

Chapter 4: Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA+)

Who takes it?

A sample of approximately 100 freshman and seniors take the CLA+ each year. While the freshman students are randomly selected, seniors take the CLA+ as their senior test. The disciplines that require the CLA+ as their senior test include: Communication Disorders, Creative Writing, English, Interdisciplinary Studies, Linguistics, Russian, and Theatre.

When is it administered?

The CLA+ is taken by freshman students in the Fall and by senior students in the Spring.

What office administers it?

It is administered by the Assessment and Testing Office online.

Who originates the exam?

The Council for Aid to Education.

When are the results normally available?

Freshman results are available in the spring and senior results in the early fall.

What type of information is sought?

The CLA+ is divided into two sections: a Performance Task and a series of Selected-Response questions. The Performance Task is an open-ended prompt that requires a written response. The Selected-Response questions require students to choose the best response based on the provided document library. The CLA+ tasks assess critical thinking and written communication skills. These skills included scientific and quantitative reasoning, analytic reasoning and evaluation of information, problem solving, writing effectiveness, and writing mechanics.

From whom are the results available?

The Council for Aid to Education provides an institutional report that's included in this report. CAE emails individual results to the students.

To whom are the results regularly distributed?

Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, Assessment Committee, and the campus community through this Almanac.

Are the results available by department or discipline?

No.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities?

Yes.

Collegiate Learning Assessment Plus

The objective of the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA+) is to measure students' critical thinking and written communication skills regardless of their academic majors. This assessment also demonstrates how an institution is contributing to the development of its students' critical thinking and written communication skills. The CLA+ no longer uses ACT scores as the estimate

of incoming ability in comparison to the test scores. Instead, observed senior scores meet expectations established by two factors: the level of education attained by the parents of the students and the mean CLA+ performance of the freshmen at Truman.

Truman Summary of Results

First-year students at Truman had a Total CLA+ score of 1140; this score is better than approximately 89% of CLA+ schools. By CLA+ standards, this score is labeled “Proficient”. For Truman seniors, the Total CLA+ score is 1214, which is better than 87% of CLA+ schools. By CLA+ standards, the corresponding Mastery Level for this score is “Proficient”.

SUMMARY RESULTS, BY CLASS

Number of Students Tested, by Class

Freshmen: 125, Sophomores: N/A, Juniors: N/A, Seniors: 136

Summary CLA+ Results, by Class

		MEAN SCORE	STANDARD DEVIATION	25TH PERCENTILE	75TH PERCENTILE	MEAN SCORE PERCENTILE	EFFECT SIZE V. FRESHMEN
TOTAL CLA+ SCORE	Freshmen	1140	119	1069	1223	89	--
	Sophomore	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Juniors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Seniors	1214	104	1143	1282	87	0.62
PERFORMANCE TASK	Freshmen	1121	144	1042	1218	81	--
	Sophomore	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Juniors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Seniors	1152	135	1061	1254	69	0.21
SELECTED RESPONSE QUESTIONS	Freshmen	1159	161	1059	1281	93	--
	Sophomore	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Juniors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Seniors	1276	140	1183	1391	98	0.72
ENTERING ACADEMIC ABILITY	Freshmen	1107	147	1070	1300	75	--
	Sophomore	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Juniors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Seniors	1163	150	1150	1380	87	--

Truman State University has a senior Total CLA+ score of 1214 and percentile rank of 87. The corresponding Mastery Level for this score is ***Proficient***.