
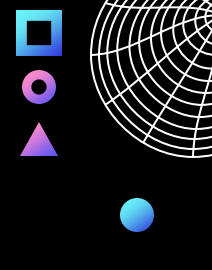

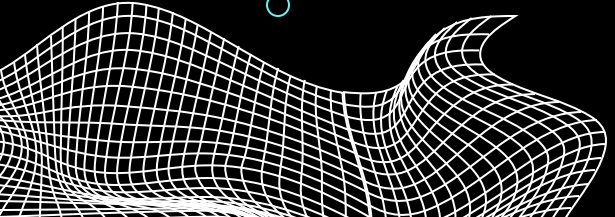




GWC Faculty Course Attrition Survey



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2024 Data Coach Inquiry Project
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What is Attrition?

Definition: Attrition refers to the dropout or withdrawal of students from courses or programs before completion.

- Attrition can be expressed as a **rate**:

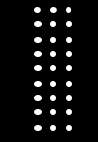
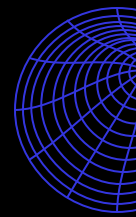
$$\frac{\text{\# of students who leave the college or program}}{\text{Total \# of students enrolled at the beginning of a period}}$$

- Attrition occurs at all levels: degrees, courses, programs, clubs, etc.



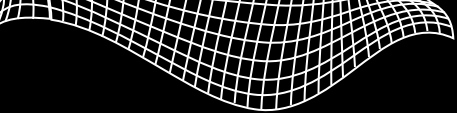


Why Care About Course Attrition?


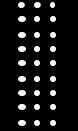


- ❑ Understanding course attrition is crucial for GWC to ensure equitable access and success for all students.
 - ❑ Despite efforts to foster inclusivity, disparities persist, impacting student retention and success.
 - ❑ Studying **why** certain groups drop out of courses is essential for crafting interventions and policies that boost retention and academic success.
 - ❑ Our funding is partially based on student success (SCFF).
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- 





Methodology = Mix Methods

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- Administered to 124 GWC faculty across disciplines
 - 27 multiple choice questions. 5 point Likert scales
 - 3 open ended questions
 - Conducted using Google forms for 10 days
 - Survey participants = **34**. Response rate = **27.4%**
 - Chat GPT analysed qualitative data for themes
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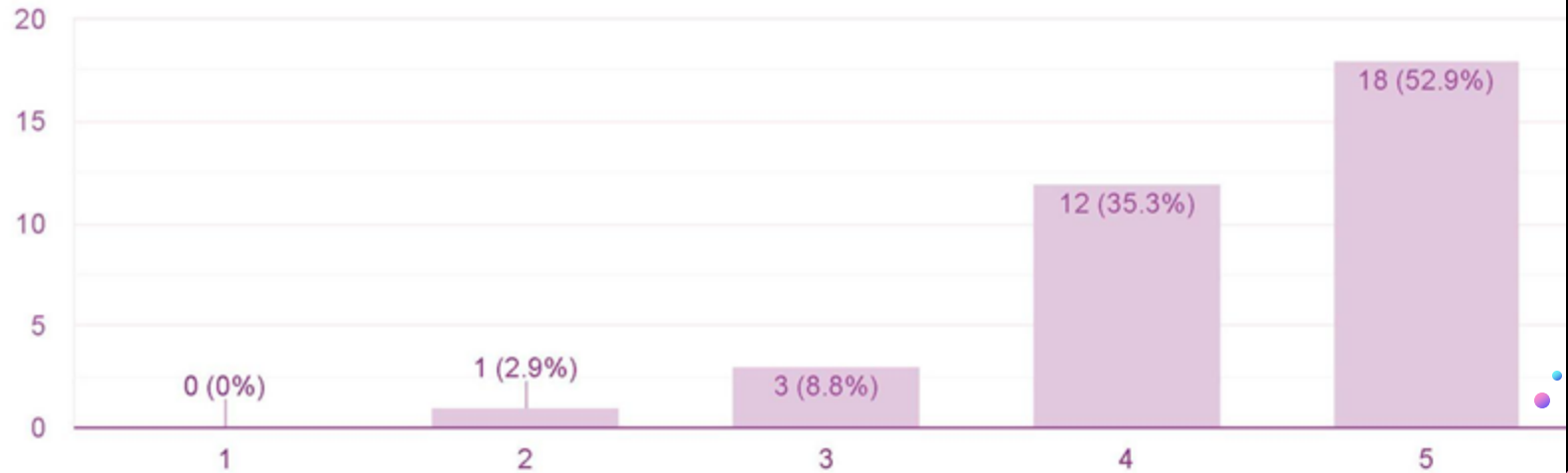
Research Question #1

To what extent are faculty members aware of GWC's overall attrition rates and those specific to their respective disciplines?

