

Exit Survey of Graduating EOS Students: Goals and Results



Joshua Caulkins
Science Teaching and Learning Fellow
Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences

Exit survey goals:

- A. Determine student perspectives on our programs.
- B. Establish “baseline” for future surveys.
 - EOS SEI started 2 years ago.
 - 2009 grad class least affected by EOS-SEI
 - Potential alumni survey sometime in future

Survey Response:

- 58 student respondents out of 80 graduating students
 - 73% = decent response!

Survey Overview

- 55 questions
- Survey was up for 3 weeks (June-July 2009)
- Most questions are Likert scale
 - 2 kinds of Likert scale:
 - (1) strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree or
 - (2) very much, quite a bit, some, a little, not at all
 - Lots of space for student comments/feedback.
- See the online survey as it appeared to students:

<http://www.eos.ubc.ca/scripts/courses/eosexit/eos-exitsurvey.html>

Results Summary

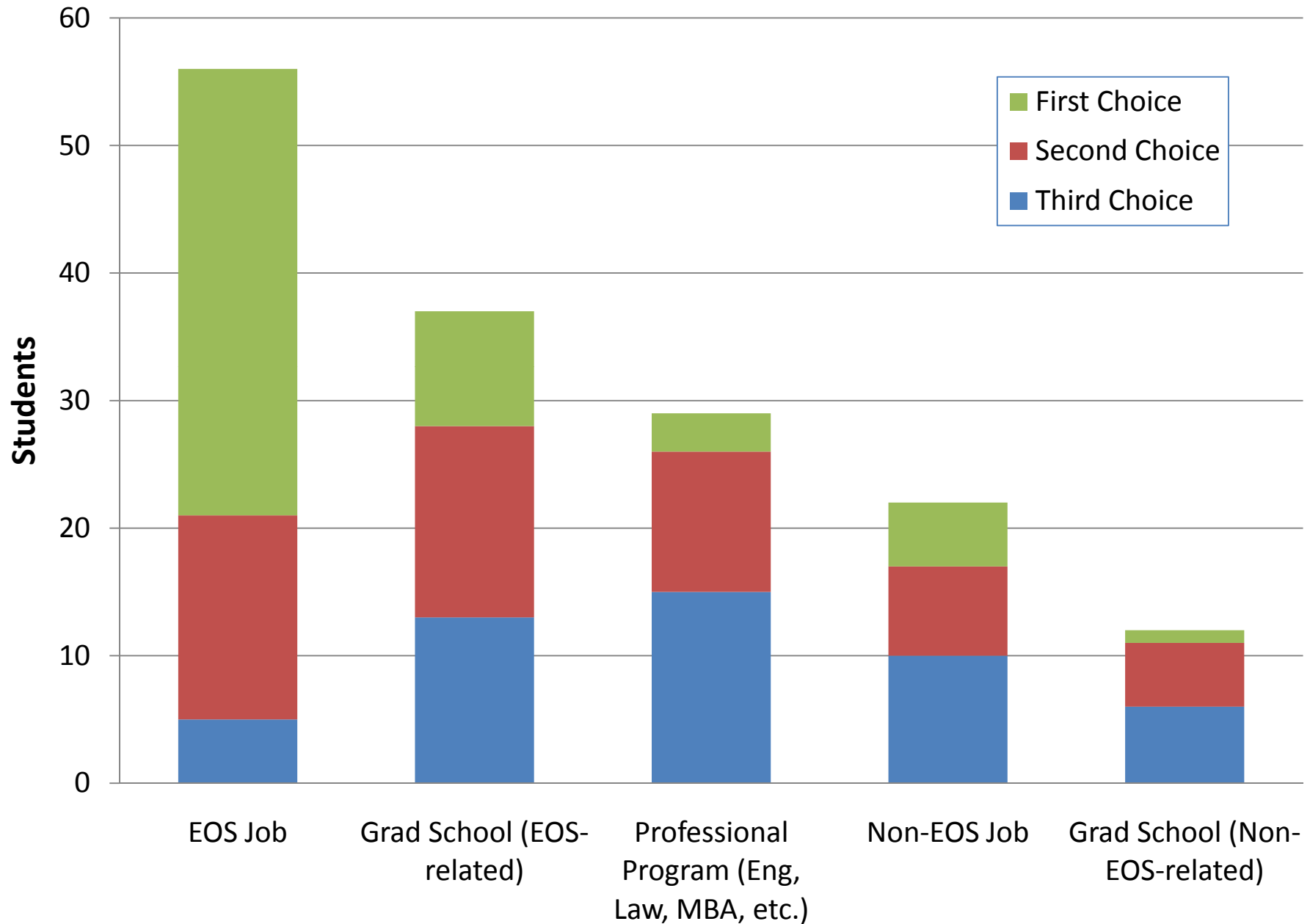
- 83% of students enjoyed their time at EOS
- >80% of students value field experiences
- 88% of students want to get jobs in EOS-related fields or go to grad school in an EOS-related field
- >50% of students want more timely and effective feedback on their assignments and exams
- >50% of students want more explicit connections between their coursework and their program

Students were asked their thoughts on:
Careers, Courses, Electives, Program options,
Skills learned, Teaching, and Demographics.

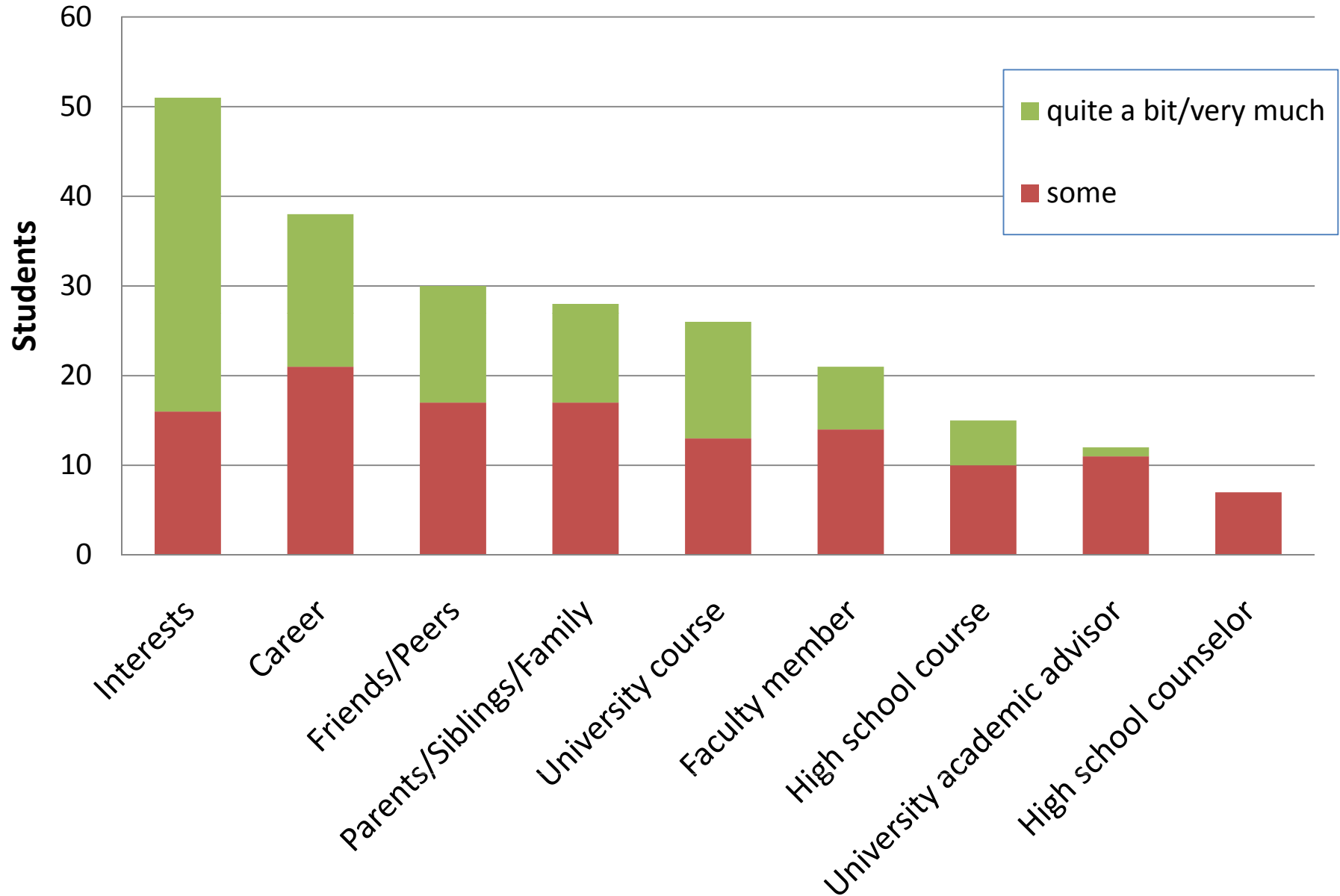
Slides from original talk to the EOS Department on September 29th, 2009, are below this slide.

All the rest of the results are after the talk slides.

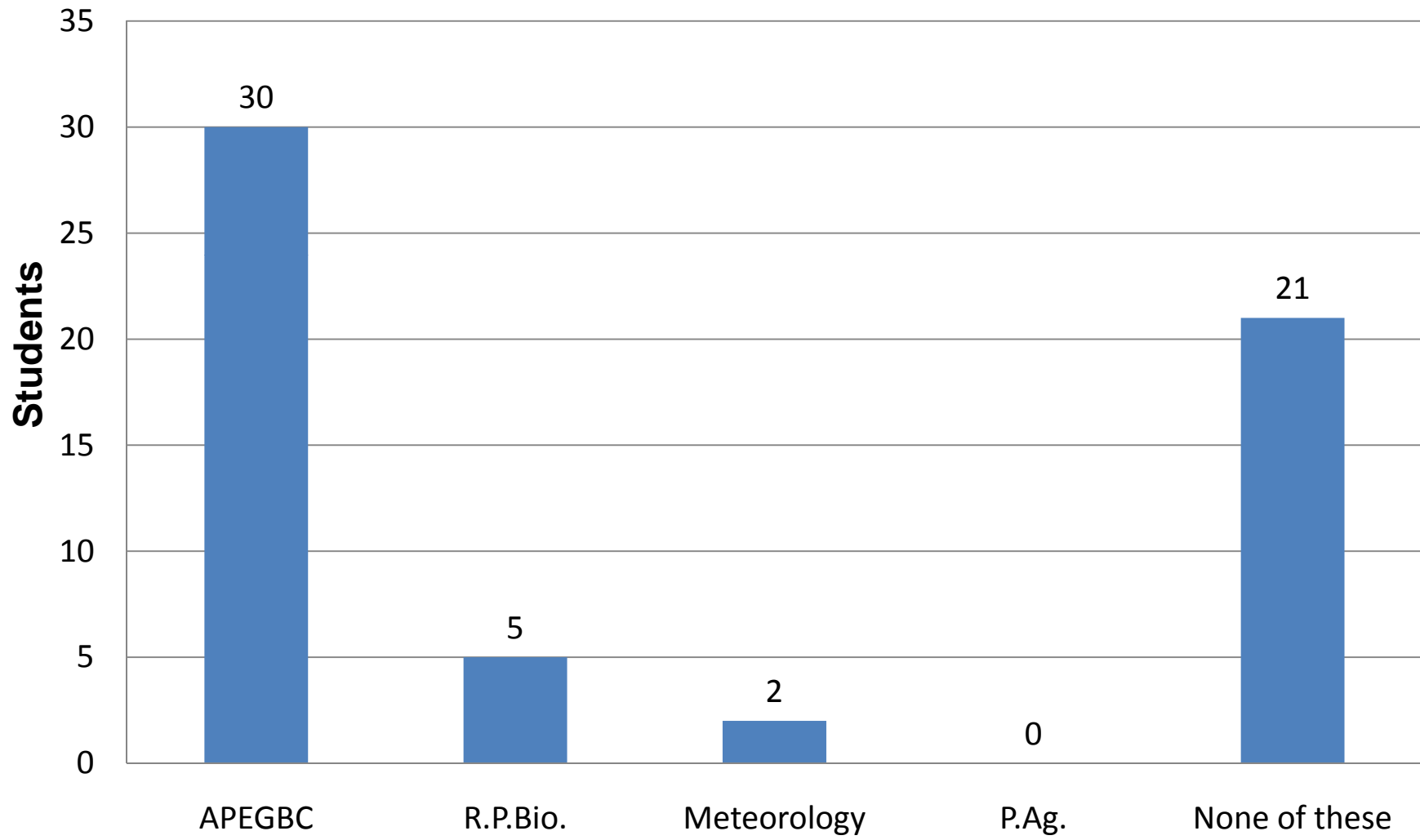
Q1: My goal after getting my degree is to:



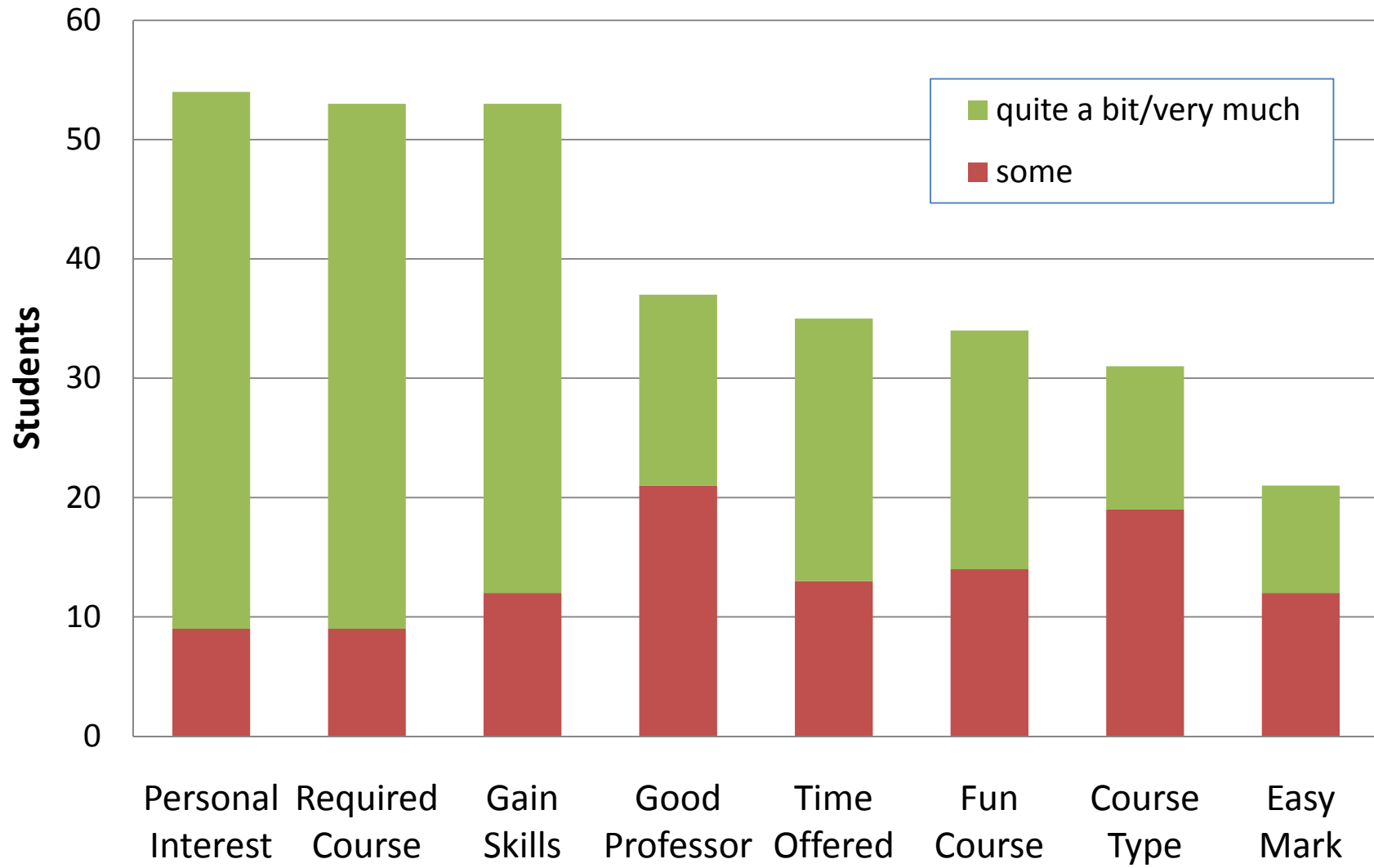
Q5. My choice to declare EOS as my major was influenced by:



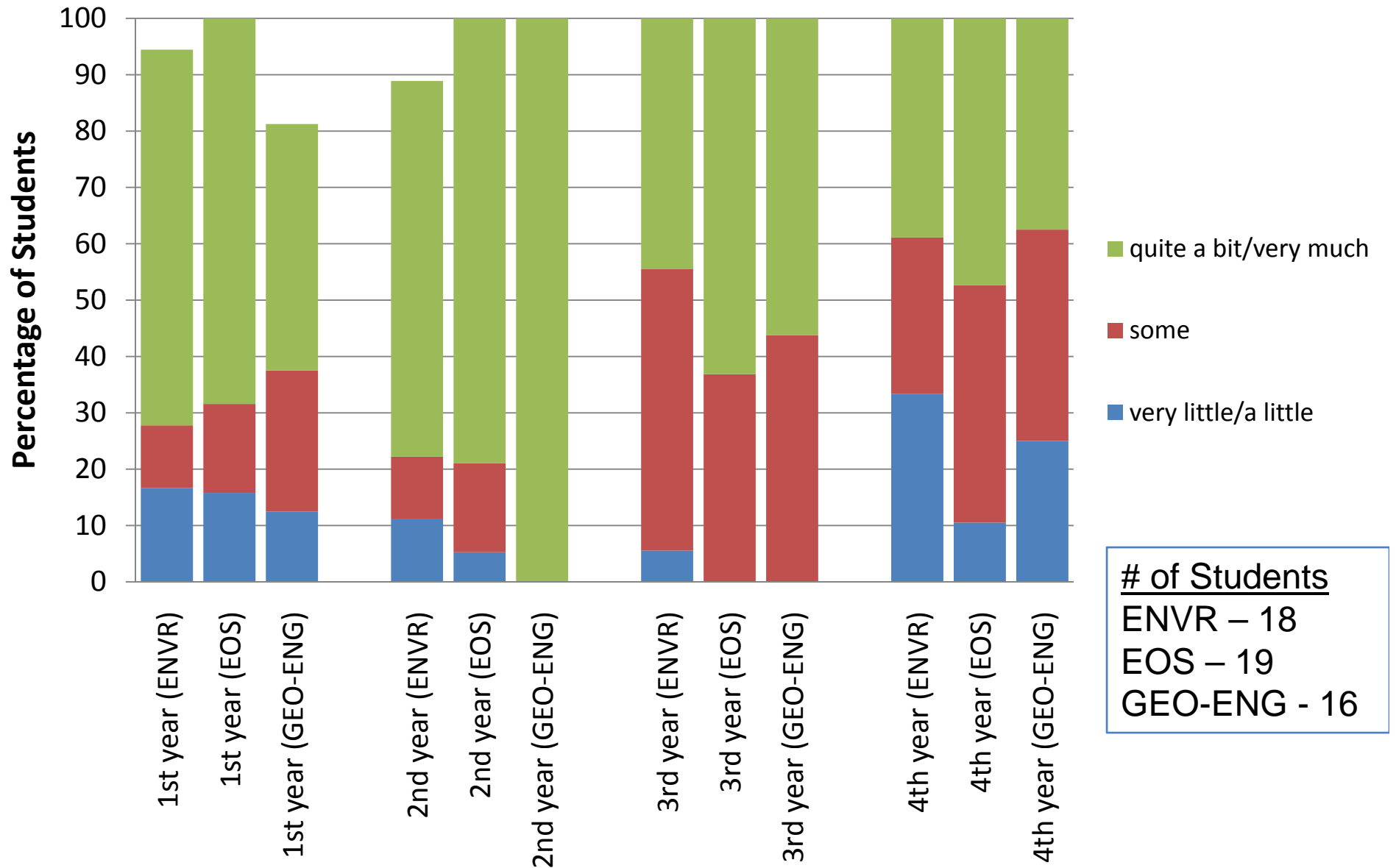
Q6b: Are you planning on registering as a professional in any of the following professional organizations?



