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# NSSE16 Topical Module - Civic Engagement Student Comments (UNO)

National Survey of Student Engagement

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# NSSE 2016

## Civic Engagement: Open-Ended Responses

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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The final question of the Civic Engagement module asked students to respond to the following question in an open text box:

*"Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues.  
What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?"*

**Important:**

- Confidential student responses to this question appear on the following pages. Because open-ended responses are confidential, student identifiers are not given in this report but are provided in a separate SPSS data file. For this reason, please use discretion when using, storing, and disseminating the SPSS file.
- These open-ended responses appear exactly as the students entered them and **may not be suitable for distribution without prior review**. Faculty members, administrators, or other students may be mentioned by name, and responses were not edited for grammar, offensive language, excessive length, or otherwise questionable content.
- Open-ended responses are sorted by class, enrollment status, and sex. Information for these variables was provided by your institution.

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Female	All of the social justice work I have done and seeing the awareness it brings to others and it giving me the opportunity to meet people of very diverse backgrounds who have been affected by specific policy.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I was in the Millard Career Academy for education, I'm so thankful that I had the opportunity to take those classes and part time ardent teach. I would like to change the fact that students with undecided majors should be given a full time advisor. I think that would help out a lot instead of switching from person to person maybe they'll get to know you and help you out better.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Joining a sorority was one of the best decisions I have made!
First-year	Full-time	Female	Campus and Global Issues have gotten my attention.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I was able to see The President of the USA due to him coming to UNO. I think that was very meaningful because it's a one time opportunity and enabled many students to understand different problems faced in the world.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Dorm
First-year	Full-time	Female	My sorority helping out the community in various ways with our 5 philanthropies.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I haven't had hardly any experience besides reading articles and briefly discussing them. Nothing has been very meaningful.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I've learned a lot more about how to live in society with people and be more understanding on other people's views.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Making personal connections with these issues is very beneficial.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience I've had on campus was, while discussing a writing assignment with a professor. I was able to discuss personal issues, my culture and up bringing.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The upcoming election
First-year	Full-time	Female	What has been most meaningful to me, as a UNO student, is the fact that this school provides several opportunities for students to learn more about what they want to do with their academic career and beyond. I especially appreciate events such as the career and activities fairs and the major exploration day. These events have been a tremendous help to me, and it means quite a lot that this school is willing to make these events possible for its students. The only qualm I have with these events is that they only go on for a couple hours on one day. I have had to miss a couple events due to having class. I think it would be beneficial to host these events on multiple days, so more students would get the opportunity to participate.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Local issues has been the most important to me because it hits close to home. It's a lot easier for me to relate to local issues because I'm able to see them first hand and get a good look on what's happening.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Helped me see the world in a different way.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Most meaningful would have to be working with be the match. We try to find bone marrow donors within our area to help others who are in need nationally.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I haven't really gotten that involved in many issues. I mostly focus on things that I need to get done and steps I need to take to be successful with my education. I don't really have an experience that would be meaningful in the categories stated.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I have not had any experiences with local, campus, state, national, or global issues.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I live in Scott Village building A and towards the beginning of the school year we had flooding in our room every time it rained and so that was concerning due to health risks. It also damaged some of my personal items that were on the floor. I hope that it gets fixed so others don't have to deal with this problem like I did.
First-year	Full-time	Female	According to the campus issues, it has been most meaningful to keep an eye out for something, etc.
First-year	Full-time	Female	i haven't had any exceptional meaningful experience on this campus

