

Bank of Columbus Open-Up Survey – FAQs

1. What is the difficulty level of the assignment?

Undergraduates find interpreting/representing the data correctly to be a challenge. At Dominican, the assignment is 15 % of the total course grade. Students are given several weeks between the return of their draft paper and the turning in of their final paper.

2. What student support is available?

The assignment is reviewed in class and the table of data discussed. Students are given a quiz on the data prior to their first draft being due (so both student and instructor have an idea of how well the students can analyze the data).

In addition to the written draft feedback, at Dominican we provide the option for a 30 minute one-on-one session with the instructor before the final is due.

3. What program should be used to create the graphics?

We require all graphics be created in Excel and imported into their Word document. Excel provides far more flexibility and customization than other Office programs (Word, PowerPoint). A class session is dedicated to reviewing the graph creation functions of Excel.

4. Table 3. seems a bit confusing, why isn't it more straight forward?

The reason in making this table less clear was to challenge the student's ability to critically think about what both the description of the table and the numbers really represent. This is the area of data the student is most likely to misinterpret.

5. How can we help the students to better understand the data without fully explaining it to them?

Encourage the students to sum total rows and columns and identify similar numbers throughout. By comparing like numbers, the students are able to better understand the relationship between the table's data.