

# **EFFECTIVE WRITING AT HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE**

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# WHAT WE DID

- **Effective Writing as a General Education Goal**
- **Student Learning Outcomes - *The student will be able to:***
  - 1. Compose texts across multiple disciplines and for various audiences, occasions and purposes.
  - 2. Construct texts for communication, information, and expression which adhere to the rules of Standard Written English;
  - 3. Compose texts that are focused, well-organized, and well-developed.

# WHAT WE DID

## ■ The Process

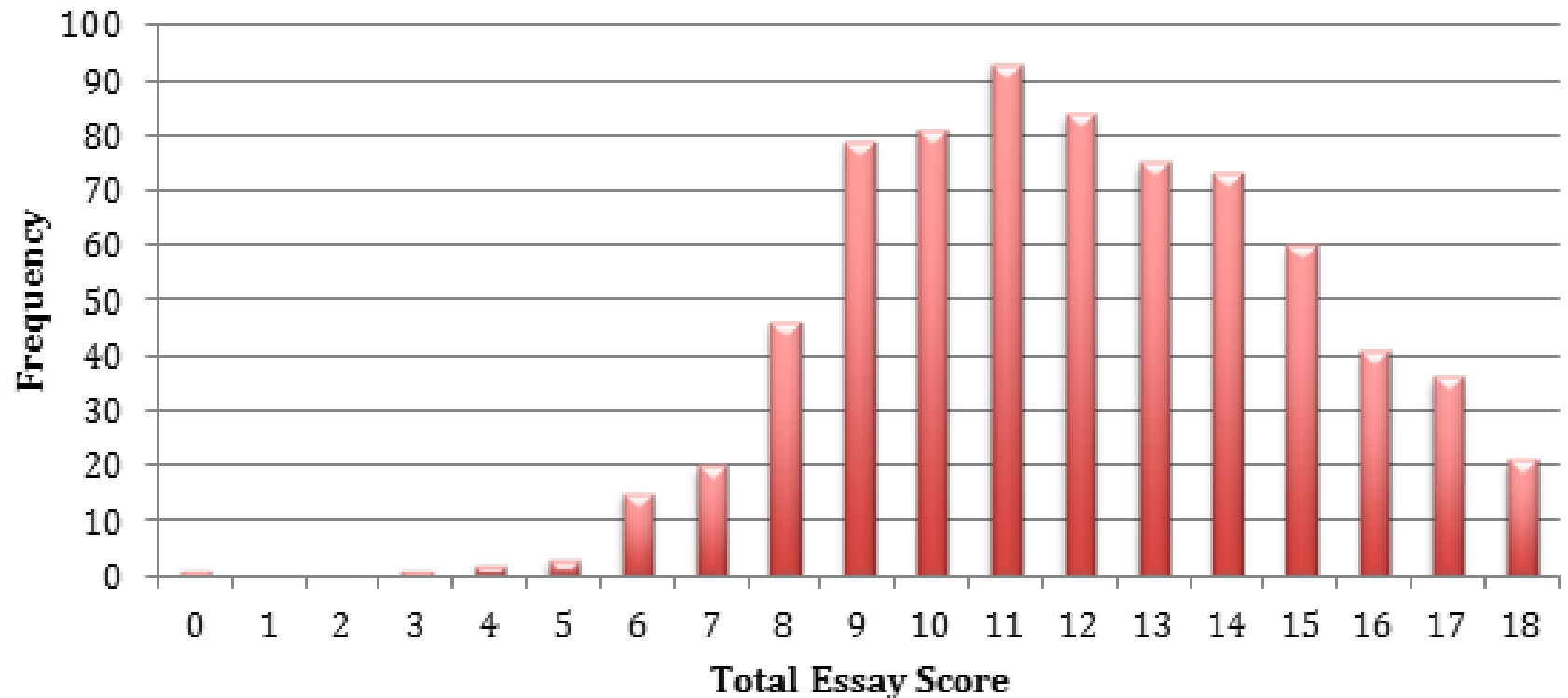
- Develop SLO's
- Develop Rubric
- Develop Demographic Survey
- Solicit Volunteer Faculty
- Gather Writing Samples
- Solicit Faculty Graders
- Assess Writing Samples
- Analyze Data
- Write Report
- Disseminate Findings