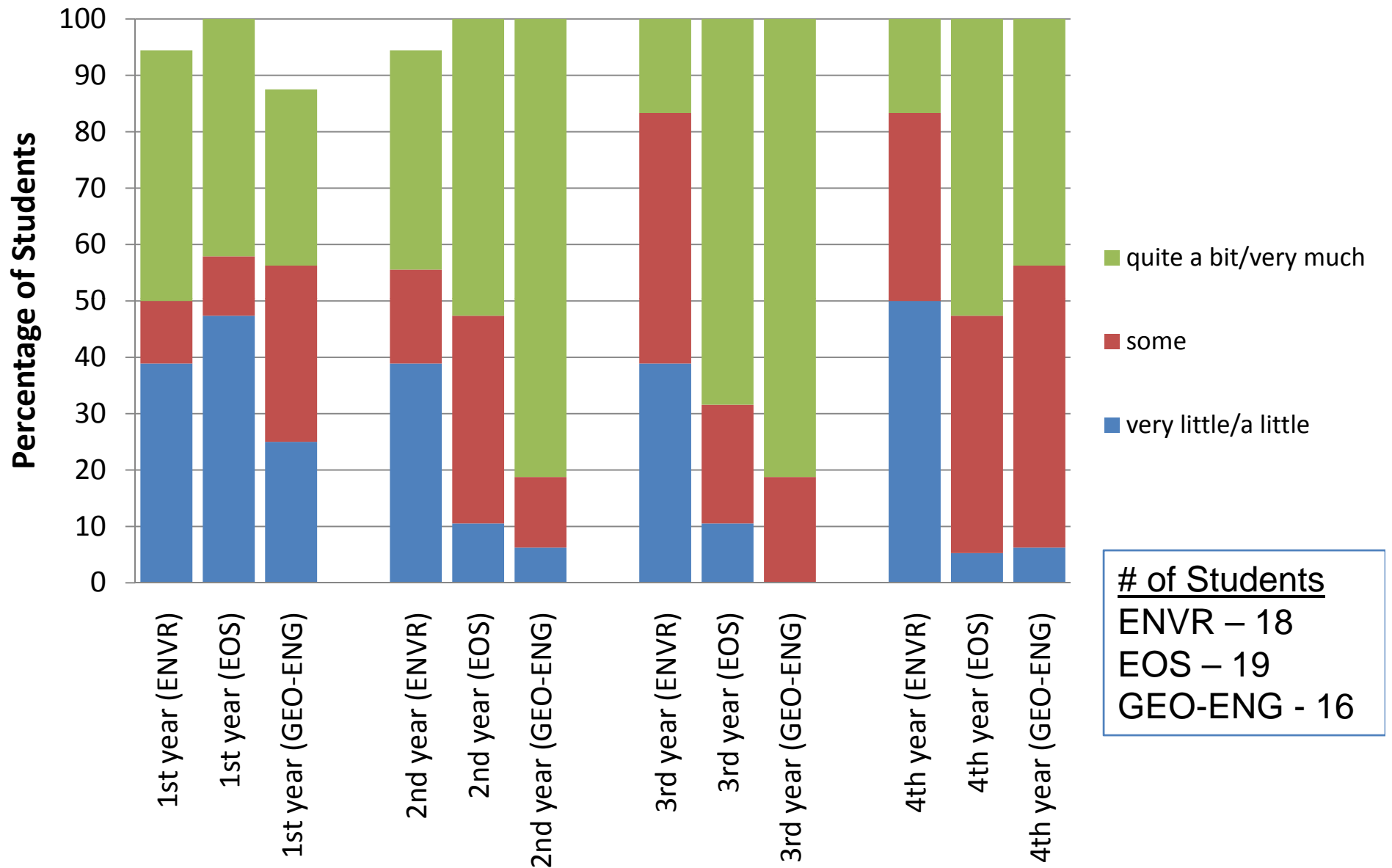
Q11: I usually chose course electives based on the following factors:



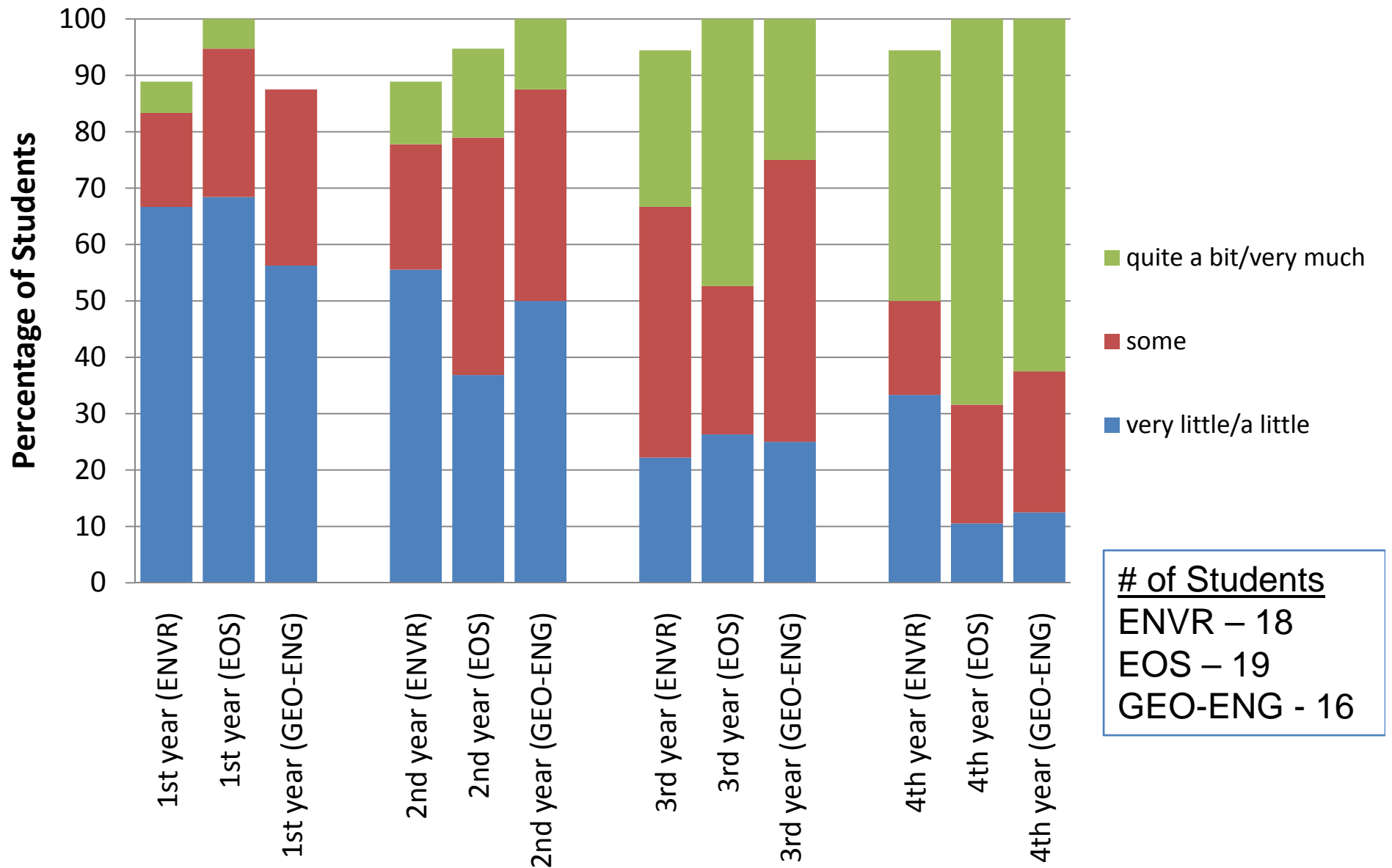
Q13. How much has EOS coursework emphasized memorizing facts, ideas, or methods?



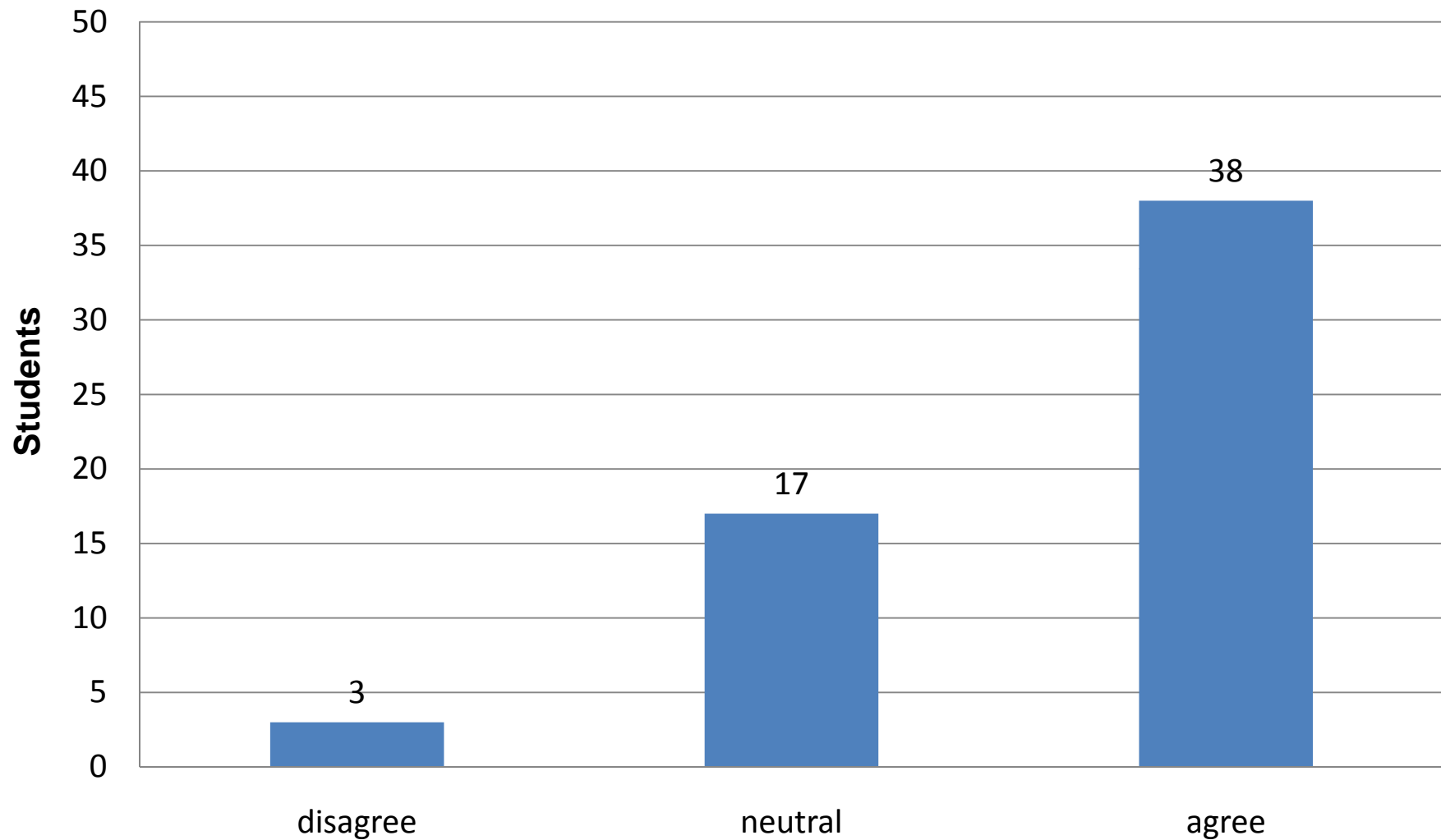
Q14. How much has EOS coursework emphasized development of lab skills?



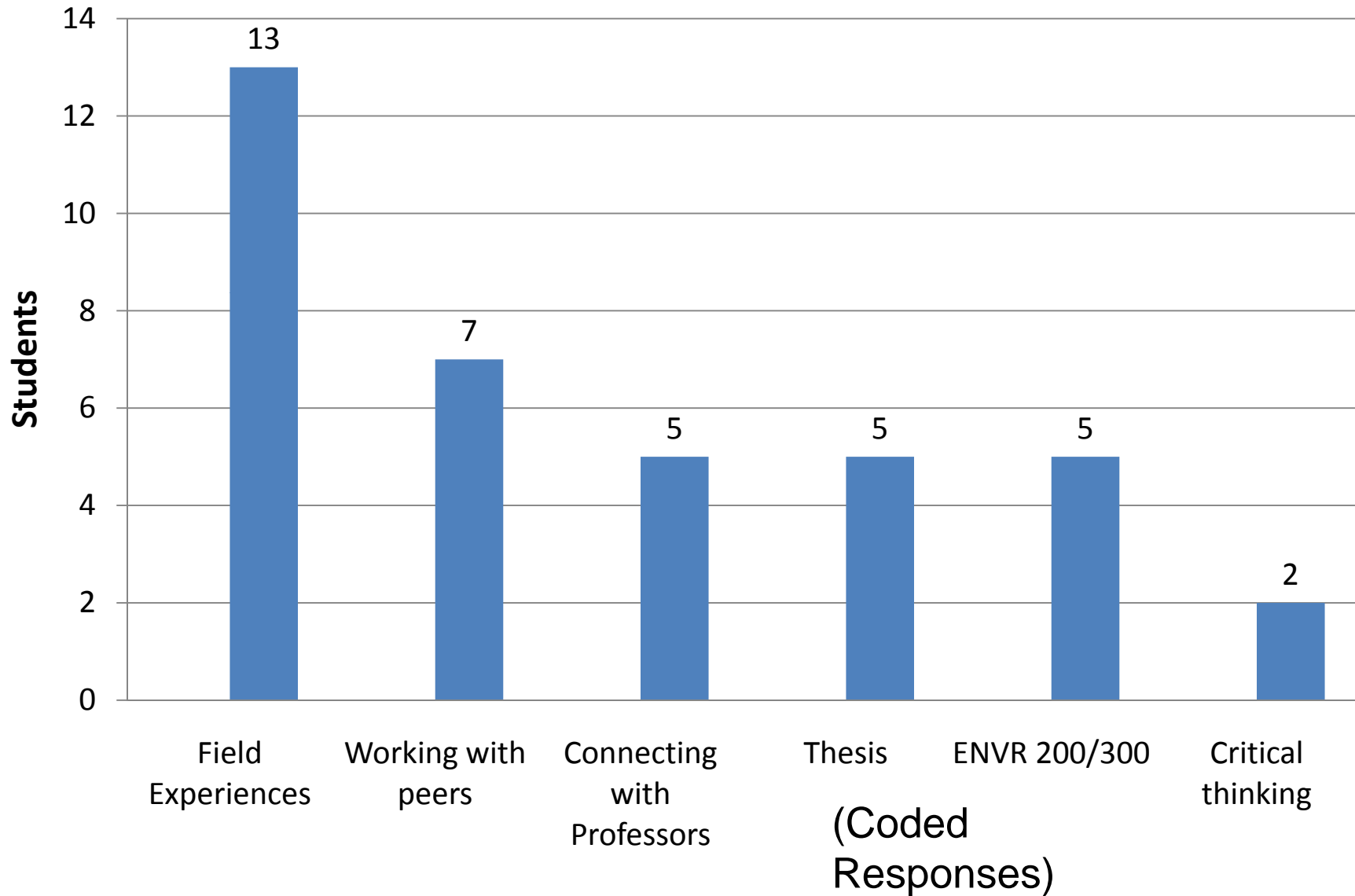
Q15. How much has EOS coursework emphasized development of writing skills?



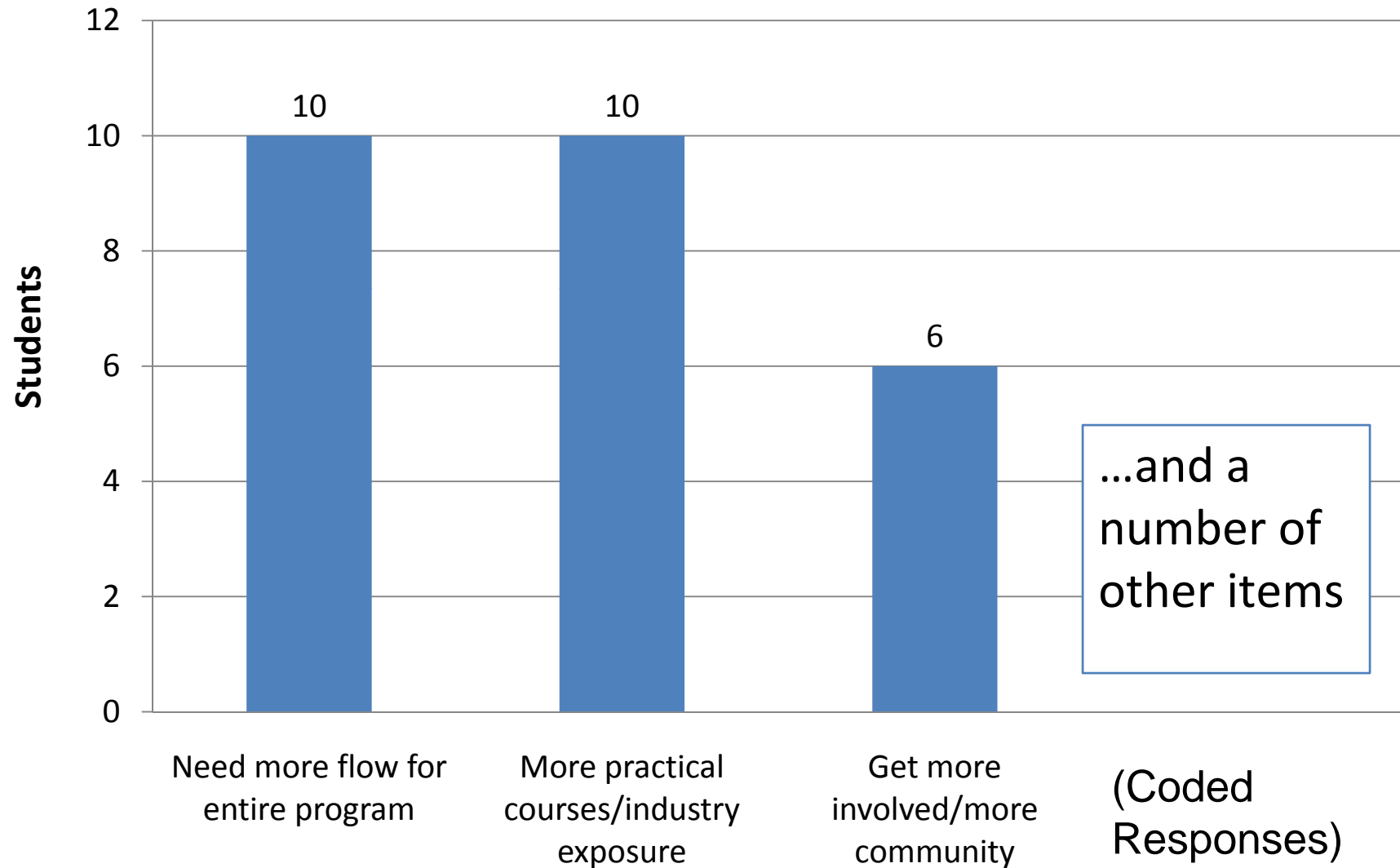
Q26: I felt that the pre-requisites I took adequately prepared me for upper level courses



Q42. The most positive learning experience I had within EOS was:

