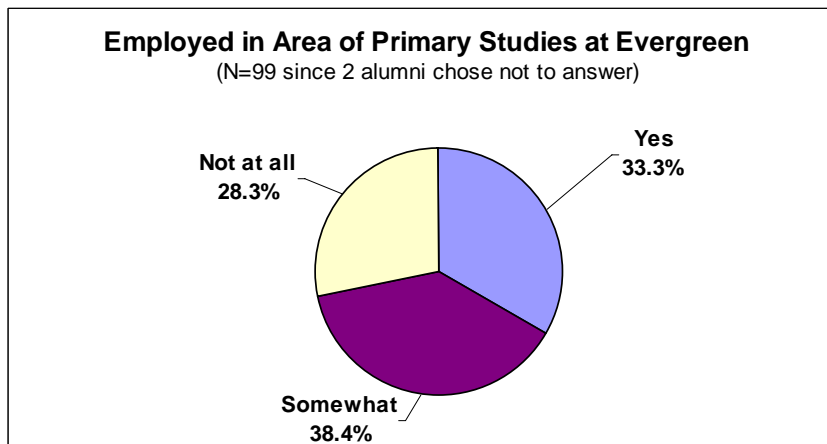
For students who participated in each activity, the most common response was that they were *very satisfied*. “Study abroad” was the most satisfying experience for those who participated in Evergreen special learning activities. Evergreen’s “interdisciplinary approach to education” and “The education you were able to construct as an Evergreen student” were the highest in satisfaction of the common Evergreen experiences. 25.6% of alumni were dissatisfied with “Tolerance and respect shown for different or opposing viewpoints”.

### Alumni Employment Data



85.6% of the SPBC concentration alumni were employed one year after graduation compared to 84% of all alumni respondents.

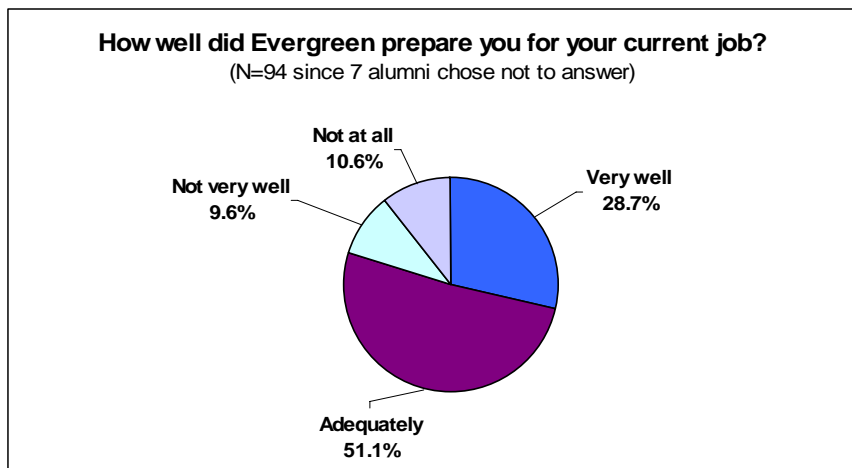
Of those who were employed, 71.7% of the SPBC alumni were employed in an area that was at least somewhat related to their area of primary study at Evergreen.



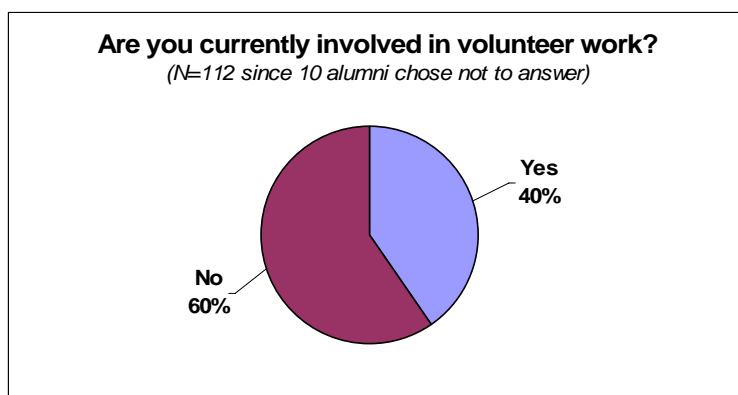
The 101 employed SPBC alumni selected one category from the list below that they felt best described the type of work they were doing one year after graduation.

Community and Social Service	19.8%
Business Management	15.8%
Office/Administrative Support	14.9%
Education/Library	14.9%
Sales	5.0%
Business Operations	5.0%
Health Care Practitioner	3.0%
Social Science	3.0%
Protective Service	3.0%
Media and Communications	2.0%
Food Preparation/Serving	2.0%
Groundskeeper/maintenance	2.0%
Computer/Mathematical	2.0%
Not indicated	2.0%
Entertainer/Performer	1.0%
Construction/Installation/Repair	1.0%
Production/Manufacturing	1.0%
Architecture/Engineering	1.0%
Farming/Fishing/Forestry Worker	1.0%
Legal Occupations	1.0%

79.8% of the SPBC alumni felt that their Evergreen experiences prepared them *adequately* or *very well* for their current employment.



## Volunteerism



40% of the SPBC concentration alumni were involved in volunteer activities one year after graduation compared to 34% of all alumni respondents

## Graduate or Professional School

30.4% of SPBC alumni applied to graduate/professional school within one year. Of the 35 alumni who applied 27 had been offered admission (77.1%) and 6 applications are still pending. Two have been denied thus far.

Of the 122 SPBC alumni, 22 attended or are currently attending graduate or professional school within one year of graduating from Evergreen. The 22 alumni were continuing their work at in Washington (15), other states (3), and internationally (4). Six had enrolled graduate studies at Evergreen in this timeframe. This rate of 19.1% of alumni going directly to graduate school within one year is slightly lower than the 21% of all Evergreen alumni respondents who entered graduate school within one year of graduation.

<b>Field of graduate study</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Family and Consumer Sciences	1	4.5
Health Services, Mental	1	4.5
Legal Professions and Studies	1	4.5
Library Science	1	4.5
Public Administration	3	13.6
Social Science	4	18.2
Social Service Professions	1	4.5
Business, management, Marketing, and Related Support Services	3	13.6
Education	7	31.8