## WHAT WE LEARNED

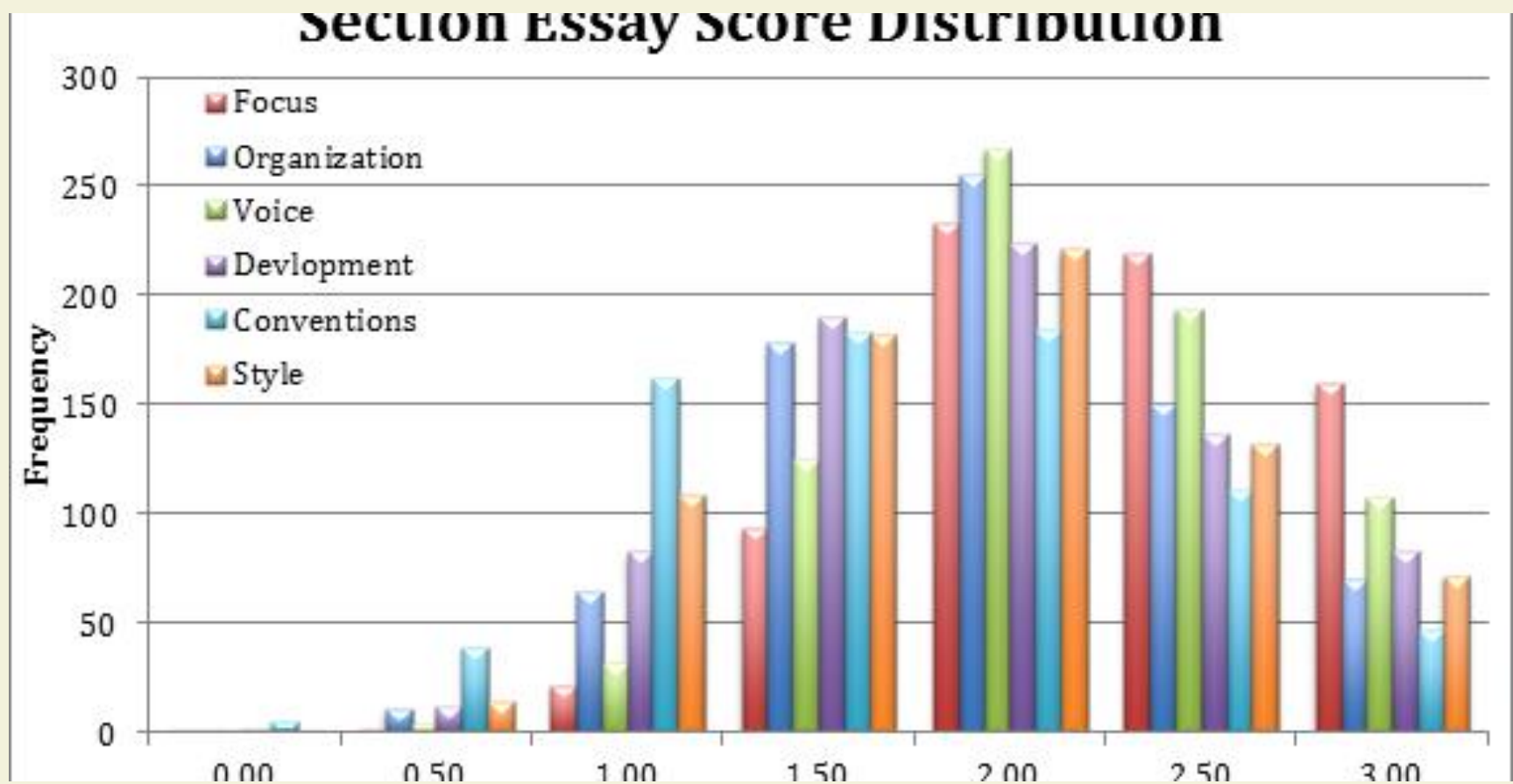
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# WHAT WE LEARNED

## Total Essay Score Distribution



# WHAT WE LEARNED



# WHAT WE LEARNED

Highest Course	Total Essay Score														
	First Course														
	English 98/99			English 100/125			English 100			English 101			English 102		
	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>N</i>
English 98/99	58%	14%	15	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-	0
English 100/125	-	-	8	-	-	11	-	-	2	-	-	0	-	-	0
English 100	54%	22%	21	-	-	1	56%	17%	27	-	-	0	-	-	0
English 101	57%	21%	20	57%	11%	16	69%	16%	17	69%	17%	105	-	-	1
English 102	57%	13%	25	62%	18%	13	63%	17%	20	73%	13%	78	70%	14%	27

# WHAT WE LEARNED

- Rater Reliability
- Combined Sections – Reading *and* Writing
- Written vs. Typed Samples
- Quantity of Assigned Writing
- Student Perceptions
  - Low correlation with each area except....
  - High correlation between self-described skills as an overall writer



# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- **Committee Recommendations**
  - **More Writing Across All Disciplines**
  - **Specific and Abundant Feedback**
  - **Initial Placement in Combined Courses**
  - **Re-examination of Developmental English with a renewed focus on SLOs, course content and teaching/learning pedagogy**
  - **Re-examination of promotion criteria**

# Q & A

- For a full report on the Assessment of Effective Writing at HWC
  - HWC website – Academics – Assessment – General Education – Effective Writing Report
  - [http://ccc.edu/colleges/washington/departments/Documents/HWCAC\\_Effective\\_Writing\\_Report\\_Spring\\_2013\\_02\\_14\\_Final\\_Approved.pdf](http://ccc.edu/colleges/washington/departments/Documents/HWCAC_Effective_Writing_Report_Spring_2013_02_14_Final_Approved.pdf)