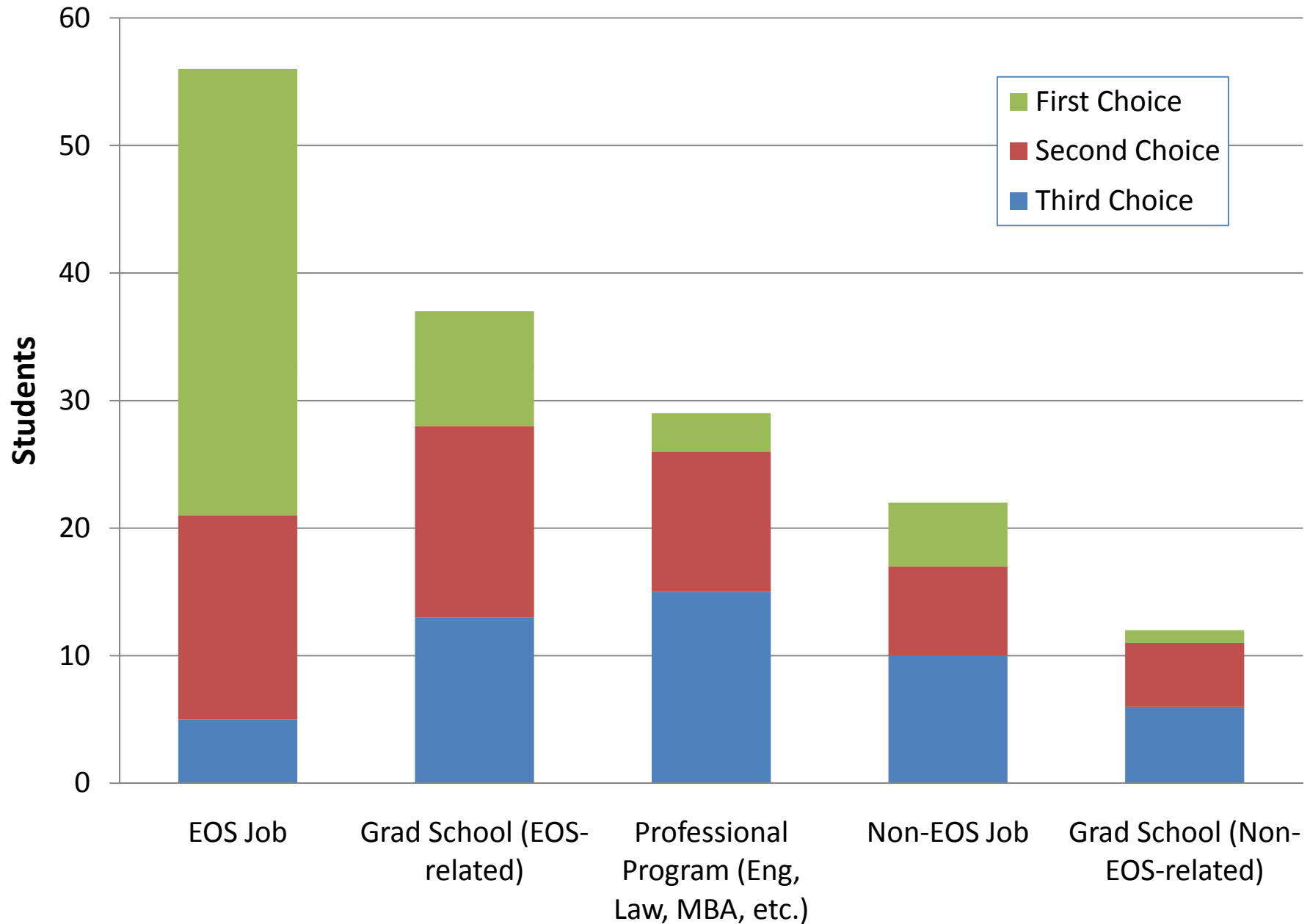


Q43 and Q44. If I could change one thing about my learning experience in EOS it would be:

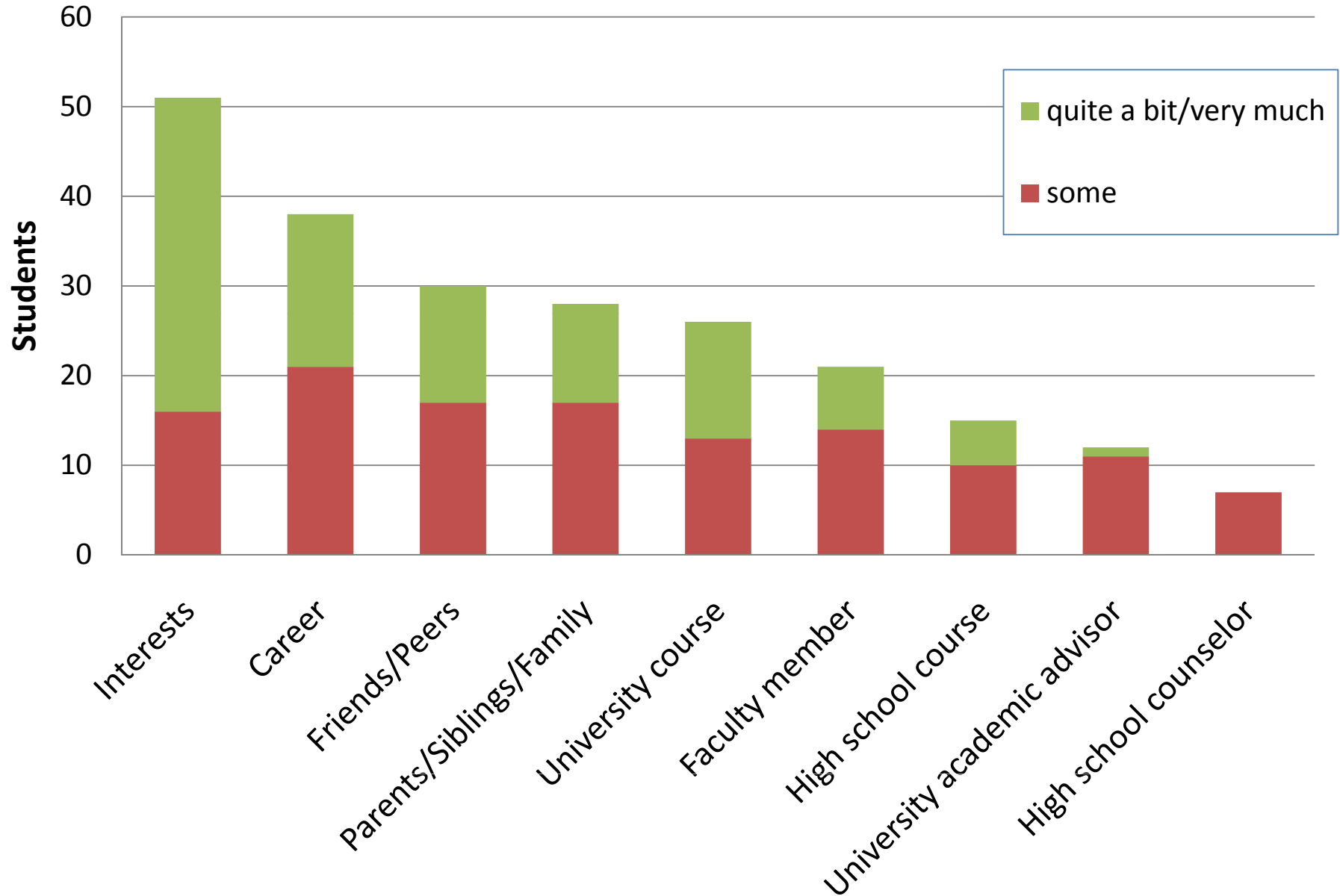


All survey results below this slide.

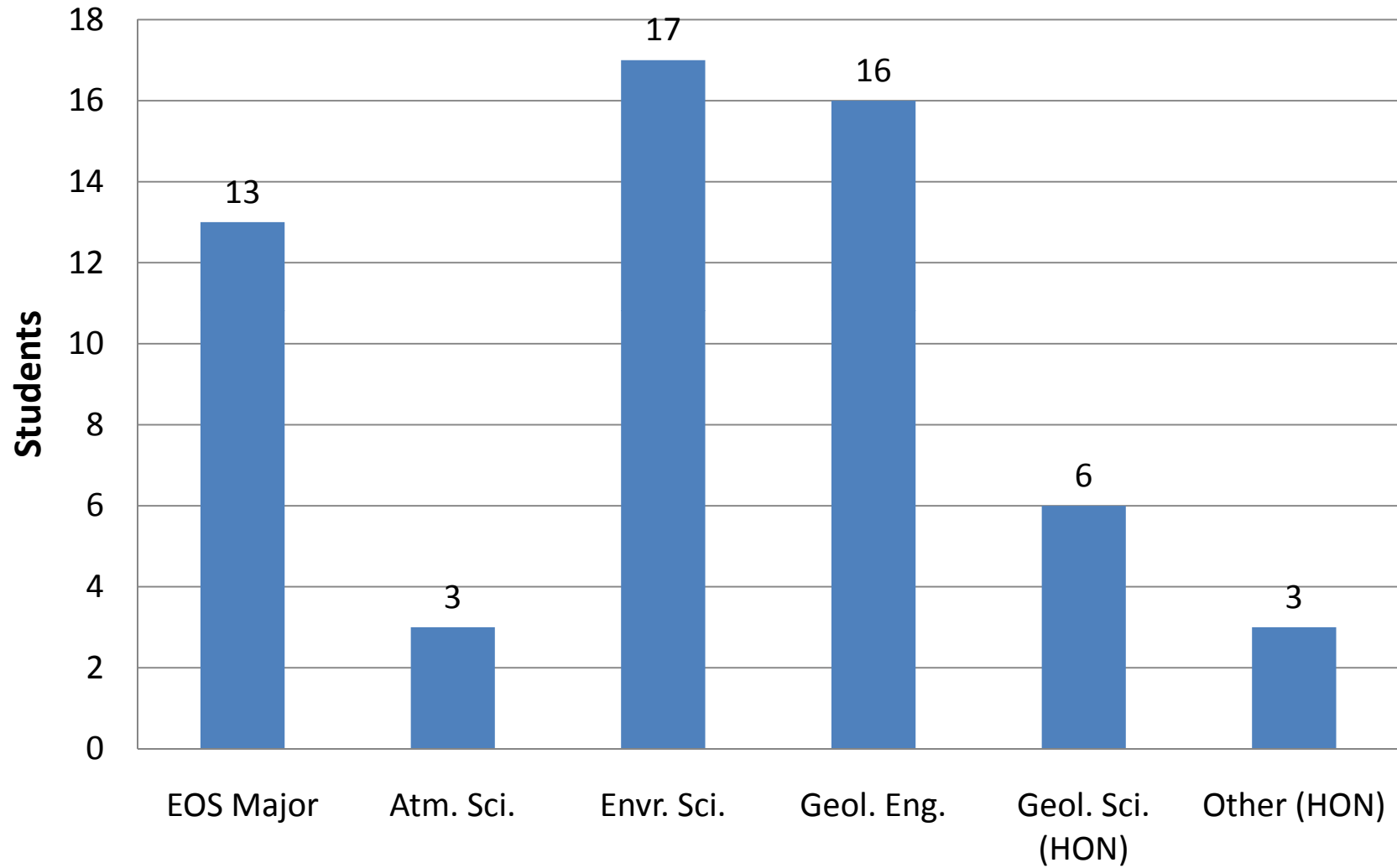
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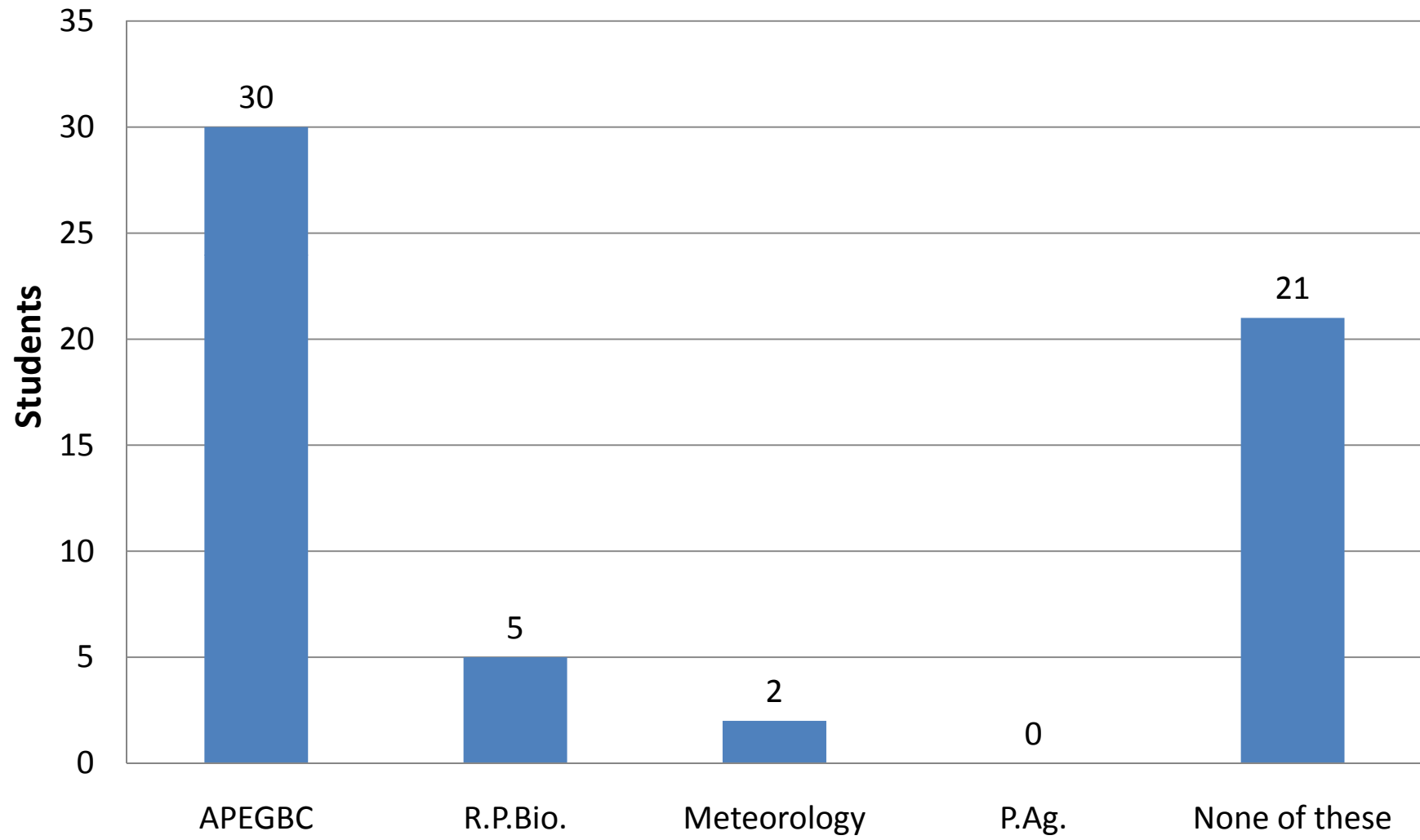
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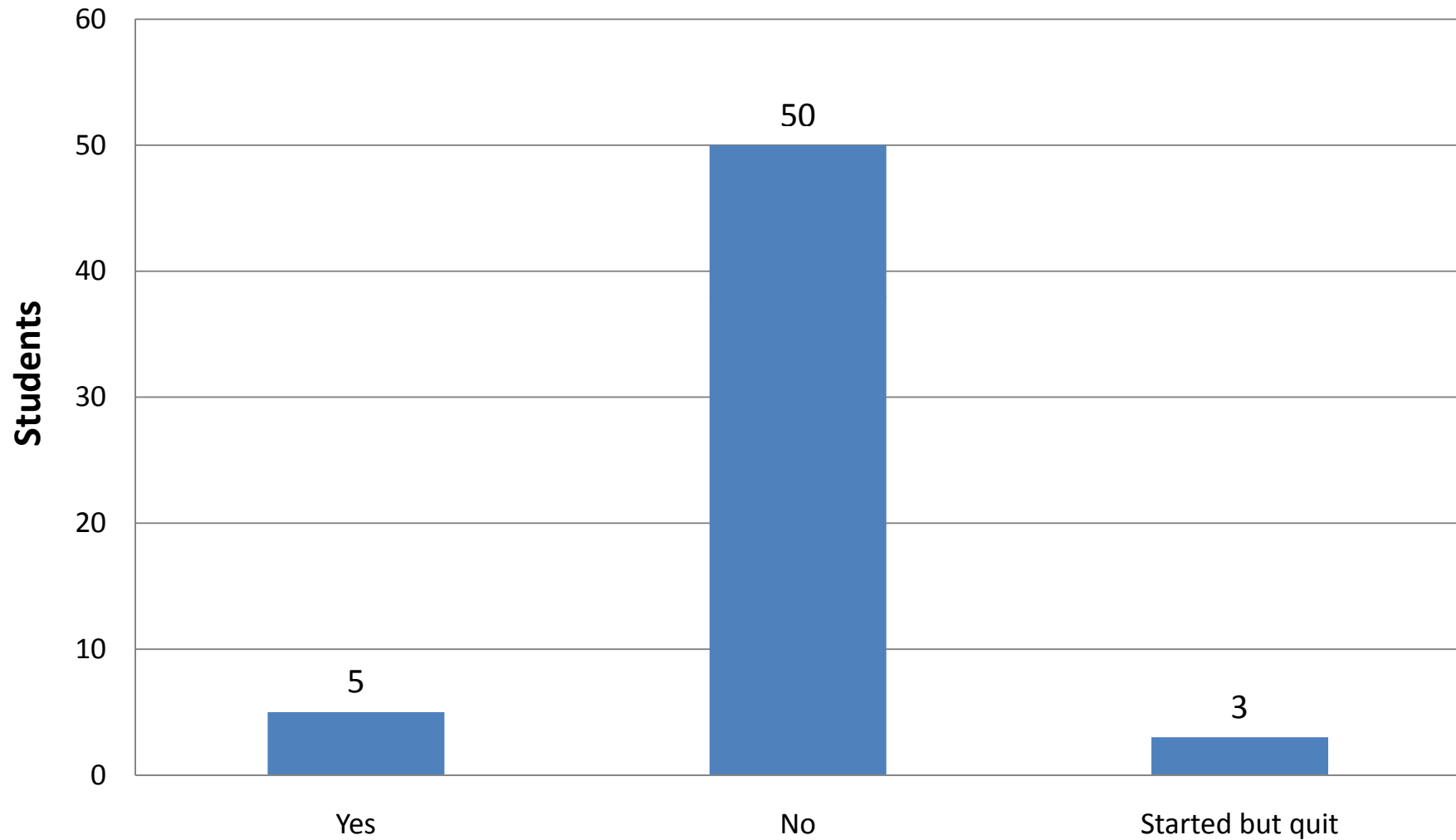
Q6a: What is your primary degree program?