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Female	Marriage equality. Enough said.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Haven't really had time to do anything other than work, school, and take care of my daughter.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think with the issues of racial profiling and discrimination being exposed more and put in the light I have come to see things that I did or thought without even realizing it. I would make sure if wearing a hoodie I would lower it or wear it so one could see my face or I would try to make sure that if I needed to reach into my pocket or purse in a store that I didn't look like I was stealing. These issues and those experiences are meaningful to me because it is a part of who I am and I am not sure when I learned to be so cautious.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The issue that has been most meaningful to me is how we as a community are starting to learn to come together and stand against the unjust in the community . The issue is now being brought to everyone's attention .
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most influential issue I have delt with would be personally - understanding who I am.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Learning about what goes on within my campus and what students and other citizens can do to improve my campus overall has been meaningful to me as a freshman student at UNO.
First-year	Full-time	Female	When I need help from my advisor I know I can go to them or from my professor. It's just up to me and go ask for help, but I know the help is always available.
First-year	Full-time	Female	They effect everyone no matter what. Whether it was shootings done by Isis or the changing of the shuttle system, it effects everyone in this community. Everyone should care about it and that's what is meaningful.
First-year	Full-time	Female	NA
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful part of my experiences was interacting with others around campus. This allowed me to form friends and feel more comfortable in my environment. It also exposed me to other experiences and events on campus.
First-year	Full-time	Female	It helped me to better understand the issue and realize that it is important. It also helped me realize that a small group of people can make a difference here on campus.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I don't know
First-year	Full-time	Female	At my institution there is a lot of awareness for issues that may have an affect on people . I have not personally been involved, but there always groups of students making others aware of what is happening in the world and on campus.
First-year	Full-time	Female	When speaking about the EU refugee crisis, I have learned a lot about how different people have different views on the subject. There is no right answer. We cannot simply call someone xenophobic because they don't agree with a certain stance. The same applies to calling a peer an enabler.
First-year	Full-time	Female	NA
First-year	Full-time	Female	I really do not pay much attention to them
First-year	Full-time	Female	none
First-year	Full-time	Female	During my Black Studies and Latin Studies class I realized that those classes enforced rascism and taught more of the hate than actual history. I was disappointed.
First-year	Full-time	Female	LGBT, I may not be any of these, but I whole heartedly believe and support them and I tried to help them get what they want when I could. I like to help others in what they believe, but unfortunately I can't help someone with something I don't think is right. I will support them, but won't help them get what they want.
First-year	Full-time	Female	the experience i have had with campus is great. many useful sources in campus.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Very accomadating to every background
First-year	Full-time	Female	What you learn from the experience is most meaningful. Such as, what you get of it and learned from it.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Just spoke about the issues in an international studies class, not much more than that

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement

### Open-Ended Responses

### University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience that I have had on campus is a discussion of the issues of being a women in any particular career field, being a minority and having to raise awareness towards our counterparts of the displays of feminism and what it should look like opposed to what is commonly thought among the majority.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful to me has been meeting new people and making friends with them. There are a lot of amazing people here on campus and I happy to have met them.
First-year	Full-time	Female	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Female	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Female	I volunteer regularly at a Bible camp and at my church. I am a devote Christian, and am easily most affected by the lack of support biases towards Christians compared to other religions. Luckily, at UNO, I have seen very little of that.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Being able to give back to the local community is very meaningful to me because I can see the actual change that I caused.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I'm in zeta tau alpha so we always encourage people to educate themselves about breast cancer.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The issues that tend to be the most meaningful to me are the ones that are the most relevant to me at the current moment. For example,I have recently been paying a lot of attention to National news to see what the new political candidates have to say about our countries current problems with the cost of education for college students.
First-year	Full-time	Female	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Female	Campus issues since I attend campus almost everyday, and national issues most evident the political campaign since it will be an important aspect of everyone's life.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The campus issues have been the most relevant to me since I am an Ambassador. I try and stay up to date so I can adequately inform others about our campus.
First-year	Full-time	Female	None that I can think of that have been meaningful to me.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Most of the only experiences I have had were discussed in class or by my friends, but knowing that they even exist is very important to me.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The global issues of equality are baffling to me! I just had no idea how bad it still was. I have learned about the inequality through taking courses and volunteer work on campus. This is not the most important issue in the world today but it is definitely important.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I'm planning a trip to Romania on a mission for God, and it's meaningful because I know that they need to be shown love.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I worked with a group to plan an even raising mental health awareness on campus
First-year	Full-time	Female	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Female	I was in a class last semester where a group of people and myself were put in charge of making changes to raise awareness of the Maverick Food Pantry. I felt that just being able to talk in person with real people that had control of something we wanted changed was amazing, and such a wonderful opportunity that many people wouldn't get inside of the classroom. The skills I learned and the information I gained about the politics of social change were so useful and are still proving to be even today!
First-year	Full-time	Female	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience to me about national and global issues was when president Obama came to speak at UNO. That was very memorable and I learned a lot about our nations issues.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience was the students peaceful protest against violence in the campus because people from different gender, race, and believes got together for a good cause.
First-year	Full-time	Female	All the experiences I have encountered have bettered my understanding of the world, and they have made me a better person.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I just love UNO as a whole. I think there are some issues with parking and transportation. Otherwise, the school with very well updated and capable of handling all struggles.