Findings for RQ #1

I understand the concept of an attrition rate in a college course.

34 responses

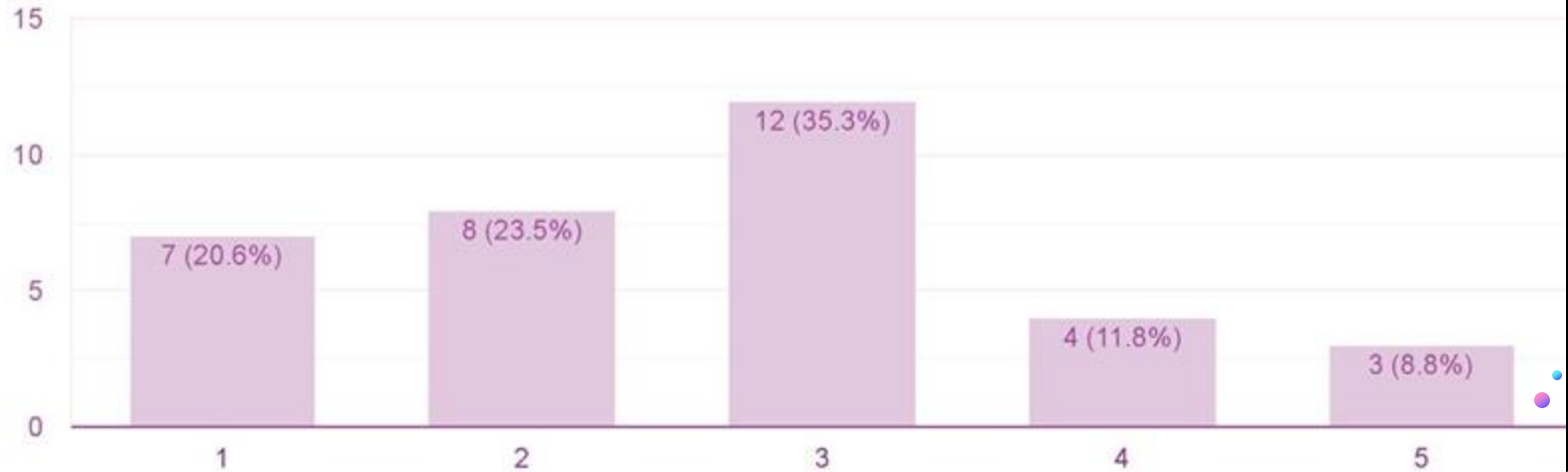


The faculty have a general understanding of attrition conceptually

Findings for RQ #1 Cont.

I am familiar with Golden West College's overall course attrition rates.