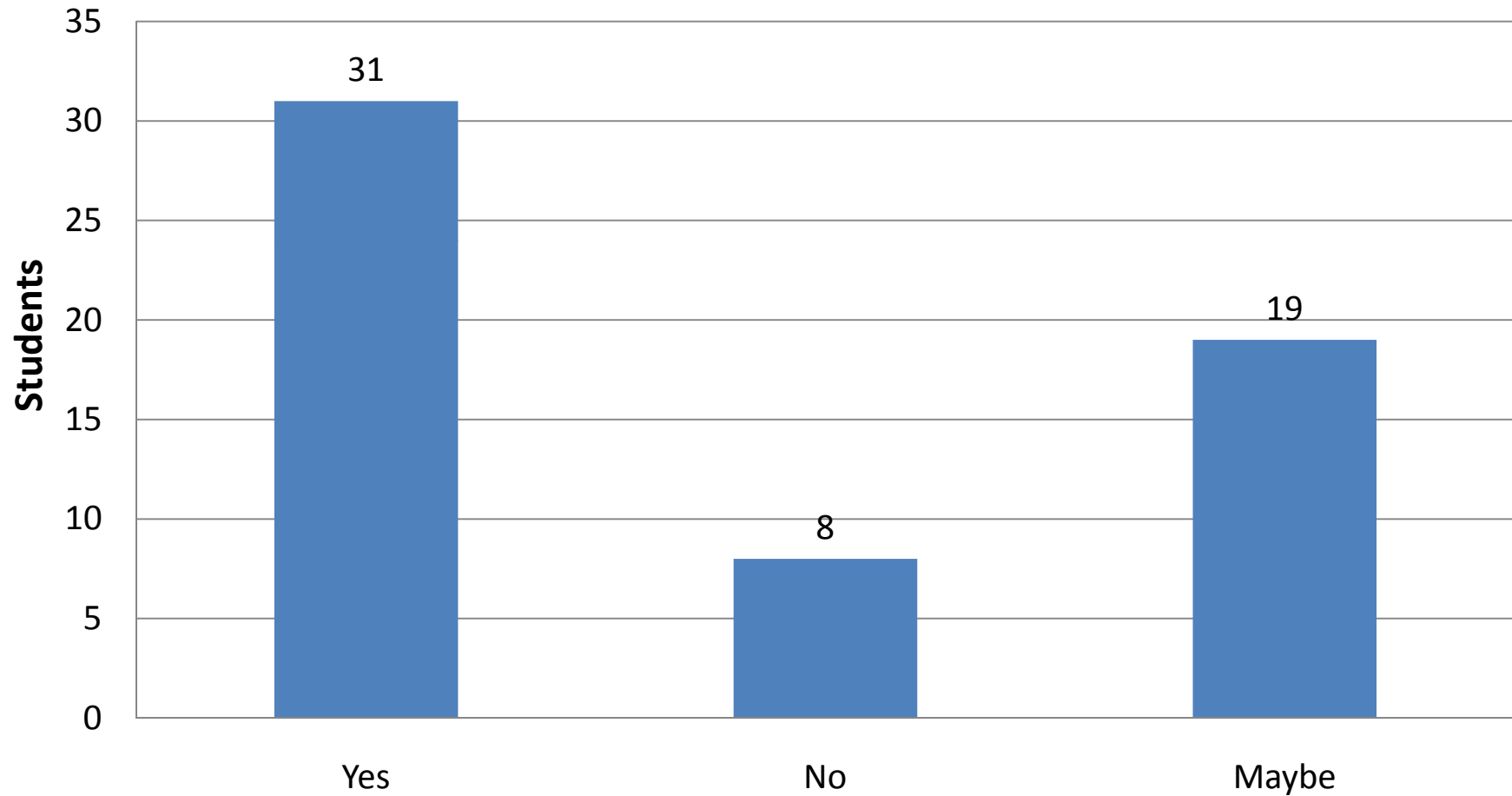
Q6b: Are you planning on registering as a professional in any of the following professional organizations?



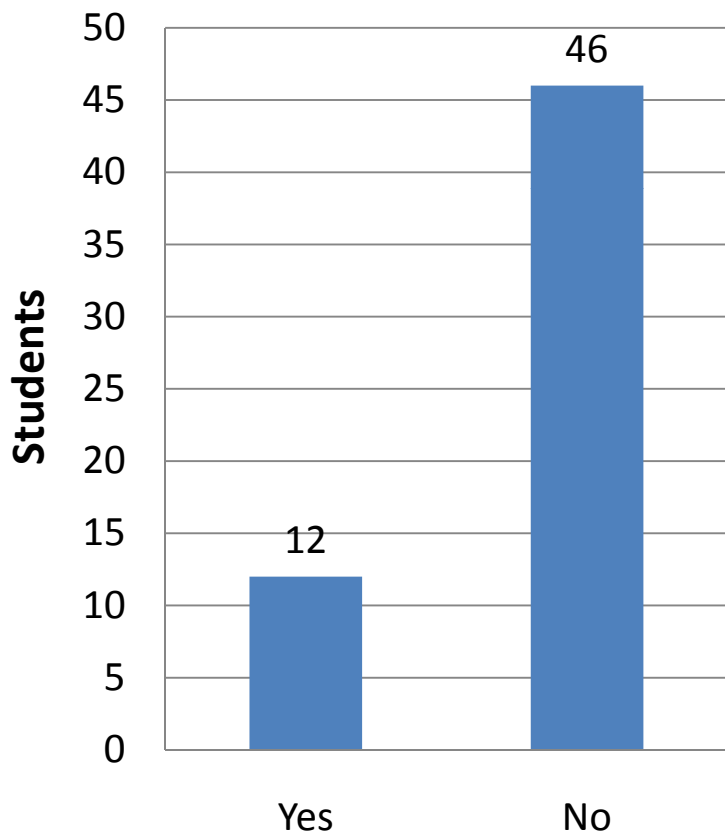
Q6c: Did you complete the CO-OP program?



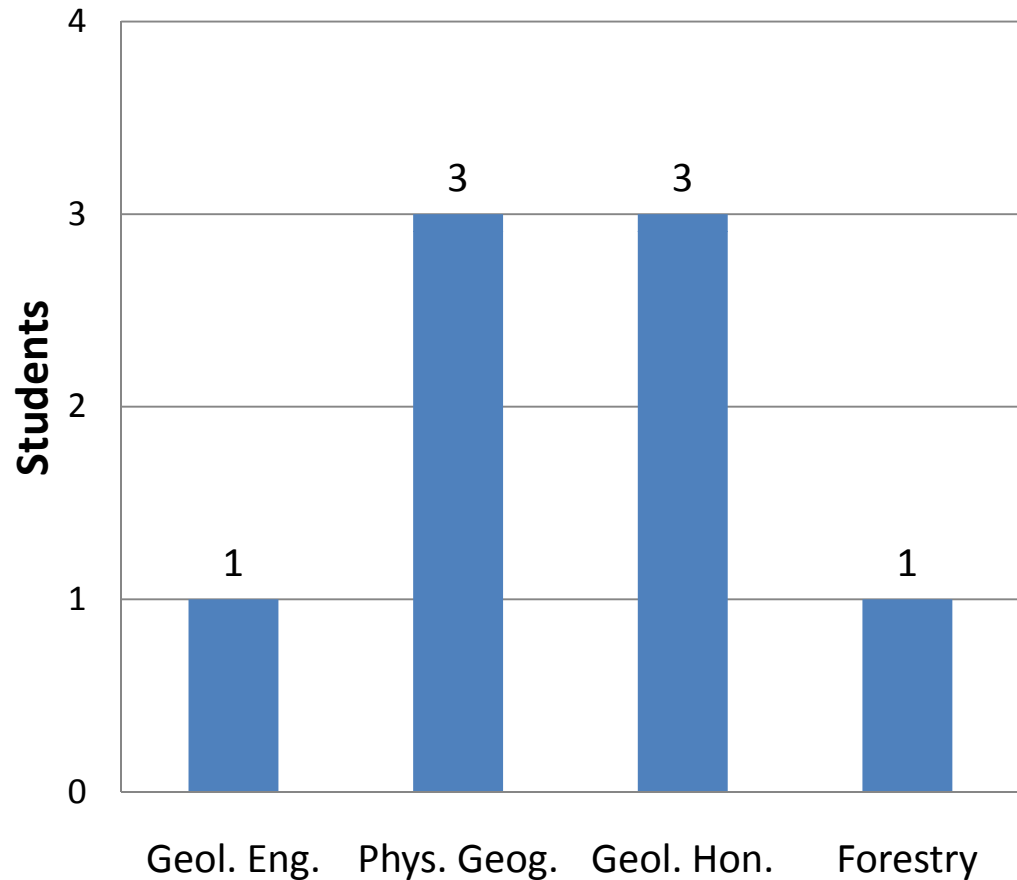
Q6d: Are you planning to apply for graduate school any time after graduation?



Q7. Would you have preferred to choose a DIFFERENT program?



Q8. If you answered YES to Q7, what program would you have preferred, why?

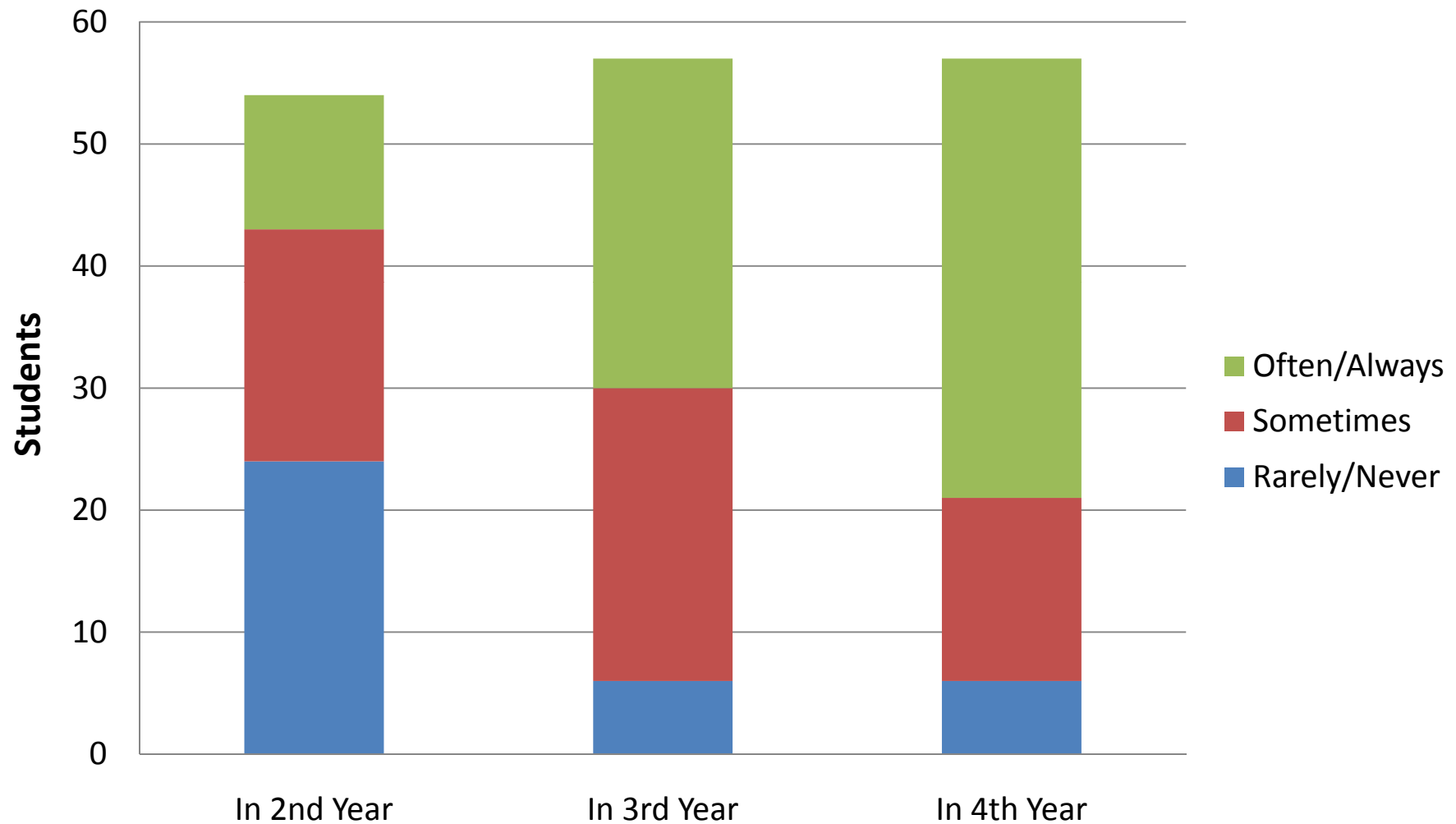


(A few other programs were not categorized)

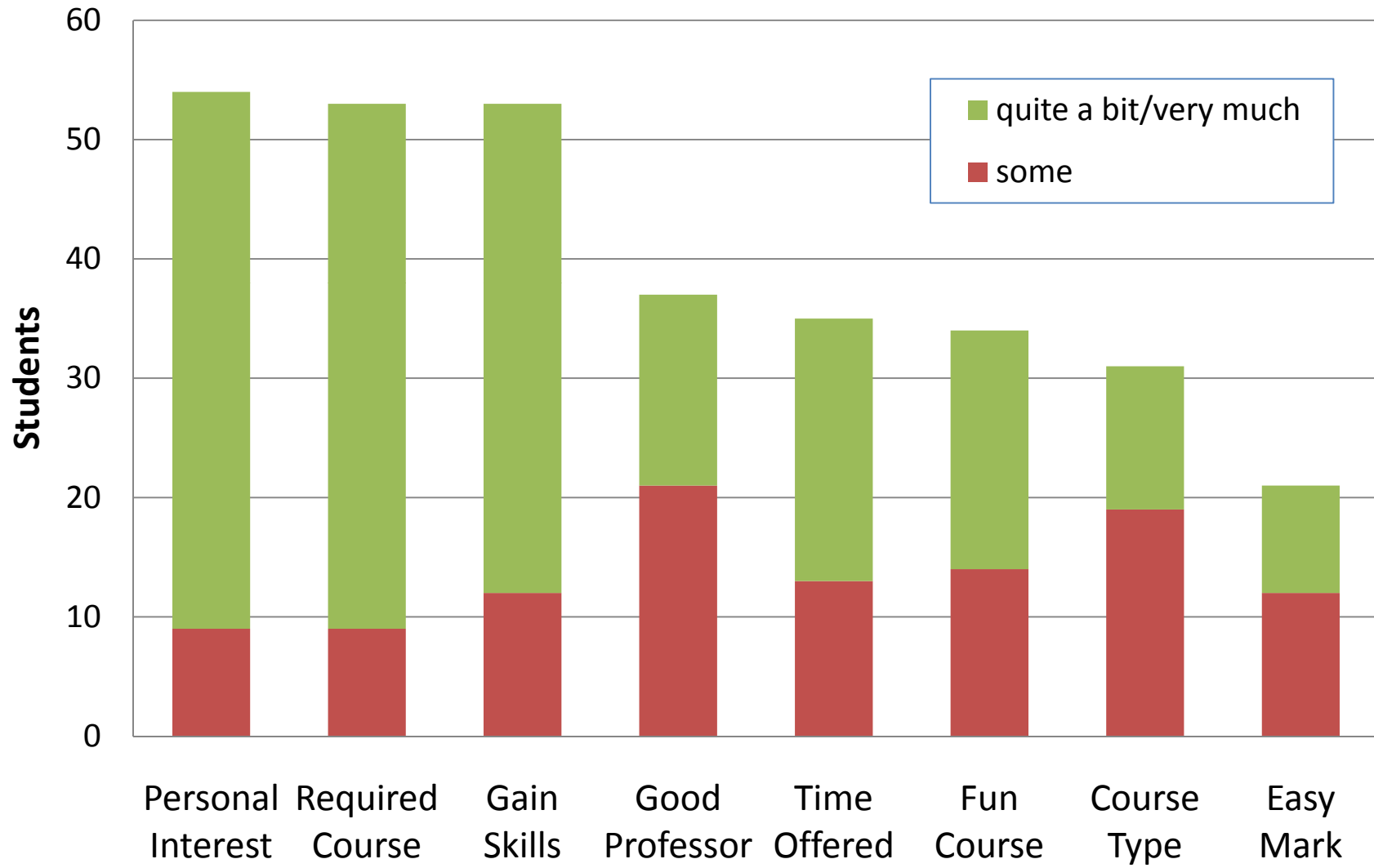
Q9 – Suggestions for other EOS program options?

- Environmental Program (e.g. like University of Calgary)
- Geology Major
- Geophysics Major
- Hydrogeology Major
- Resource Management
- Environmental Engineering
- Dual Geologic Engineering – Geology degree: should cover requirements for P.Eng. and P.Geo.
- Expanded and focused Envr. Sci. program.
- More 4th year Geotech classes with a wider range of topics.
- Bring in more “arts/social science” material when discussing global warming. Look at course ASIC 200, try to incorporate these ideas into geology stream.

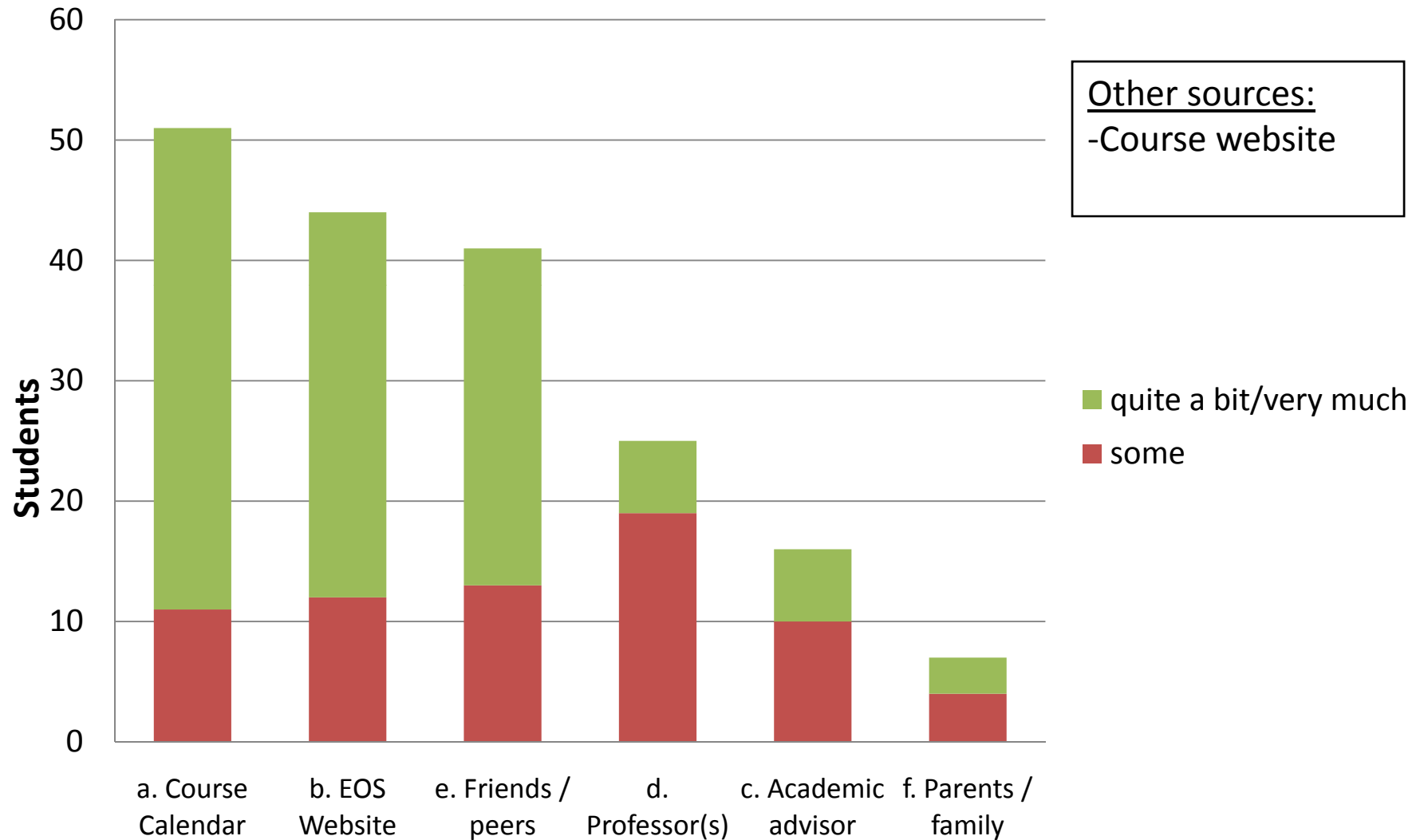
Q10: My program or program option allowed me to choose electives that matched my interests.