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think that be able to see other people's perspective really helps. Even if I don't agree with them on said topic it's good to hear what they have to say and then have a discussion.
First-year	Full-time	Female	In high school we had a stabbing happen. Our whole school came together and helped each other get through it. It was nice to have the whole school come together as a community.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The power to understand that we are the future and if their is a problem we must educate ourselves and raise awareness.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think being able to watch President Obama speak was the best experience I've had when it comes to listening someone discuss local and global issues.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Working with others to achieve a common goal.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think the thing that has meant the most for me is to be able to advocate for all kinds of issues as a member of the speech team.
First-year	Full-time	Female	In my Human Environment Geography class I learned about the freeway initiatives and how they impact the health of the people living around them, the problems it creates for the accessibility of the city for pedestrians and also how it funnels traffic and creates overcrowding for itself. I believe it is an issue that affects the city of my university and have spoken to many about my concerns about it and what could be done in the future. My teacher played a huge part in this interest of mine. Best teacher I have ever had here.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I got a very helpful advisor when first time i attended to campus! She's very nice and friendly!
First-year	Full-time	Female	The art gallery to bring awareness to rape
First-year	Full-time	Female	Having informed discussions with other students and adults to get their view on the issue.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The fact that there's more people who are aware of it and willing to make a change versus those who don't know or care.
First-year	Full-time	Female	They were meaningful to me because it was something I was passionate about and a way for me to get involved.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I have heard about all of the issues going on in this world or on campus. I have seen people and organizations and leaders handle most of the problems in an orderly, respectful manner.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think one of the most meaningful things I've done so far was being a part of a phone bank which was quite interesting to raise awareness to people on Medicaid. Just explaining to them about the rally at the state capital to raise awareness and to try and persuade the governor to support expanding medicare.
First-year	Full-time	Female	None
First-year	Full-time	Female	The lessons you learn from them. They can teach you many things.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Being informed about different things going on. Such as receiving texts from UNO.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I'm involved in a couple programs that promote keeping art in schools. I've witnessed several fine arts classes and activities that have suffered because of budget cuts, so it's very important to me to advocate the need for fine arts.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Whatever happens on campus usually affects other people. So more than likely, if it is bothering you, it is bothering them also. I meaningful because it's a discussion everyone in the area can talk about and bring and discuss how to deal with the issue.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I think the most meaningful to me would be getting to go through them with my community, whether at school or with my church community.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Political Issues and campus issues
First-year	Full-time	Male	Learning how to work with people from different point of views, skills, and backgrounds.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The acedemics
First-year	Full-time	Male	Being informed is important/meaningful to me because I believe it is important to be aware of the surroundings that I live in.
First-year	Full-time	Male	That they effect everyone

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Male	I may not be a natural leader, or a politically skilled person, but I know this planet is in trouble in several ways. I feel a strong need to help the planet and the people who live on it, and I feel as though that's a very character defining ideal.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The most meaningful experiences come from social interaction when talking about any local, state, and global issues.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I had an experience with Syrian refugees in Serbia.
First-year	Full-time	Male	None
First-year	Full-time	Male	Seeing students who are like-minded come together for a cause (whatever it may) be is inspiring to me and has been the most meaningful part of campus/local awareness experiences.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Keeping up on what is going on in the world. It's really important because where we live isn't only our future but our kids, and our kids, kids future. These issues can effect even them.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The recent political landscape
First-year	Full-time	Male	These experiences have shown me the diversity of topics and issues that can be addressed.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I haven't really been involved with any issues.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I had a project to help address a campus problem, which my group chose to be the shuttle system. We examined the issue and appealed to the office, and did a few other things, but could not make any sweeping changes.
First-year	Full-time	Male	On my campus they are rebuilding the student center, organizing the right athletic trips. Our national issues are deciding a president to lead our country and military service.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I'd say talking with others and learning about other view points is one of the most beneficial experiences I have had. Learning how other people view a certain topic helps me expand my knowledge and personal views on the current issue.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I attended a speaker from full bright scholars who spoke of the world issue of immigration. Her for example was primarily impacted when she was studying in turkey during the Syrian immigrant crisis
First-year	Full-time	Male	As can be gleaned from previous answers, I'm not one to participate in community activities, nor do I find myself personally invested in topics to the point of feeling called to action.
First-year	Full-time	Male	NA
First-year	Full-time	Male	The election
First-year	Full-time	Male	Learning about the issues with income inequality and how it is negatively effecting our society. It puts many other issues into a new light that helps explain why certain things are still occurring.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The parking on campus is just terrible honestly. Hopefully more student lots could be built.
First-year	Full-time	Male	N/A
First-year	Full-time	Male	The impact of government assistance.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Learning about true progressive values that will help guide all of my future important life decisions.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Having worked with several charities and other organizations that do volunteer work, the most meaningful aspect is seeing what it does for the people you helped. It makes you feel like you're doing something that supports your community and that truly matters and most of the time the only thing it costs you is your time.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Resolving issues around campus
First-year	Full-time	Male	I have my own problems to worry about.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I have made lots of great relationships with people on campus including advisors.