34 responses

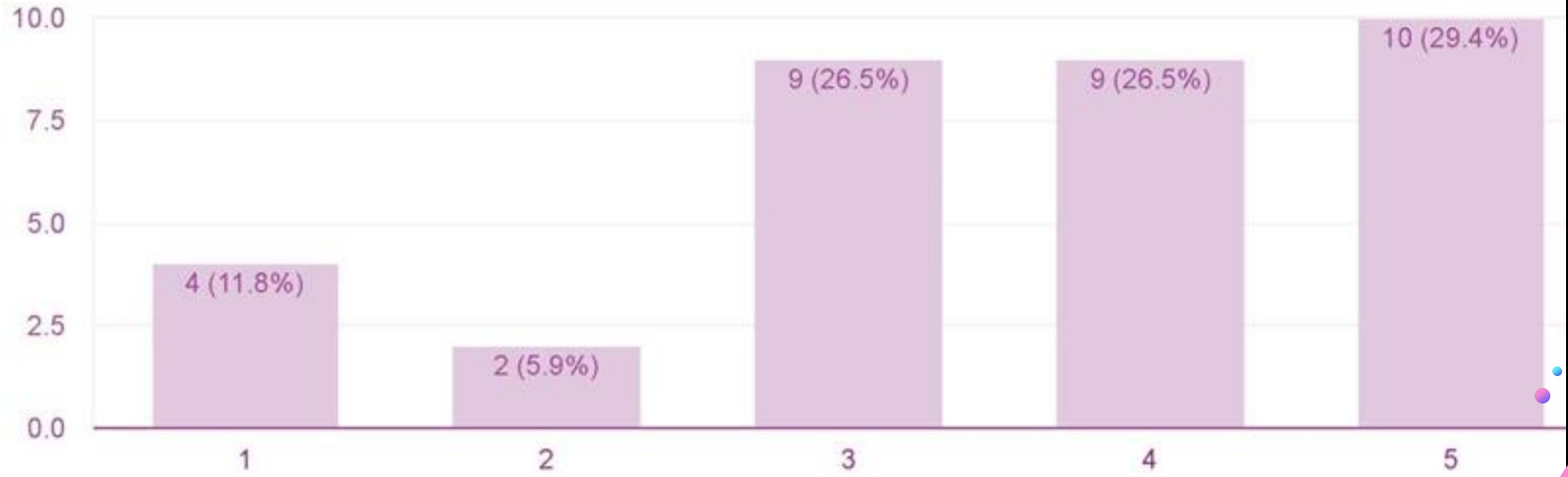


More faculty are unaware of GWC overall course attrition rates than aware.

Findings for RQ #1 Cont.

I am aware of the current course attrition rates within my academic discipline at GWC.

34 responses



Faculty are locally aware of course attrition rates, but not on the macro level.



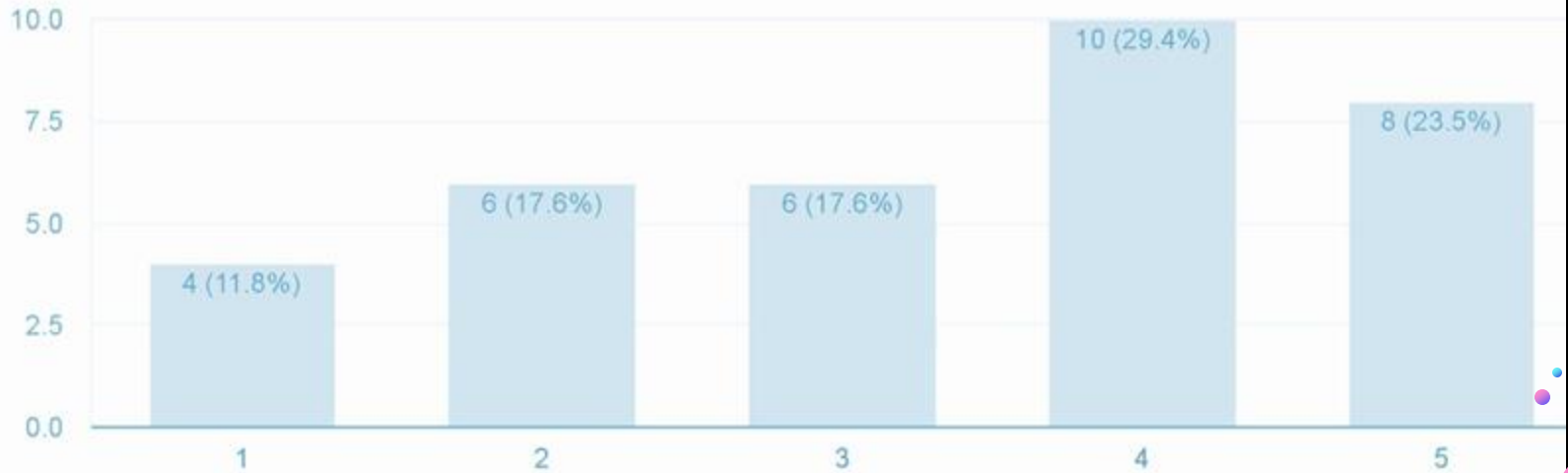
Research Question #2

What strategies do faculty members suggest for improving retention rates?

Findings for RQ #2

I am familiar with research on strategies to mitigate student attrition in college courses.