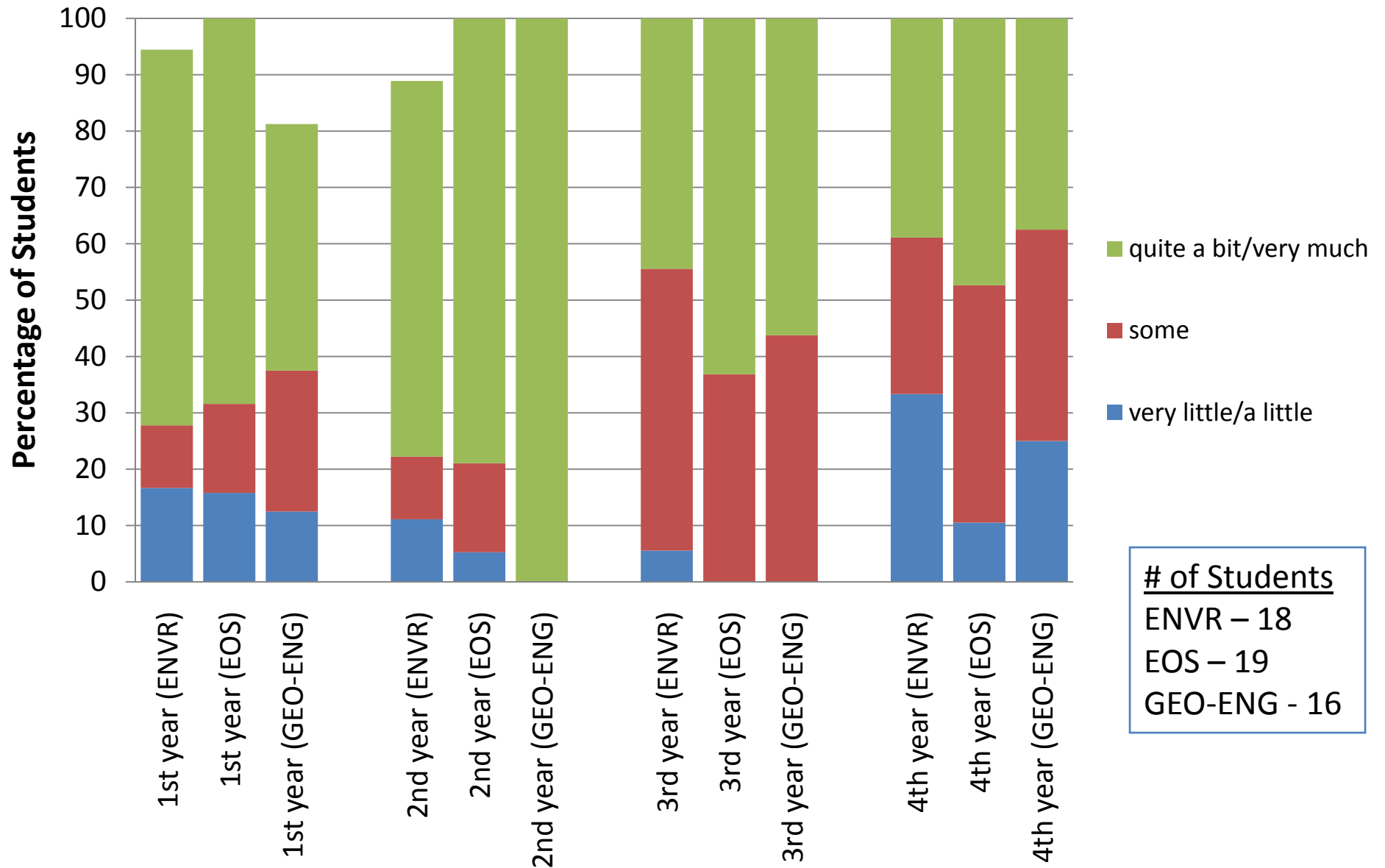
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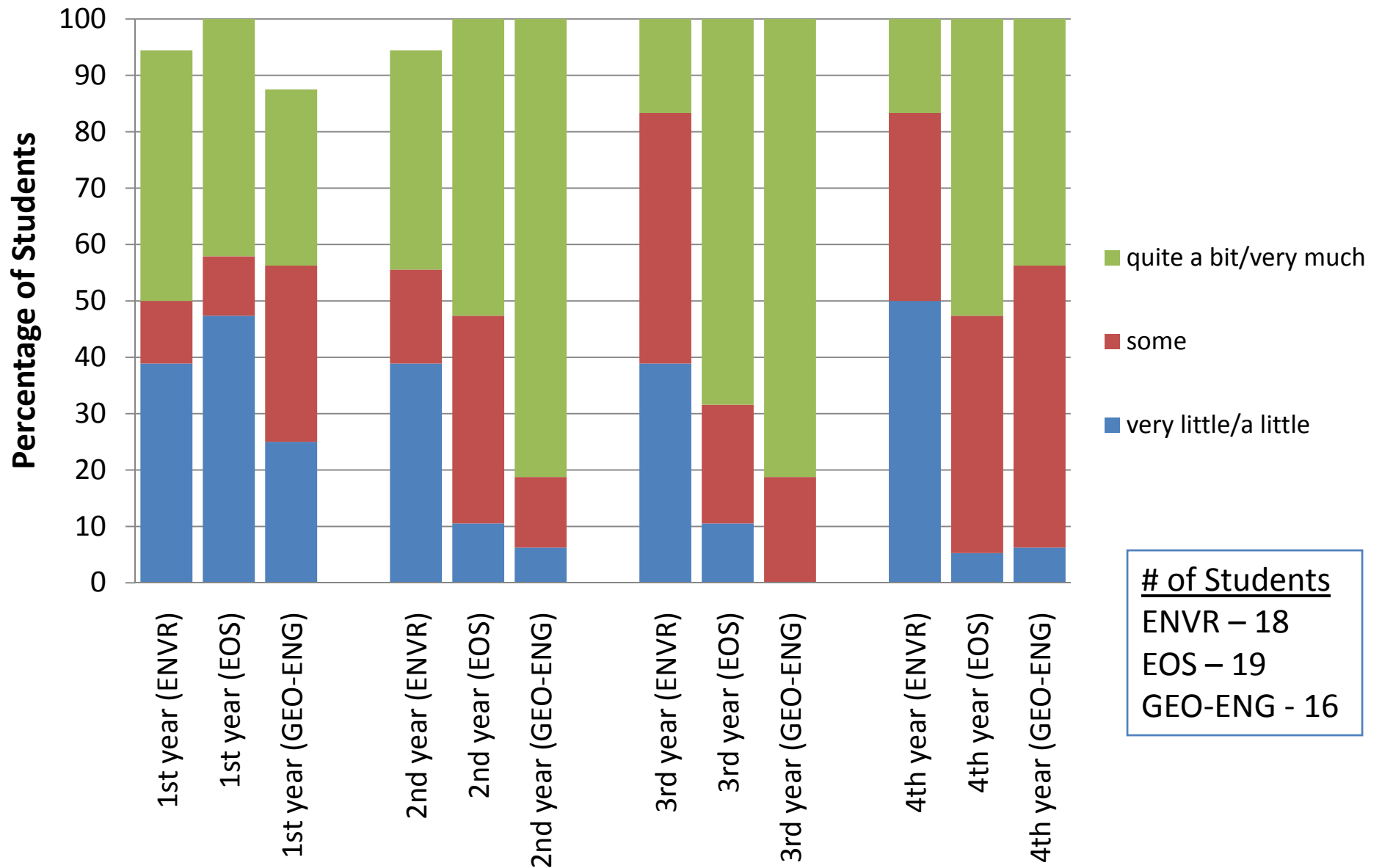
Q12: I obtained information on course electives from the following sources:



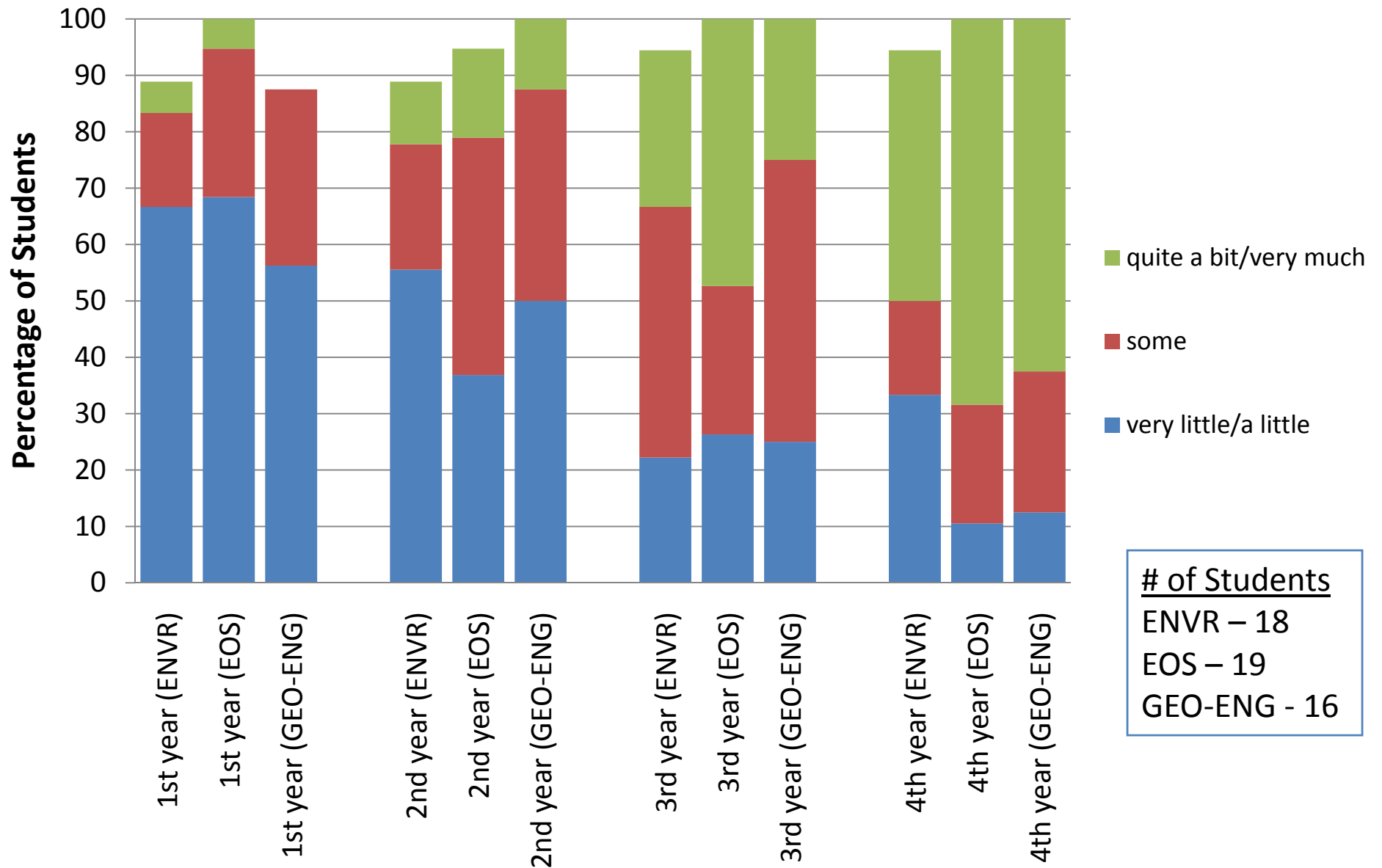
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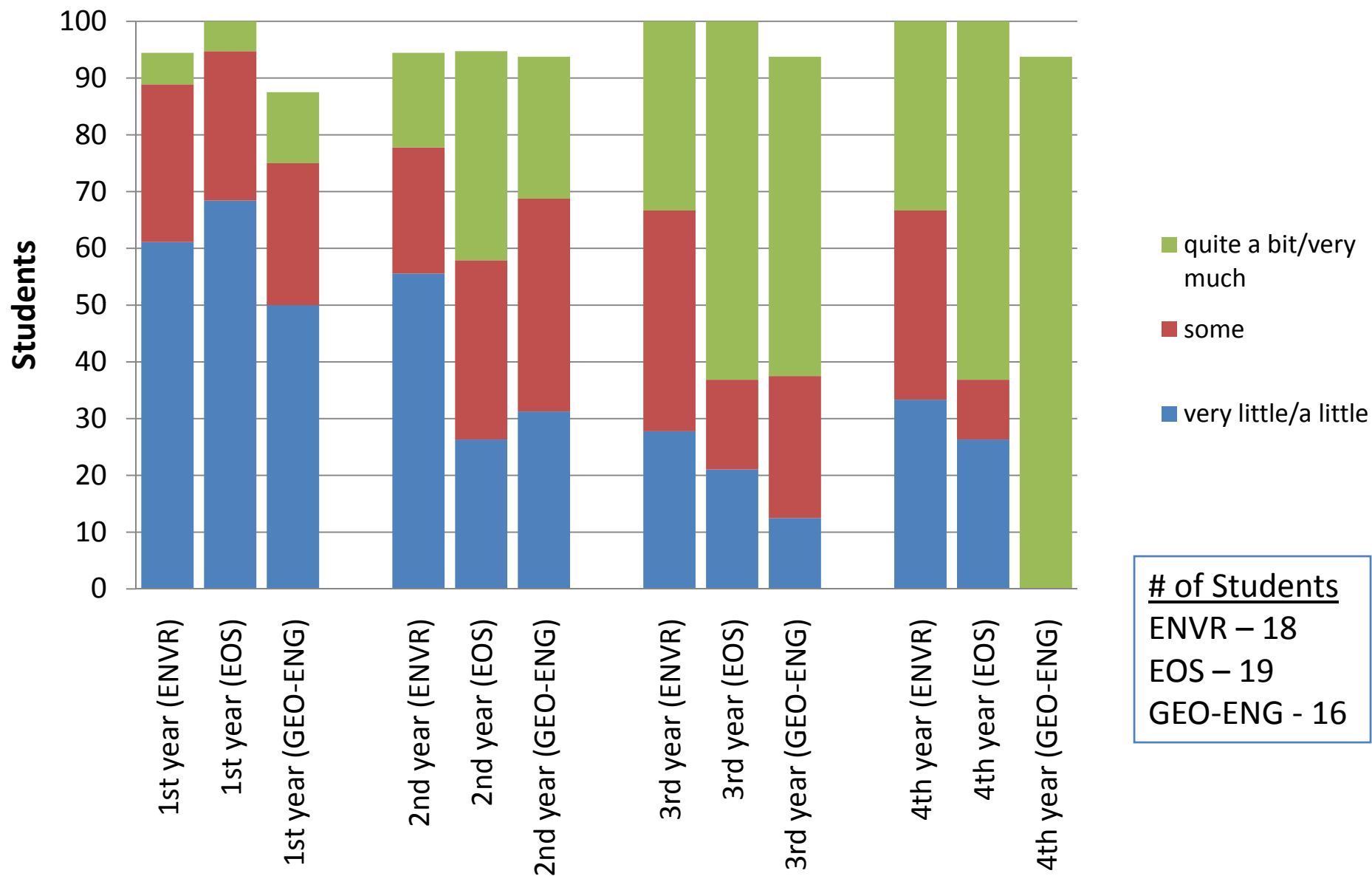
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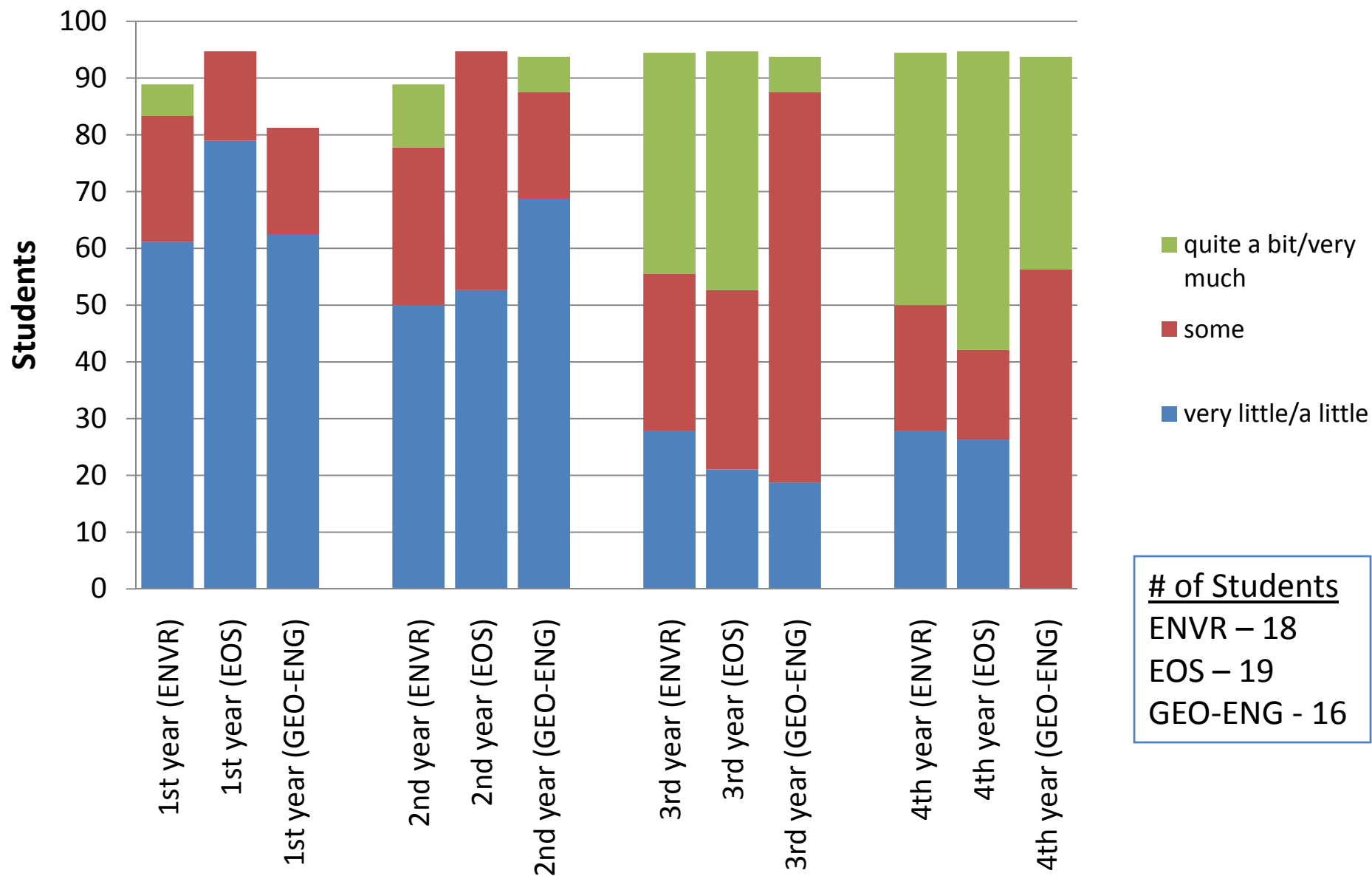
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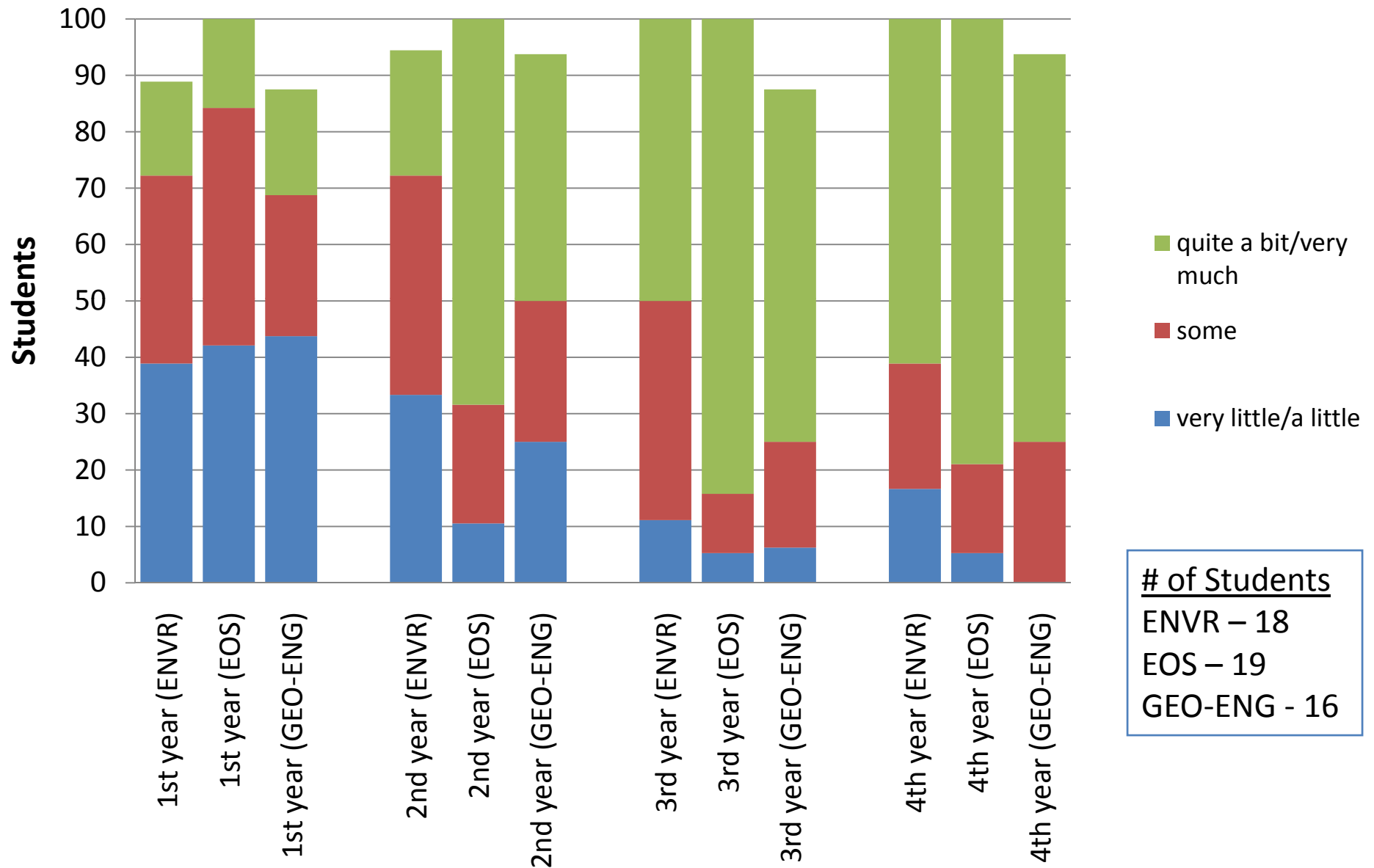
Q16. How much has EOS coursework emphasized development of teamworking skills?