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Male	The University lacks in intellectual diversity. It very much promotes a single ideology and I see events for communities all the time for all different cultures except the American culture. As an American by birth I feel as though the University focuses more on international students and none at all on native students. I would like to see a promotion of patriotism and American culture along with those of international students.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Being an international freshman student at UNO, I'm very excited with what I have achieved and will try to do my best in the future. Unsurprisingly, first semester was tough, but I made it. One of my most important motivations was my International Advantage Scholarship requirement of GPA 3.0 and fortunately I earned grade, good enough to maintain my scholarship requirements. Overall, I'm having super collage experience at UNO!
First-year	Full-time	Male	What's been most meaningful, I'm not sure, but most impactful is the gay rights and accepting the gay community. Why? I do not believe we should be focusing a lot of our attention on the gay community and raising any awareness about it. I believe we have bigger problems to address/attend to.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I can't answer because I don't pay attention to them
First-year	Full-time	Male	Nothing comes to mind as of now.
First-year	Full-time	Male	I dun no
First-year	Full-time	Male	My involvement with UNO Be the Match (UNO's chapter of the National Bone Marrow Registry).  My work at the Office of Civic and Social Responsibility.
First-year	Full-time	Male	A few portion of opportunities offered for students to engage with other students. Many improvements need to be done to this institution.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Teacher interaction on campus
First-year	Full-time	Male	The most meaningful thing about all my experiences with issues both big and small would probably have to be talking with other people and seyeing how they approach the issue. This has made me rethink some of my positions and allowed me to gain a greater appreciation for the differing perspectives everyone brings to the table.
First-year	Full-time	Male	A cleaner planet.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Nada
First-year	Full-time	Male	I have enjoyed the relationships I have made with different people as we have discussed national, local, and campus issues. The discussions themselves have been great and have given me the opportunity to voice my opinion. I feel like a better speaker with this experience, and I know it will translate well into my career after college.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Most of the experiences I have had were viewed through television and read online. I discuss these issues with very few people for fear of volatility.  The most meaningful thing is when I am able to put issues into perspective in my own life. I don't always necessarily agree with one side of the issue or the other, but I find that I learn a lot that I hadn't known before.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The experience has been meaningful to me because the times I did discuss them I found new ways of thinking and different ways of life that I had not thought of before. It opened my eyes to a few things that I didn't have a lot of knowledge on before but now can fully understand them.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Being able to find an issue and fix it.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Campus Parking
First-year	Full-time	Male	ISIS



## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Male	As an adult with previous college debt and barely enough money to live, the school did a terrible job of helping me reenter and figure out how to pay. Administration makes me feel unwanted, like I'm a failure and I should just give up. The teachers are good and I feel good about myself, so I continue to go. I feel like I don't have a choice. At my income, going to school is a literal do-or-die situation.
First-year	Not full-time	Female	Mostly I just want justice for everyone. A big victory recently was getting gay marriage legalized in all states. But we're not done yet, there are still people who need justice, and I will never stop fighting for the minorities.
First-year	Not full-time	Female	NA
First-year	Not full-time	Female	I am a part of Hall Council in Maverick Village and we hosted an event where we made tie blankets for the Linus blanket project for children and that really brought to my attention that there is alot of needy or homeless children in Omaha and I feel that the campus should hold more events where we go out to help the less fortunate.
First-year	Not full-time	Female	I participated in 60 mins of service and loved how convenient it was to volunteer on campus in between classes
First-year	Not full-time	Female	none of them. I don't really care about those issues
First-year	Not full-time	Female	None
First-year	Not full-time	Female	Everyone has their own view on the situation, and others are willing to listen to their way of thinking.
First-year	Not full-time	Male	More than anything else, the failure of these educational institutions and the inability of peers to succeed at these failing institutions makes me very worried about the state of our country and our ability to handle issues moving forth.
First-year	Not full-time	Male	My most meaningful experience with issues that surround me lead me to see outside the way I normally conduct my daily life, ultimately becoming a better person.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I would rather not answer.
Senior	Full-time	Female	knowing i was doing something impactful
Senior	Full-time	Female	I think being an informed citizen is a very important thing, especially with the Upcoming election. It's most meaningful to me when I am engaged in discussion about issues or topics like these and I have already researched it and developed an opinion as a basis for discussion.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful of these experiences was during my Seminar of Public Policy class, where I formed a higher awareness of policy issues in our Education system. As a result of this class, I formed a heightened awareness of the meaning of policy, and a strong passion for addressing social justice issues and striving to get them resolved. I care about people and want to, one day, better our world through the world of public policy. This course opened my eyes to the many issues that exist in our education system, government, and nation as a whole. I thank my professor for that.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Since I don't have so much opportunity to work with others in classes, doing volunteer or social services helped me increase my experience of working with others.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Freedom of people to choose how they live their life including gay marriage and abortion.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Involving myself in the Deaf community has taught me so much about my own culture, language, and up-bringing. I have learned more about myself than I have in all of my previous schooling.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful part of these experiences was how open other students and faculty were about addressing these issues and making them feel valid. It wasn't so much about being right or wrong, it was about being heard and my campus did this very well.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Raising awareness for certain issues. Particularly regarding the elder population.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I recently participated in Planned Parenthood's Lobby Day at the State Capitol where we were lobbying for 2 bills that were very pro-women. I then attended hearings on anti-choice bills at the State Capitol as well. Being that closely involved in the political process was very eye-opening in regards to power of voice and how often we discount our voices but when in reality, they have huge effect.
Senior	Full-time	Female	N/A

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
Senior	Full-time	Female	N/A
Senior	Full-time	Female	While studying abroad in Ankara, Turkey I became very involved with a campus organization that worked with Syrian refugees. It gave me the opportunity to see the impact war has on its citizens and the countries around them. It made me value my life, my family, and the all the privileges I have as an United States citizen. Often times, we don't take the time to concern ourselves with other people's problems, both locally and internationally, and I think that is a major downfall of American society.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Presidential election underway and why Donald Trump is the best candidate for President.
Senior	Full-time	Female	N/A
Senior	Full-time	Female	getting to learn about the process of how things come together; meeting and interviewing interesting people
Senior	Full-time	Female	Volunteering with my Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc to sponsor a family from South Sudan that was new to America. We were able to provide them with food, shelter, and protection during the winter months that they were not used to.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I have not had any real experiences with local, campus, state, national, or global issues.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The knowledge I attained from my math professors is invaluable.
Senior	Full-time	Female	There are so many issues that have meaning to me, but anti-bullying is a huge one. I work with special needs children and being able to help people at a local level stop bullying is a goal of mine. People shouldn't have to be afraid to go to school because of bullying and I believe this is a big issue that needs to be resolved. I work with my kids at the daycare to remind them that no one can tell them who they should be.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Feeling like I'm helping achieve something bigger than just one person.
Senior	Full-time	Female	N/A
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful would be all the political views for those running for president.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Meeting people with similar concern for issues like climate change, human rights, gender rights, voting rights, animal rights, etc.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful to me is when I started to become involved in the faith and found what I believe on controversial topics based on how I truly felt about it rather than what I was told to think about it.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I appreciate that I had many opportunities to propose improvements at my institution, especially since the authority figures generally valued my input and worked with me to bring about changes.
Senior	Full-time	Female	National
Senior	Full-time	Female	I enjoy learning others' point of view on issues. It is also beneficial to discuss differences with these people and come to a resolution, or come to the peaceful conclusion that we do not all agree.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I haven't had any important experiences with local or global issues with others. People don't seem to really care about anything besides themselves.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Studying abroad
Senior	Full-time	Female	I think that just being one person who cares means a lot when it comes to our issues on Earth. For me, feeling like I'm giving back is imperative. We should all genuinely care about making the world while also uplifting each other. I get the most enjoyment out of making a difference even if its a small one.
Senior	Full-time	Male	How experiences in the classroom relate to experiences outside the classroom.
Senior	Full-time	Male	That question seems far too broadly worded to be statistically useful.
Senior	Full-time	Male	I think people aren't involved enough in international relations in the United States.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Understanding of social, economic, political, and intellectual diversity at UNO.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Just to better understand the fact at hand and discuss it with others who have similar or different thoughts.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Trying to get awareness and help for many students, especially non-traditional ones with families and not able to qualify for much financial assistance, especially at state-run universities.
Senior	Full-time	Male	The military veterans office

