

Integrating Liberal Education Outcomes into FY Seminars

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UW-Green Bay FY Seminars

- Goal: Foster increased college engagement and success among freshmen by developing an integrated FY experience with a seminar course
- Common elements:
 - Understanding of interdisciplinarity
 - Critical thinking/Problem solving skills
 - Communication skills
 - Information literacy
 - Engagement
 - Adjustment to college

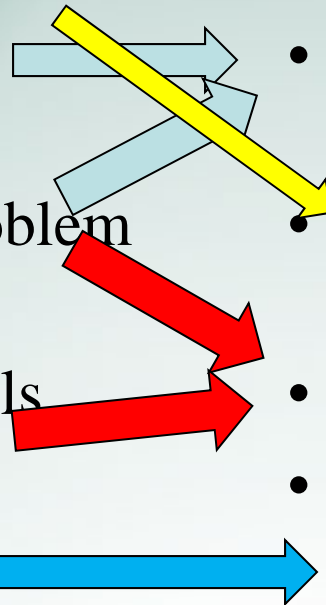
Mapping to LEAP

UW-Green Bay FY Seminars

- Understanding of interdisciplinarity
- Critical thinking/problem solving
- Communication skills
- Information literacy
- Engagement
- Adjustment

LEAP Learning Outcomes

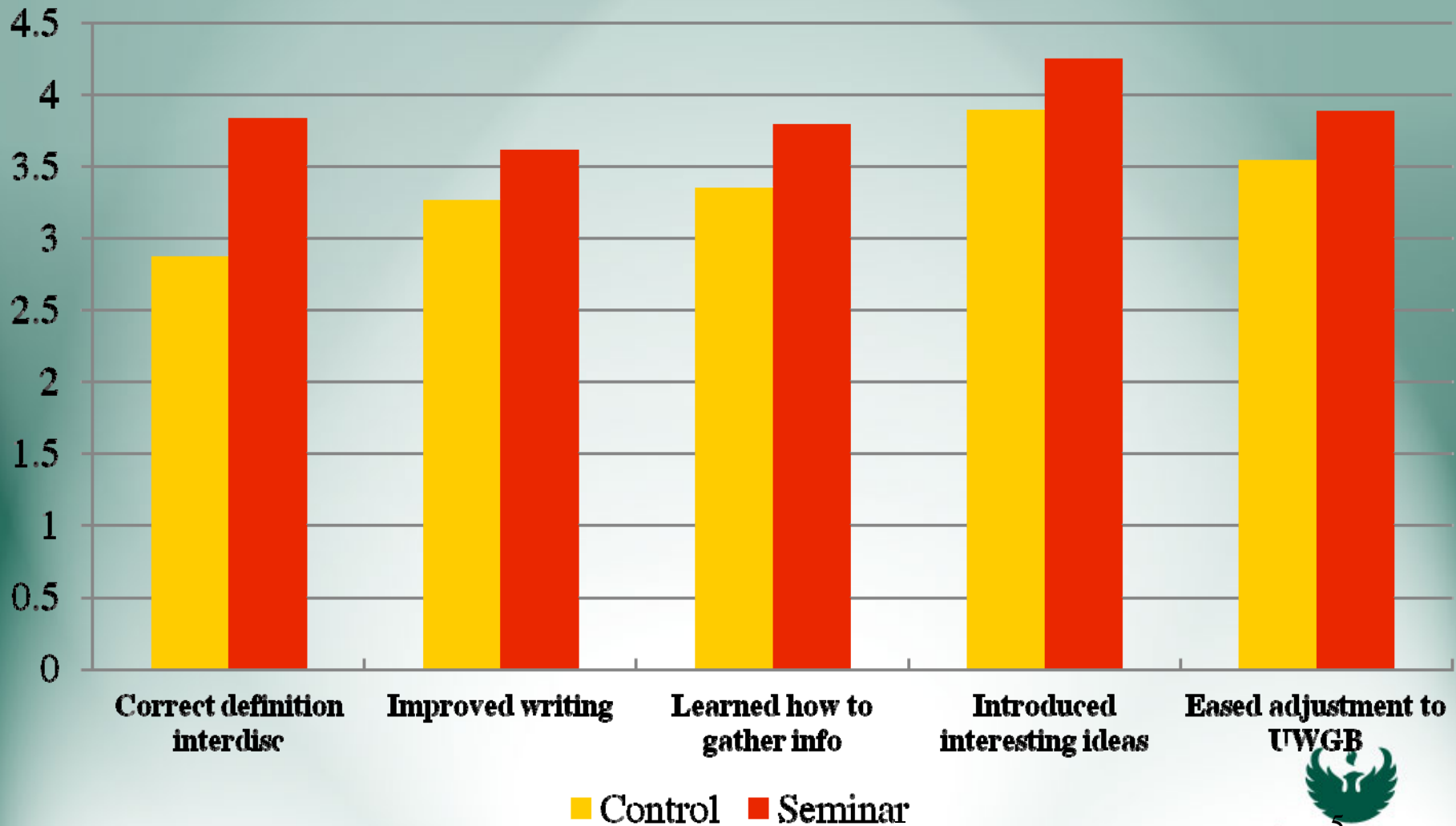
- Integrative/Applied Learning
- Knowledge human cultures, human/natural world
- Intellectual/Practical Skills
- Personal/Social Responsibility