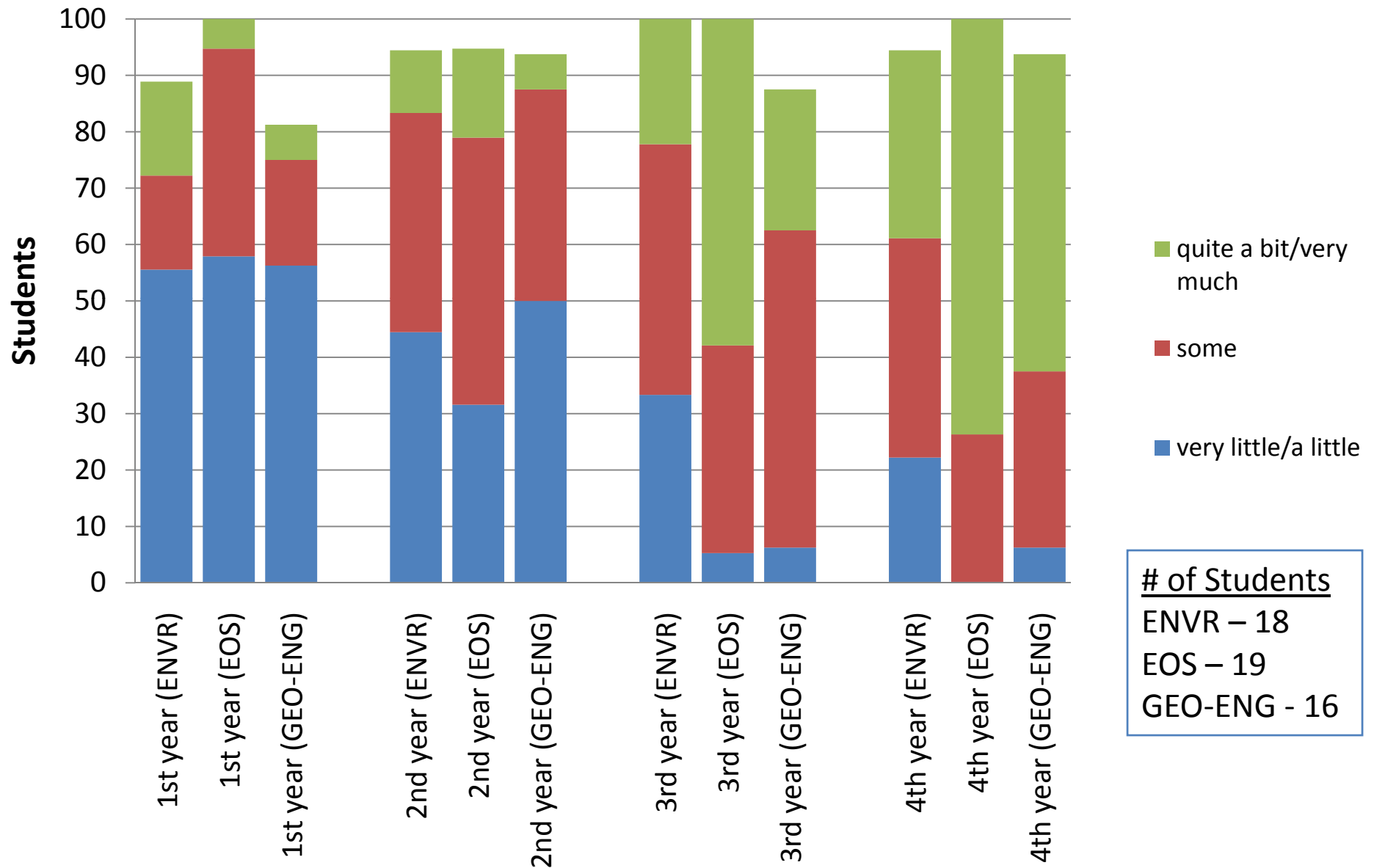
Q17. How much has EOS coursework emphasized development of oral presentation skills?



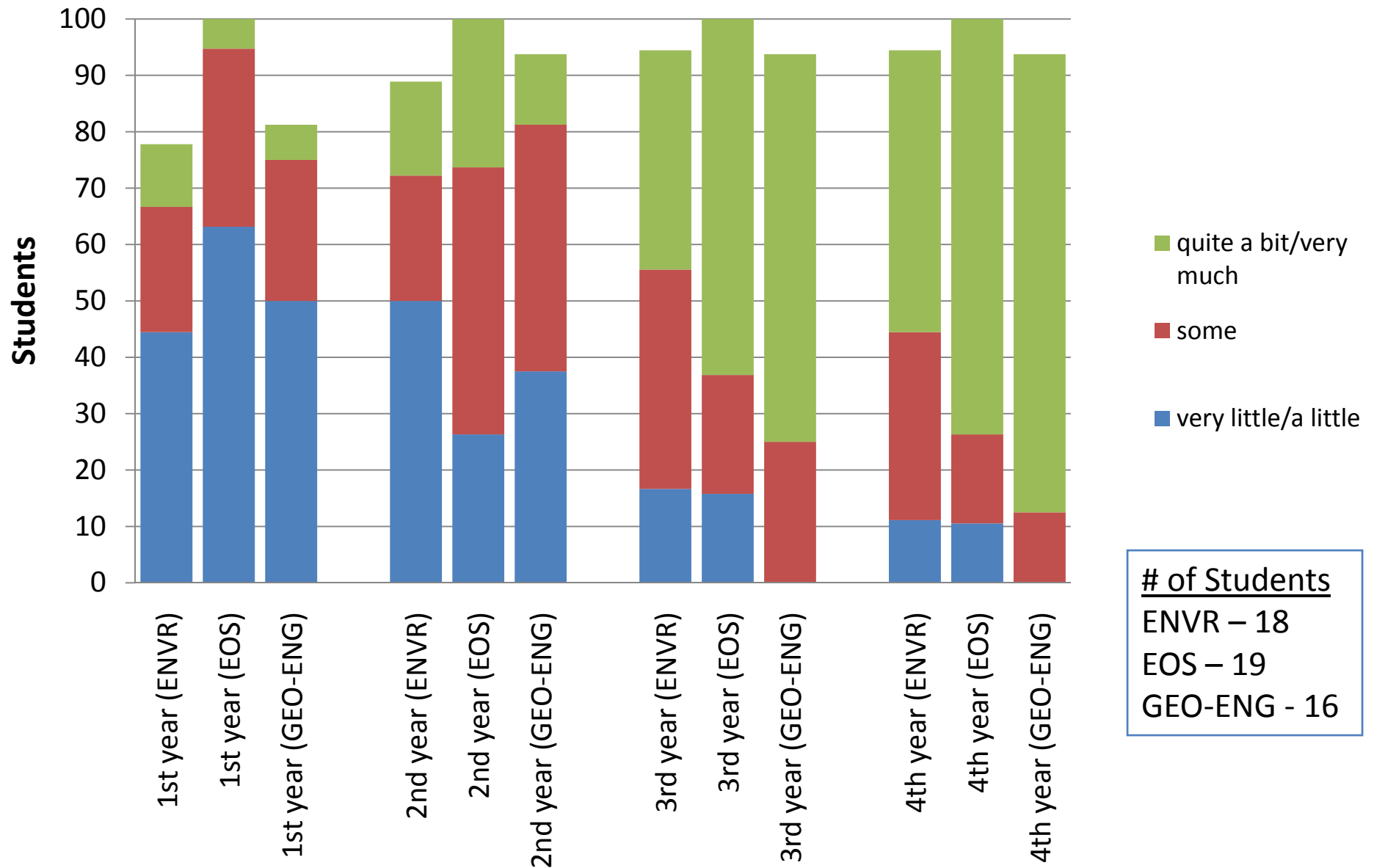
Q18. How much have EOS courses emphasized development of observation skills?



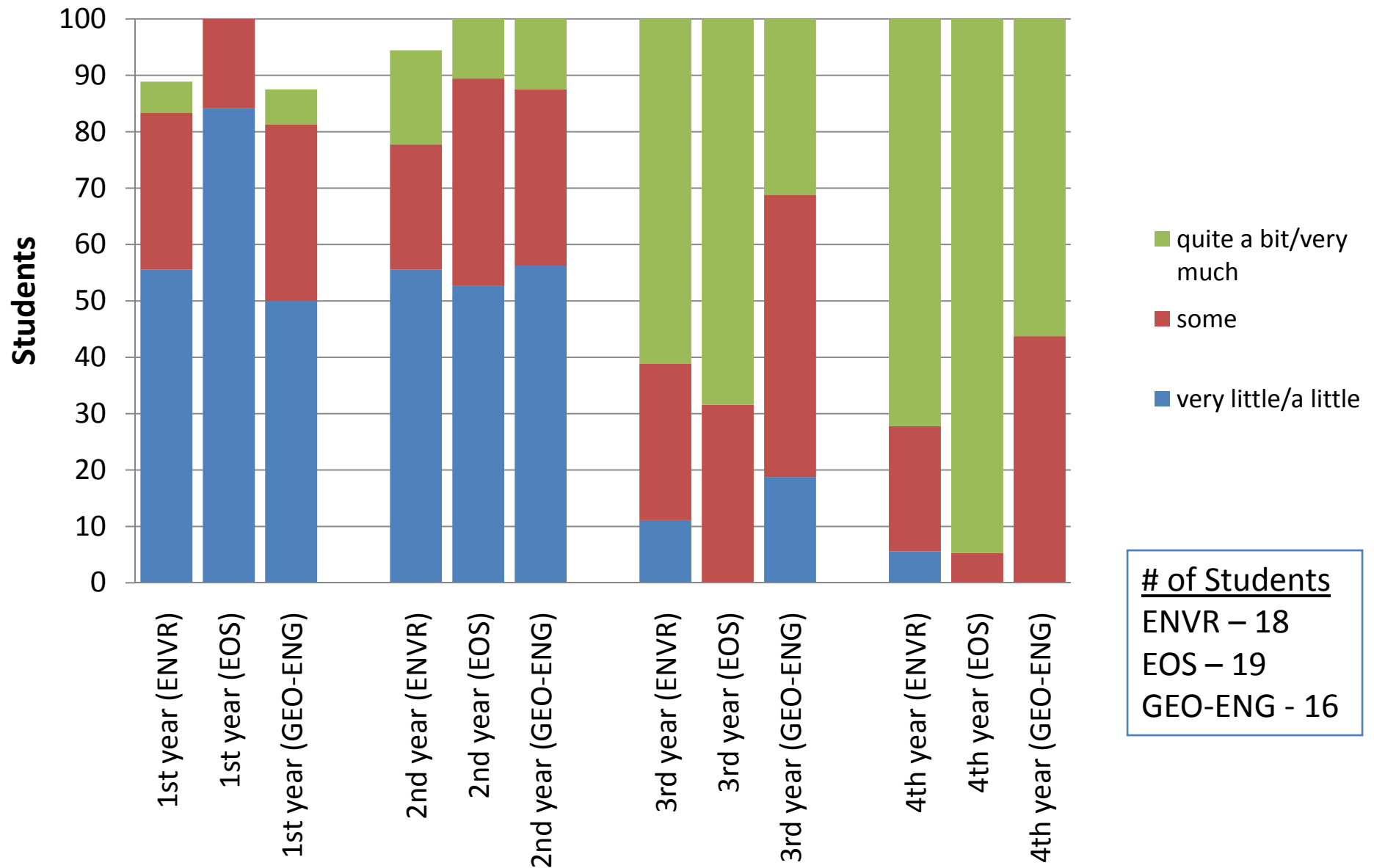
Q19. How much have EOS courses helped you become better at formulating hypotheses?



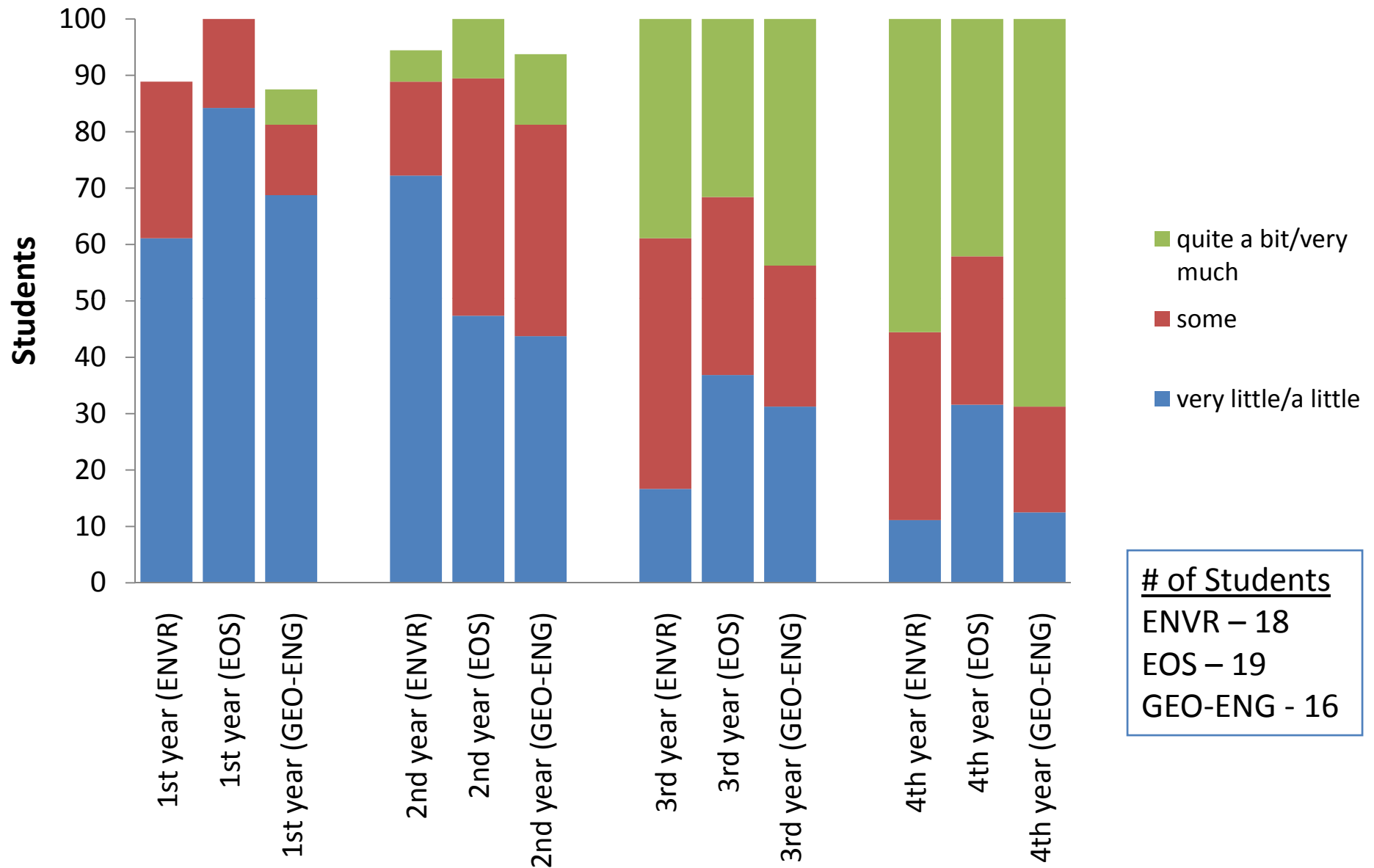
Q20. How much have EOS courses helped you get better at making inferences from incomplete data?



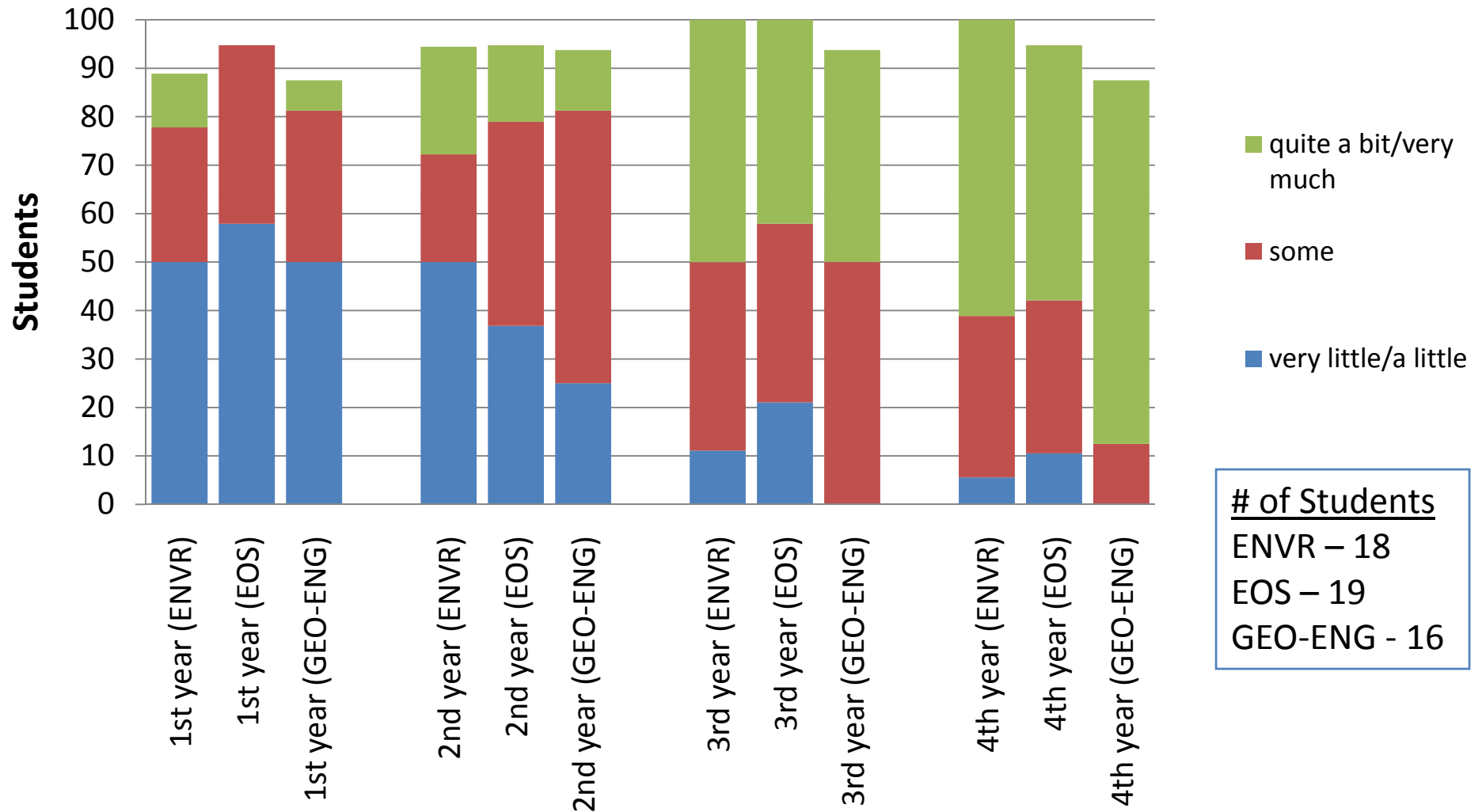
Q21. How much have EOS courses helped you get better at critically evaluating scientific literature?