## NSSE 2016 Civic Engagement Open-Ended Responses University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
Senior	Full-time	Male	I'm not sure. Knowing that you can make a difference, and that everything affects you.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Making my voice heard. I do not want to be one of those people that always complains about stuff being wrong and when you ask them if they did anything about it, they say no.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Those which stimulate spiritual growth, often very difficult personal circumstances. Often through the toughest times is when I grow the most.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Working on campus issues with students from different backgrounds has been eye opening.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Sara Martin has been a phenomenal adviser, she has gone over the edge for getting help with planning classes, and getting credit for classes I had after a severe accident. The whole staff really, has been great.
Senior	Full-time	Male	The Application of course material to current issues.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Talking about gender, race and sexual orientation biases and discrimination and the misogynistic "mens rights" douche bags on social media.
Senior	Full-time	Male	The fact that I'm just on this earth, breathing oxygen, is a blessing within itself. It's really I'll I need in life to keep going forward.
Senior	Full-time	Male	President Obama coming to the University to speak. Also talking to professors about the global climate summit.
Senior	Full-time	Male	<p>My experience with both on-campus and off-campus groups has been one of the more holistic aspects of my time at UNO. I've been able to help organize political, non-profit, and campus-specific advocacy groups to help bring about some type of institutional or social change in the community.</p> <p>Working as leader of a statewide LGBT non-profit, I was able to help raise funds and provide community outreach for our members and their communities in order to change attitudes and policies affecting LGBT youth.</p> <p>As a volunteer for a number of political campaigns throughout Nebraska, I was able to campaign for a minimum wage rise throughout the state, as well as canvassing for a number of progressive candidates who work to reform institutions for the benefit of all in our community.</p> <p>My own campus work has involved increasing awareness and advocacy for student improvement and transgender rights on campus, so that all students can enjoy the same opportunity and access throughout the university.</p> <p>All these efforts have provided a formidable foundation for my future work in the real world.</p>
Senior	Full-time	Male	Diversity
Senior	Full-time	Male	The idea that ideas should be formed by gaining insight from many different sources and perspectives is very important and has meant a lot to me
Senior	Full-time	Male	Allowing persons with strong religious convictions to preach on campus is annoying. The school newspaper is on par with Fox news, in that articles have been published attacking the competence of the current president, this also annoys me.
Senior	Full-time	Male	I think most issues are blown out of proportion. People need to go to school and just focus on graduating. The only reasons I have spent time on campus is to go to class or study.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Raising awareness has proven to be most rewarding as it pertains to my presidency of Active Minds, a chapter of a national organization dedicated to addressing mental health issues.
Senior	Full-time	Male	helping those right here in our community that need the help most. Right in our own back yard there are many that are struggling to survive.
Senior	Full-time	Male	There have been so many issues. The one that has been to most meaningful to me is the activity of stopping abortion. I am pro life, and I try to fight and save lives with my beliefs.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Full time student, salary full time worker. Focused on work, school, and family/friends. Never enough time to worry about anything else.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	The experiences that have been most meaningful in regards to those issues are intelligent debates with someone who's opinion is different than my own. We both learn and grow from the experience, and though we may not change our opinions, we understand the other person's point of view better.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	They impact us all the way around.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	The upcoming Presidential Election is very concerning to me.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Currently, I feel like Racism is a huge issue. The classes I've taken at UNO have helped me think clearly about it when I'm involved in conversations about this topic with others.