34 responses

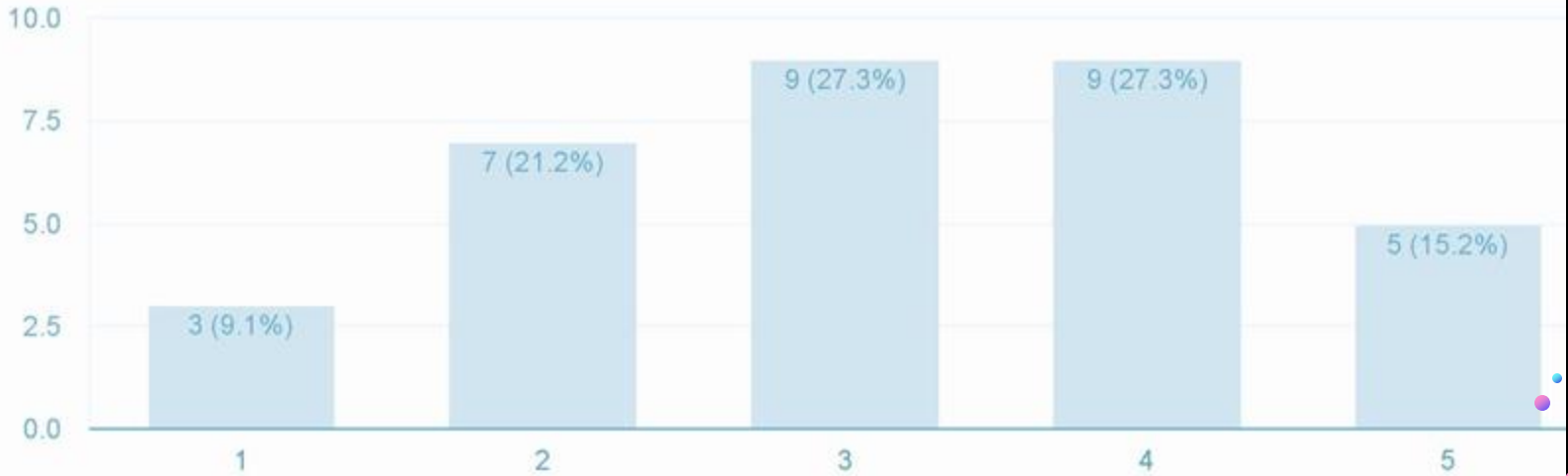


Faculty could benefit from learning strategies that mitigate course attrition

Findings for RQ #2 Cont.

I believe that my course policies and processes contribute to student course attrition.

33 responses



Most faculty agree; their course policies contribute to higher attrition rates

Findings for RQ #2 Cont.

★ **Flexible and Supportive Policies:**

- Flexible due dates, multiple exam attempts, and test corrections.
- Utilize support through embedded tutors, office hours, the ASC, and affinity groups.

● **Active Learning and Engagement:**

- Emphasis is placed on active learning with group activities, repetition of content, and scaffolding with feedback.
- Encourage students to engage in discussions, problem-solving, and utilize campus resources.

● **Clear Communication and Transparency:**

- Prioritize clear communication of expectations through detailed syllabi and Canvas announcements.
- Use email notifications to remind students of deadlines that encourage communication when needed.



Research Question #3

What resources and support systems do faculty think should be enhanced or implemented to reduce attrition rates for the classes they teach?



Findings for RQ #3

➤ **Attendance and Engagement:**

- PD centered on RSI, and effective communication skills of faculty.
- Identifying at-risk students early on and intervening promptly to improve outcomes.

➤ **Support Services and Resources:**

- Increase the use of early alert systems, success coaches, and qualified tutors.
- Expand the embedded tutor program and promote mental health services available on campus.

➤ **Enhanced Collaboration:**

- Unify department course policies for a more consistent student experience from instructor to instructor.
- Increase communication about campus resources.
- Promote a sense of community on campus to improve student engagement and retention.

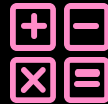
Next Steps...

Expand

Institutionalize a
attrition survey at
GWC across all
sectors

PD at CIL

Faculty need best
practices to help
lower attrition rates
at GWC





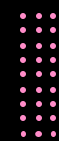





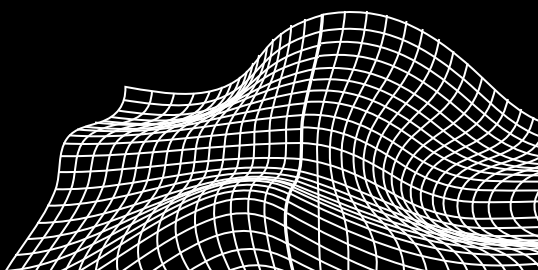
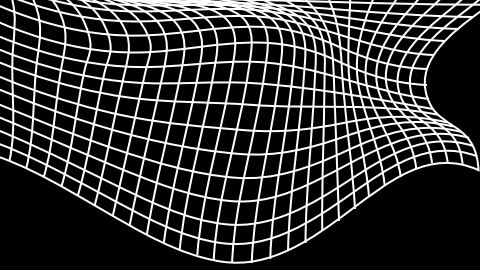
ORPIE

Use the GWC Data
Dashboard to learn
more about GWC
attrition rates

Research

Attrition is complex.
Stay up-to-date on
peer-reviewed
research





"Student attrition is not a fate, but a challenge—a challenge to innovate, to support, and to inspire. Every dropout is a story waiting to be changed, a path waiting to be redirected, and a journey waiting to be reclaimed."

—A wise educator

Thank You for
Your Time!