Q22. How much have EOS courses helped you get better at choosing appropriate analysis methods?



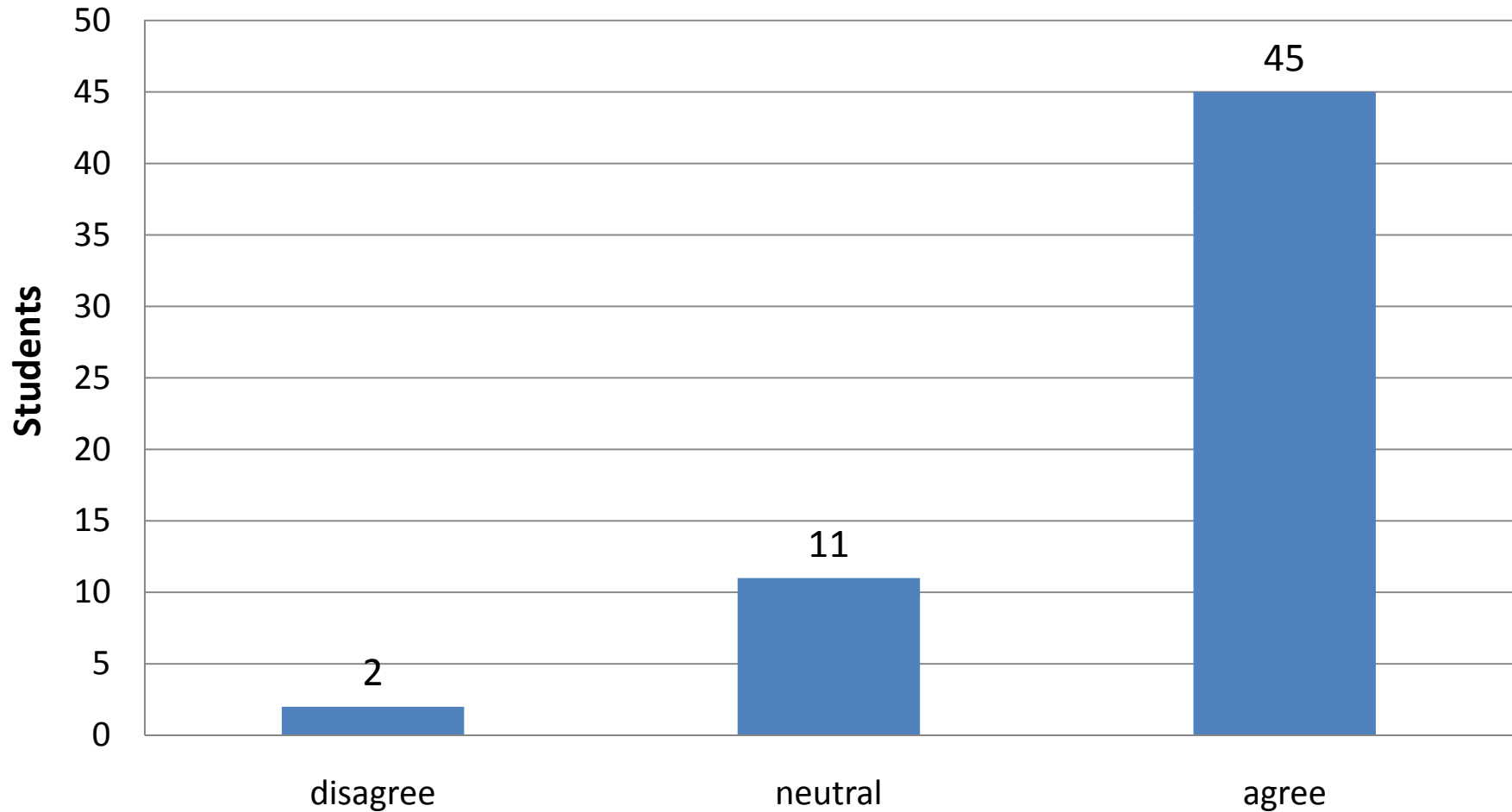
Q23. How much have EOS courses helped you get better at identifying problems in the real world which can be studied scientifically and asking an appropriate scientific question?



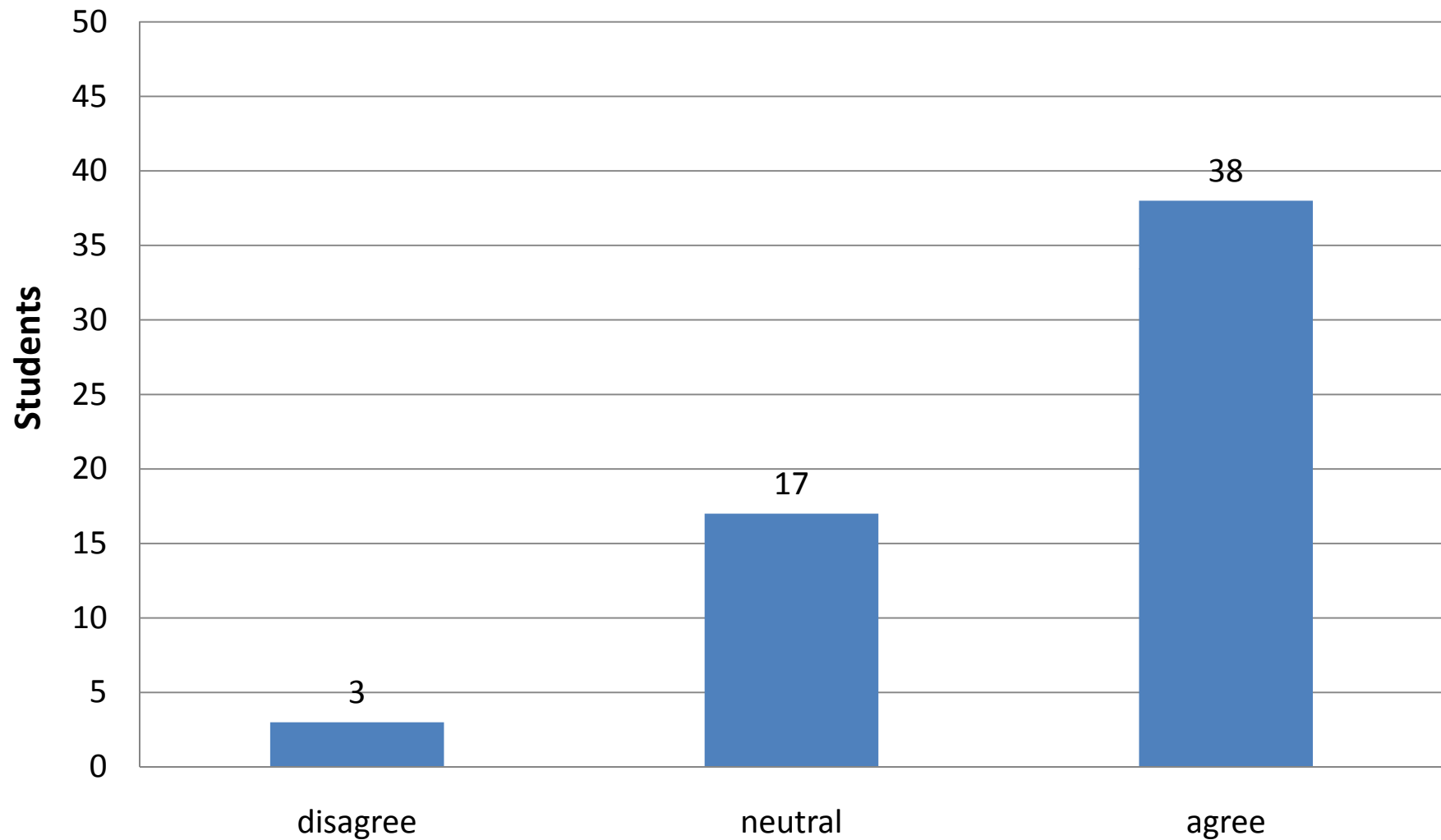
Q24. What other skills should be learned in the EOS program?

- Business (3 votes)
- GIS/ArcGIS/AutoCAD (2 votes)
- Economics (2 votes)
- Instrumentation (e.g. electron microprobe) (2 votes)
- Environmental Law (1 vote)

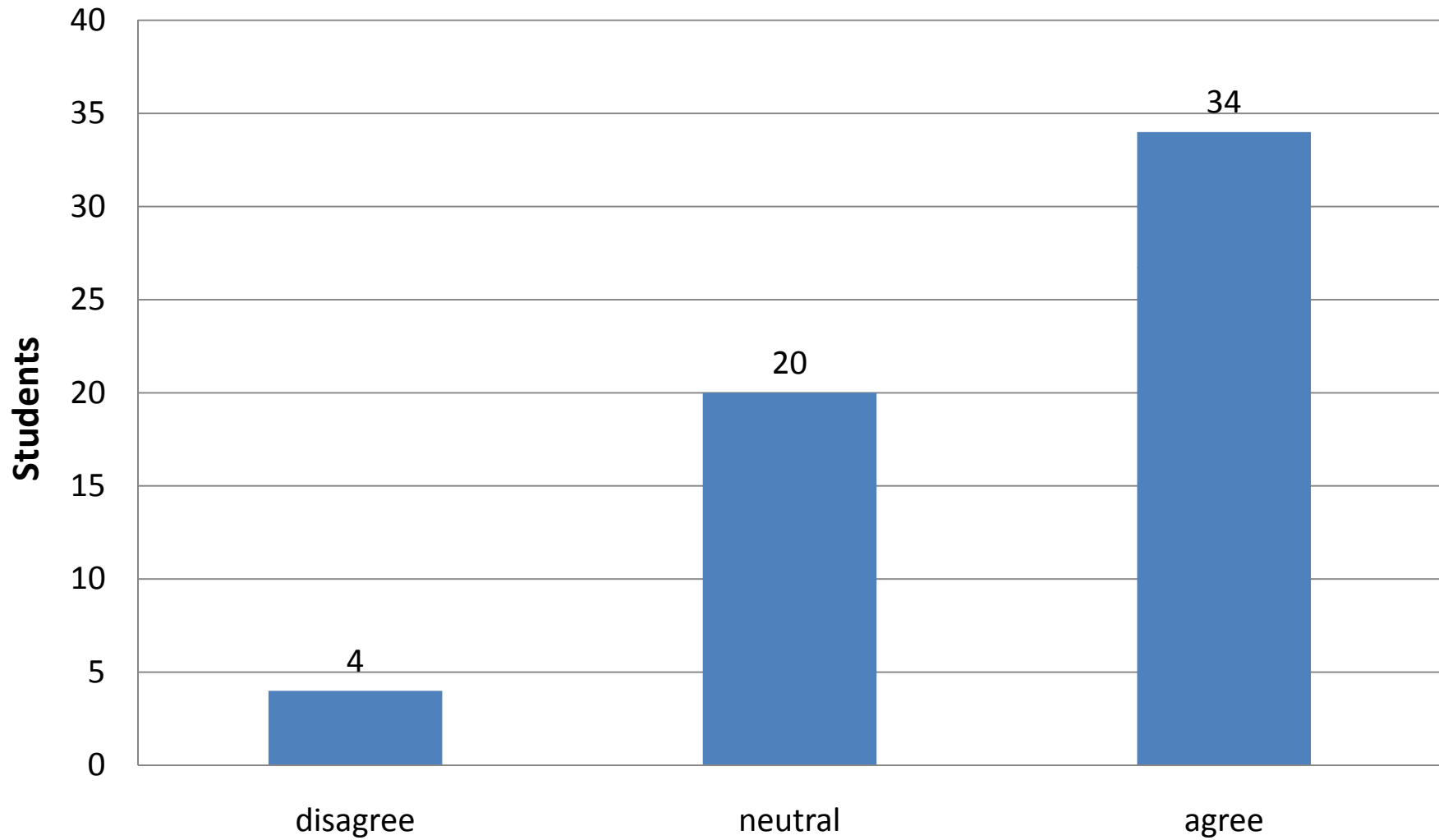
Q25: The practical/technical skills I learned in the EOS courses seem like they will be useful for my career goals



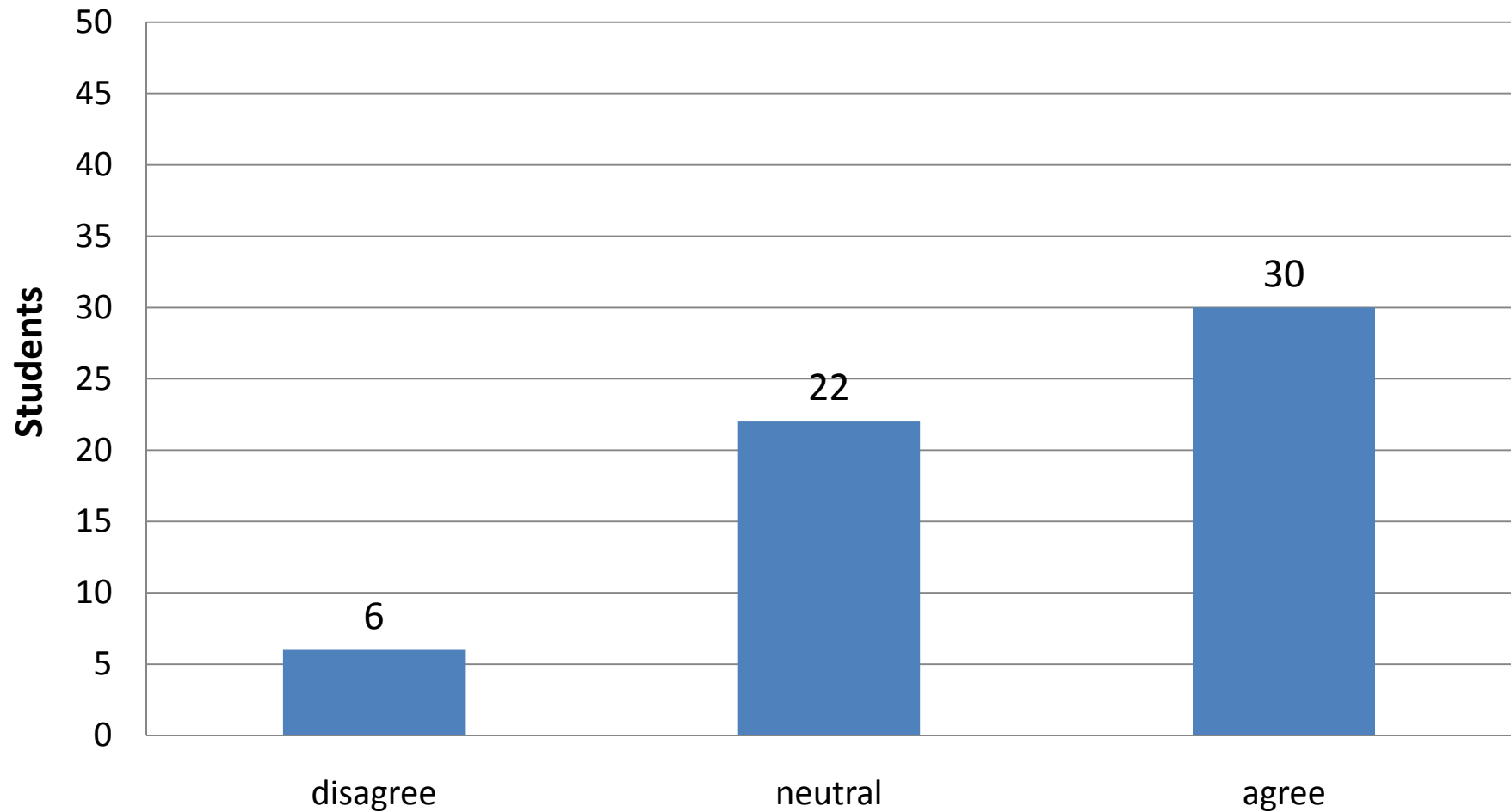
Q26: I felt that the pre-requisites I took adequately prepared me for upper level courses



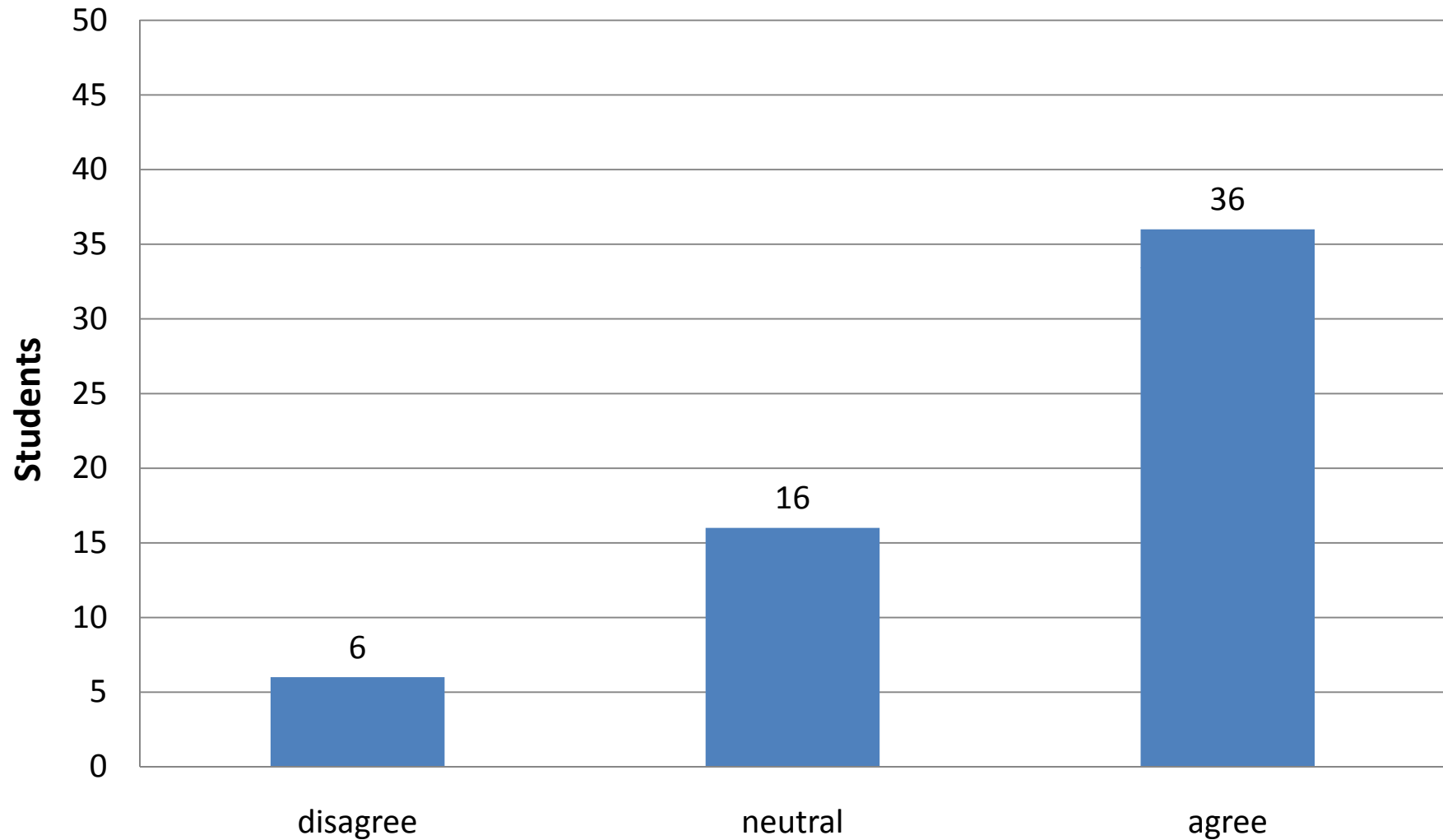
Q27: I felt that the pre-requisites were adequately enforced by my instructors