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### Open-Ended Responses

### University of Nebraska at Omaha

Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
Senior	Not full-time	Female	In the context of learning American Sign Language, I have also had the opportunity to learn about the Deaf community, history, struggles, and triumphs. My classes and limited interactions with the community have greatly impacted me. I have learned a lot about the Deaf community (and my neighbors), that I otherwise would have remained ignorant about. I consider this to be some of the most valuable information I have gained from studying at UNO.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Being able to be empathetic to others.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	I would say that that UNO is a good school, the biggest thing that sticks out to me is the lousy parking situation on the Dodge Street campus. I would attend more events on campus if more parking was available. I actively avoid the Dodge Street campus as much as possible during the week because the parking situation is difficult.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Gender equality in academia and the work place
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Global issue hold the most importance with me, but for this you must also realize you generally need to start small, these being local issue
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Just discussing the issues with classmates had been eye opening. Whether I agreed or not, it was good to learn and listen to what others had to say. These topics need discussing, not to be pushed under the rug.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience I've had with regard to local issues would be volunteering at a local food bank where I handed out food to underprivileged families.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	instructors are very helpful, and they actually care about studies education and success.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Volunteering at the Open Door Mission, feeding the homeless provides me a sense of humbleness and gratitude. I'm. Thankful.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Learning about environmental change from all manner of students and faculty.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	none
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Getting in touch with NE legislature (Brett Lindstrom) regarding addressing the death penalty vote has been a learning process. I actually got a response from my representative, and although we do not see eye to eye on most political arguments, we both found some common ground on this vote. Since then, it has opened the door for me to communicate with him on other issues, such as readdressing LB 1018 and LB 643.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	None
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Witnessing the disparities on Native American Reservations, and how they are ignored.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Habitat for humanity with my employer
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The custodial/maintenance staff at UNO have been amazing. Including the HPER staff (students and administration).
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Education
Senior	Not full-time	Male	I think the most meaningful is the NE Stem 4U program. I get to teach children about awesome science stuff, while also helping myself learn about how to teach. This is a program that really helps both mentor and mentoree. Secondly I think the research I do really helps. While I'm not as active because I have a regular job, it gave me some skills to focus on the big diseases that were up and coming, and have a bigger appreciation of those diseases.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The issues are all about campus, the university needs to consider and do follow up with international students because we are coming from different places and do not know anything about this community and campuses so we are completely lost the only hope we have is the other people who have been here for years to help with basics stuff like how to look for jobs, how to apply etc... So the university needs to be more involved and spend little time on international students issues and very important issue I have experienced is when I went to the international office at the art and science building I was completely lost on what I was supposed to do and I was left by myself to figure what to do that was unforgettable and rude receptionist. We spend more here so we need basic respect and follow up. Thank you for addressing this survey I was waiting for this kind of thing to express myself thank you again
Senior	Not full-time	Male	.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Effecting positive legislative outcomes for priority bills.

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Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Most of my experiences stem from a desire to secularize governmental policies and try to bring scientific reasoning to what seems to be more and more of the "poorly educated". Most my experiences have been meaningful because they found for equality or advanced one of the conservation issues that I'm passionate about. In one sense it proved that I was not a secondary citizen in my own country while the other ties me to the shared burden we all face due to climate change.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	n/a
Senior	Not full-time	Male	I have held several officer positions in two different honors organizations on campus, including president of AKD, the Sociology honors society. This has contributed to my leadership experience, and has helped me learn how best to communicate matters of societal importance and get others involved.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The most meaningful experiences have shown me that regardless of the outcome, it is important to set a standard for yourself.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	I don't really pay attention to these things.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	Here in Nebraska it seems hard to get the masses excited about these topics and issues. Unfortunately students and staff collectively are not as ideally involved as other campuses although there seems to be a slow shift as enrollment is increasing.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The value of UNO's education. Very talented -and usually younger- professors. Very disconnected student body. You are either from Omaha (or the general region), or you are an outsider. A student from New Jersey has as much in common with a Nebraskan as a student from Thailand. The frustrating curriculum which makes graduation difficult for transfer students. Lack of advisor assistance... or care. Always a feeling of assimilation, rather than independence. Overall though, UNO is far above par. And when taking tuition costs into consideration, there is no finer university for an individual to get an education.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	I'm a veteran so my experience in the military and my years as a defense contractor play a part. Additionally, my experience as a husband and father also define a large amount of my views.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The experiences that has affected me the most is on climate change. There are various experiences, from the national to local, that I found important though climate change, in relation to the state of the world as it is, influenced my choices that I will be making in the near future. While there are more issues (social, political, cultural, etc.) that affects us from the global to the local scale, I decided to take climate change as a preliminary issue in which I can make my decisions and where my actions can positively make a difference in a community.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The experiences that meant most to me was interacting with people and having a good time getting along.