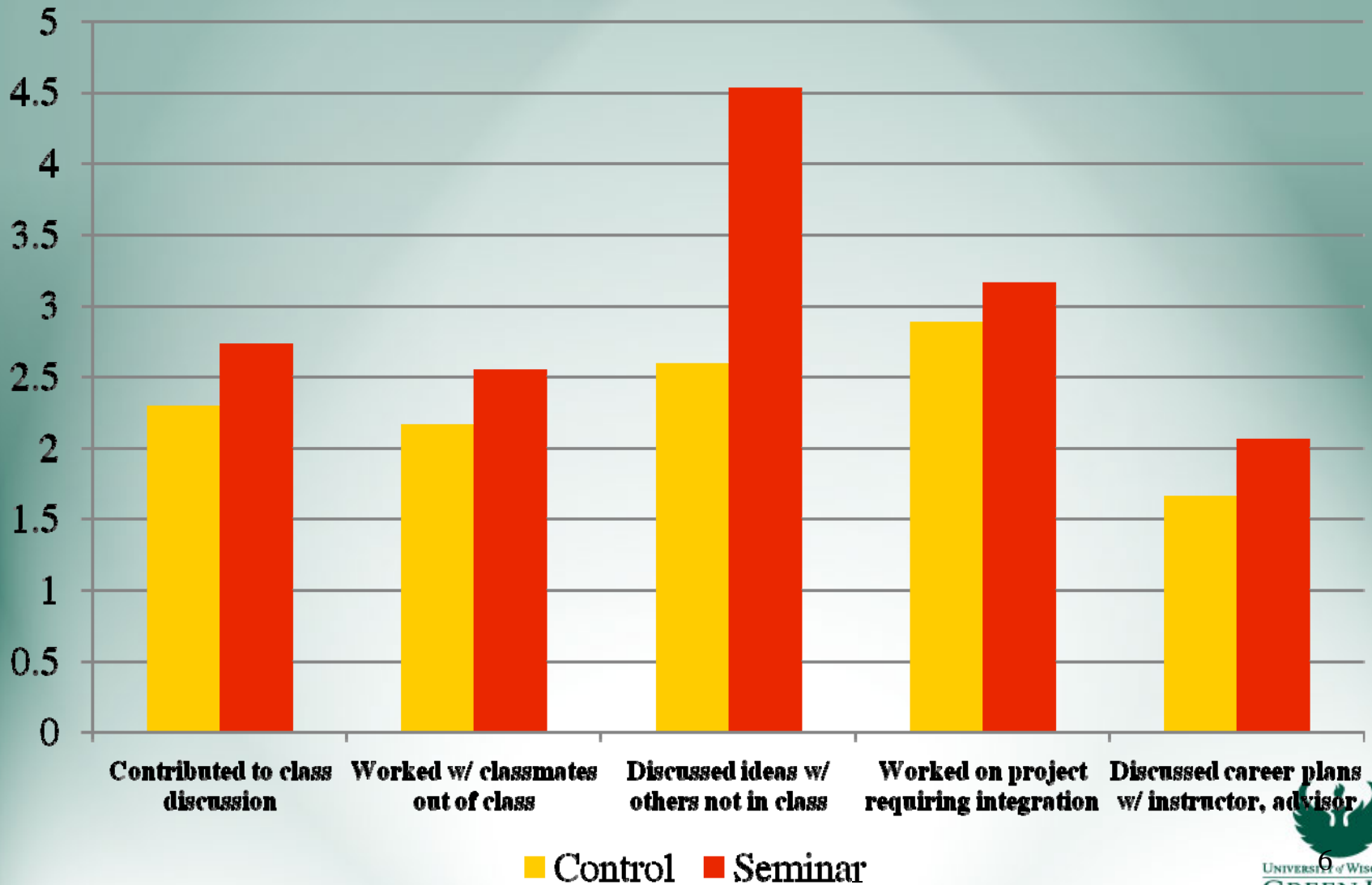
Class Mechanisms

- Significant interaction with faculty
- Small class size (n=25 maximum)
- Focus on engaging pedagogy
- Written work – at least 25% of course grade
- Info literacy component
- Interdisciplinary common lesson
- Co-curricular activities (E.g., Diversity, Leadership)
- Student success skills materials
- Peer mentors (began in Fall 2008)

Seminar Class Variables



NSSE Variables



Common Theme: Another Initiative

- A way to explore the “big questions”
 - Allows faculty, staff, and students the ability to focus on a general theme from multiple perspectives and have a campus-wide shared experience
- Theme should:
 - Lend itself to interdisciplinary analysis/conversation
 - High academic caliber/conducive to scholarly dialogue
 - Collaborative links across the campus (student affairs, academic affairs, and community engagement)
 - Engaging for students and community

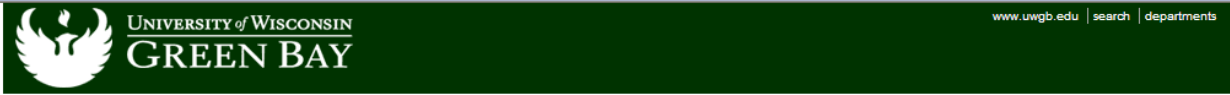
Common Theme

- Curricular and co-curricular
 - Common readings, Lecture series/film series
 - Exercises in First Year Courses
- Our examples:
 - Waging War, Waging Peace
 - Realizing our Sustainable Future
 - The Leadership Question (2010/11)
- www.uwgb.edu/commontheme



UW-System Grant

- Office of Professional and Instructional Development (OPID)
- Faculty development key component to successful FY seminar
- Two major objectives of grant
 - Launch a web site dedicated to faculty development of first year seminar instructors



Faculty Development for FIRST YEAR SEMINAR PROGRAM

**INTRODUCTION
to a First Year
Seminar Program**

**UNDERSTANDING
Your First Year
Students**

**INTEGRATION
with the University**



**PROMOTING
Engagement in
the First Year**

**PROFESSIONAL
Development**

PEER Mentors

**First Year Program
ASSESSMENT**

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UW-System Grant

- Develop a one day workshop
 - Understanding first year students
 - Selecting and sequencing course content
 - Student engagement through diverse teaching pedagogies

Continued Challenges

- Trying to expand to include everyone
- Continued faculty and campus buy in
- Resources
- Faculty development
- For Common Theme...expanding the participation