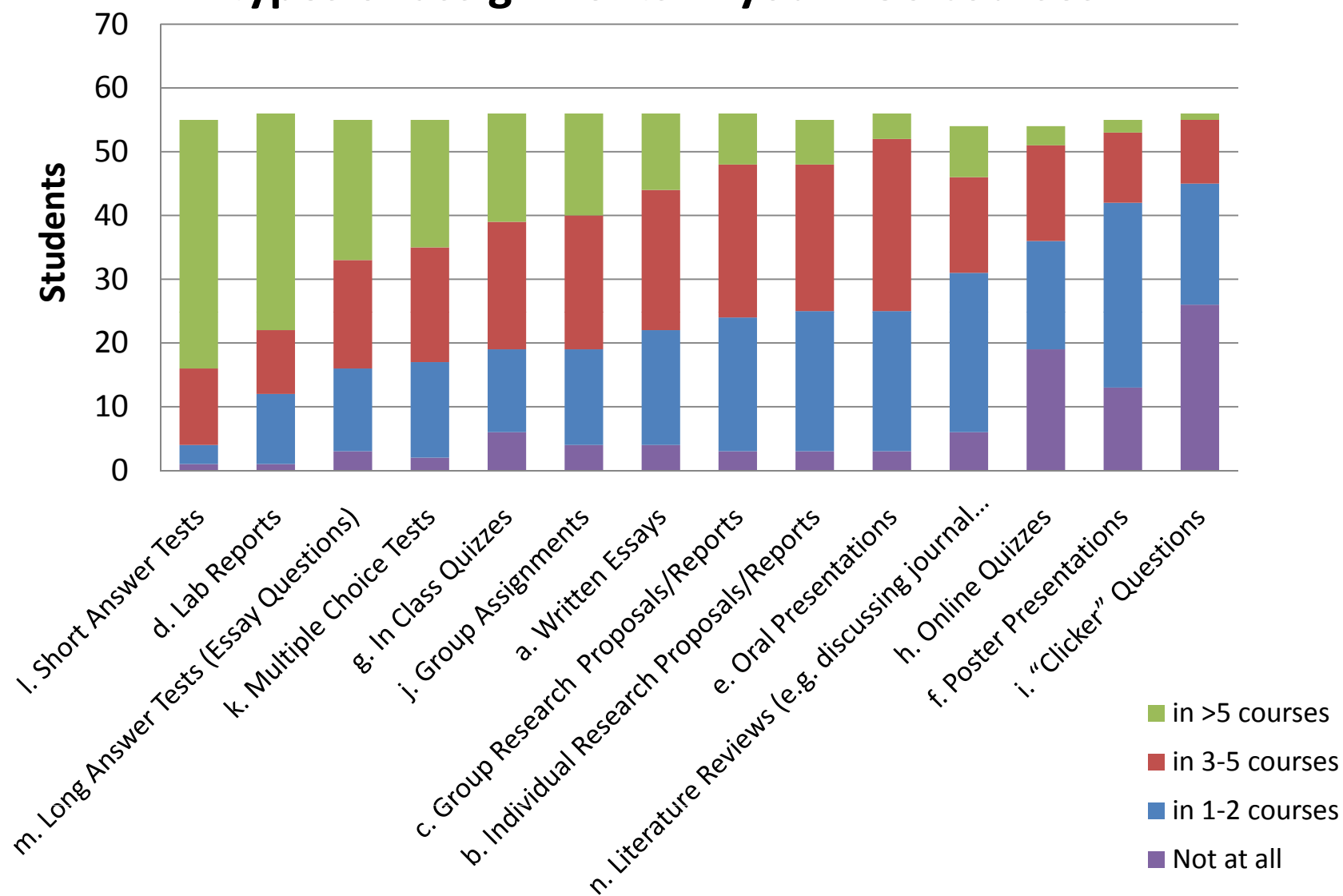
Q28: I felt that there was a “flow” to the EOS curriculum for my particular program and that the curriculum made sense



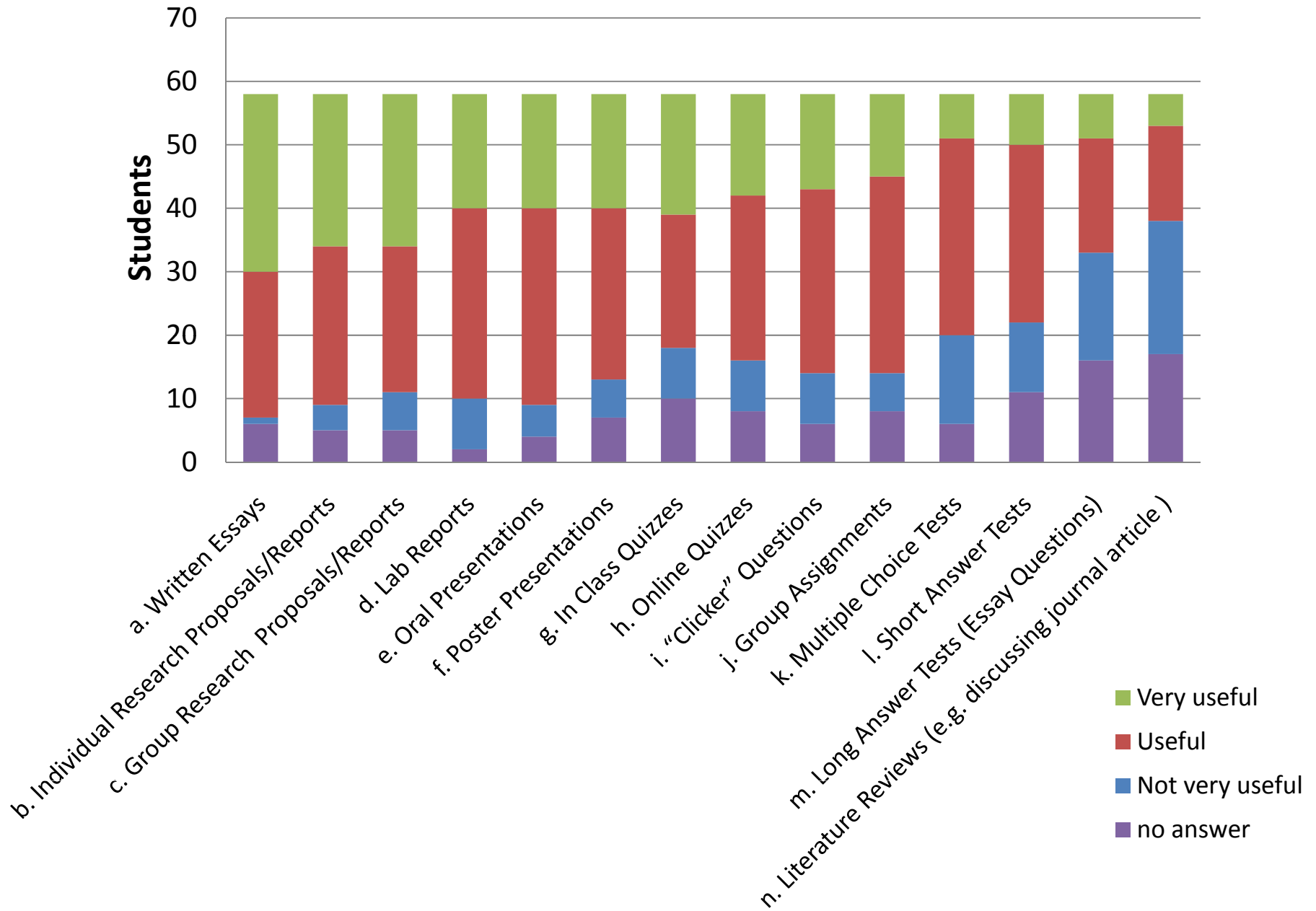
Q29: Generally, I received adequate feedback on my written assignments in EOS courses



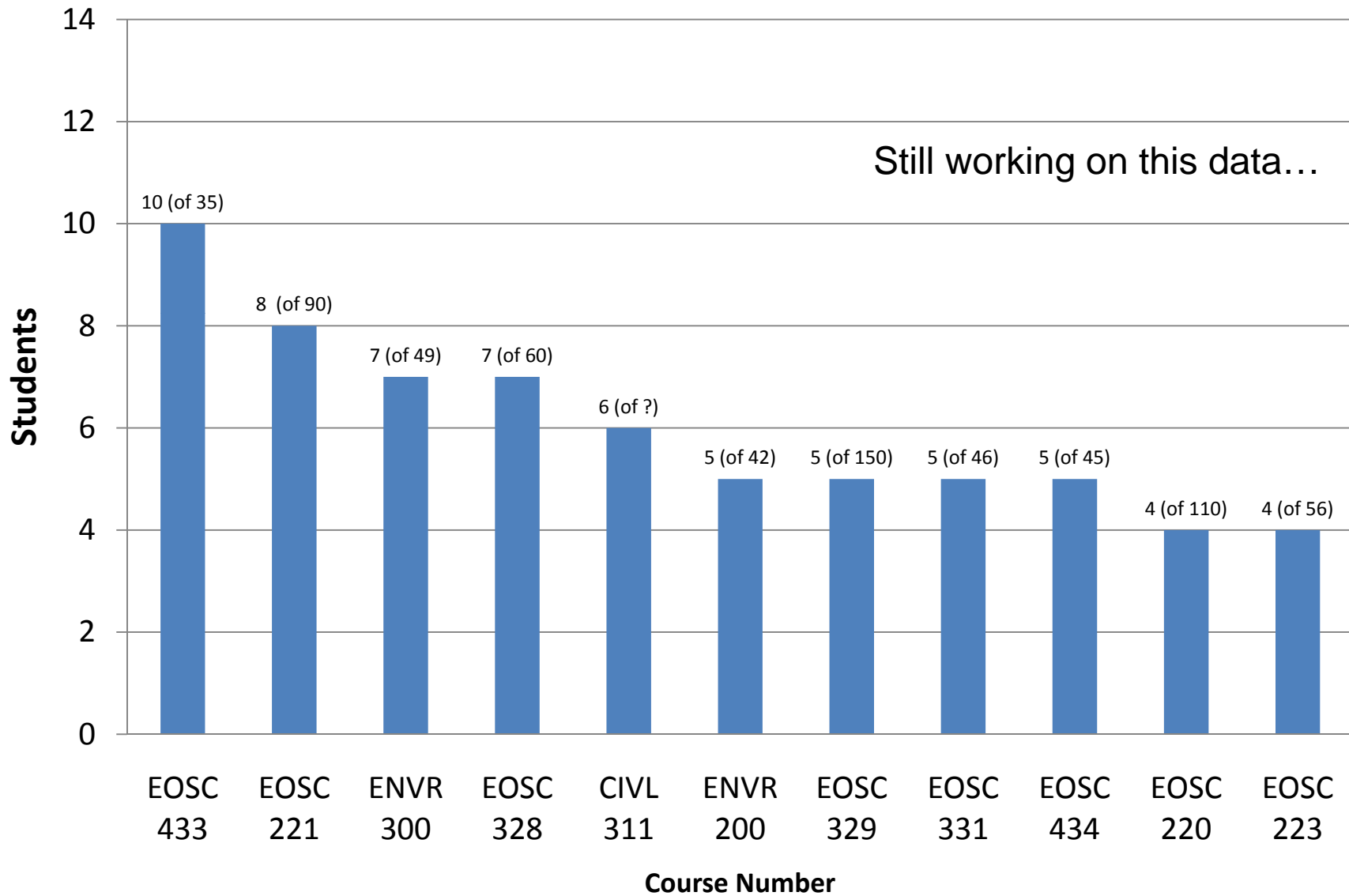
Q30a: How often did you experience the following types of assignments in your EOS courses?



Q30b: How useful were these assignment types?

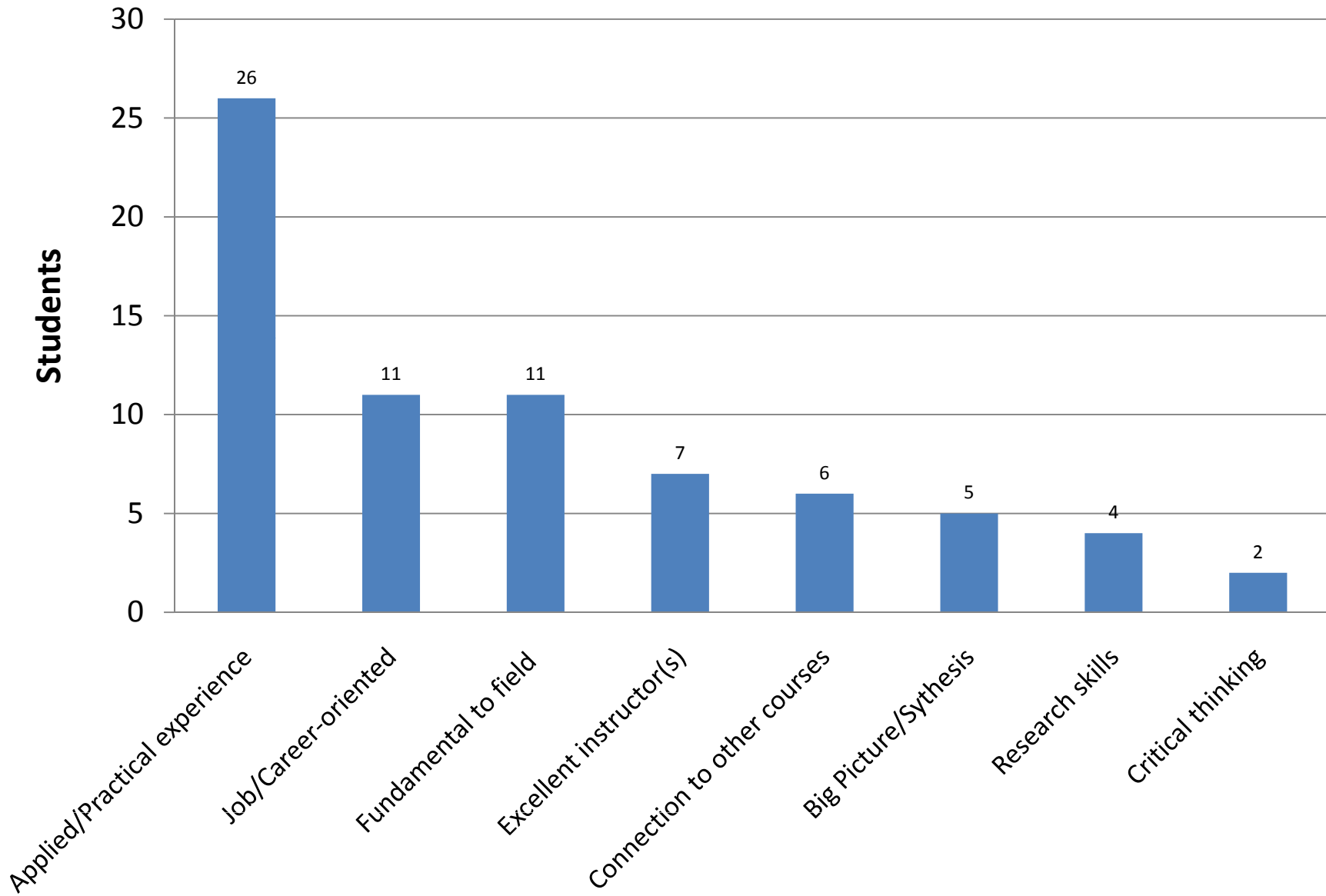


Q31: What are three courses that you feel were most useful to your degree? (most popular)

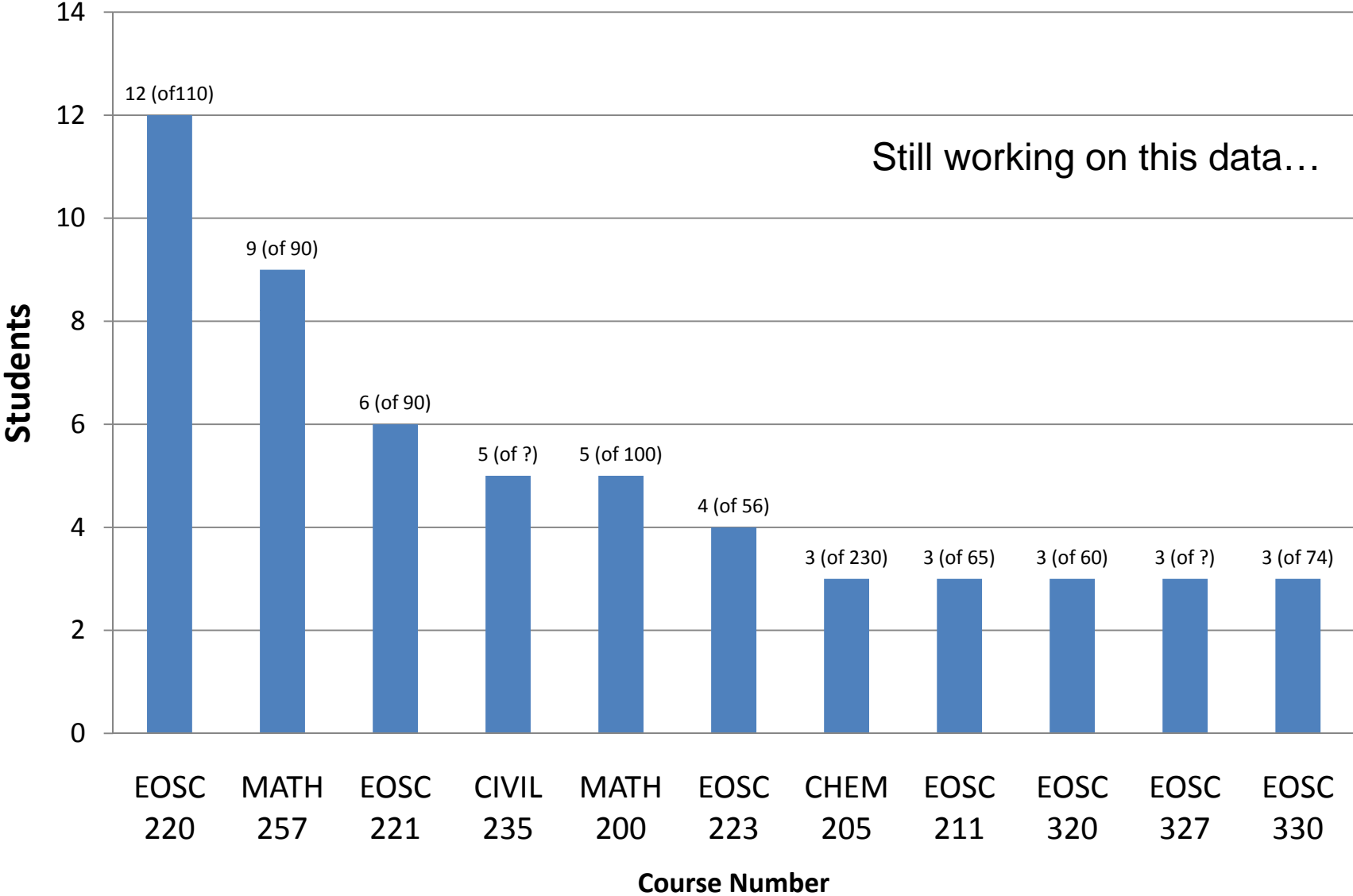


Still working on this data...

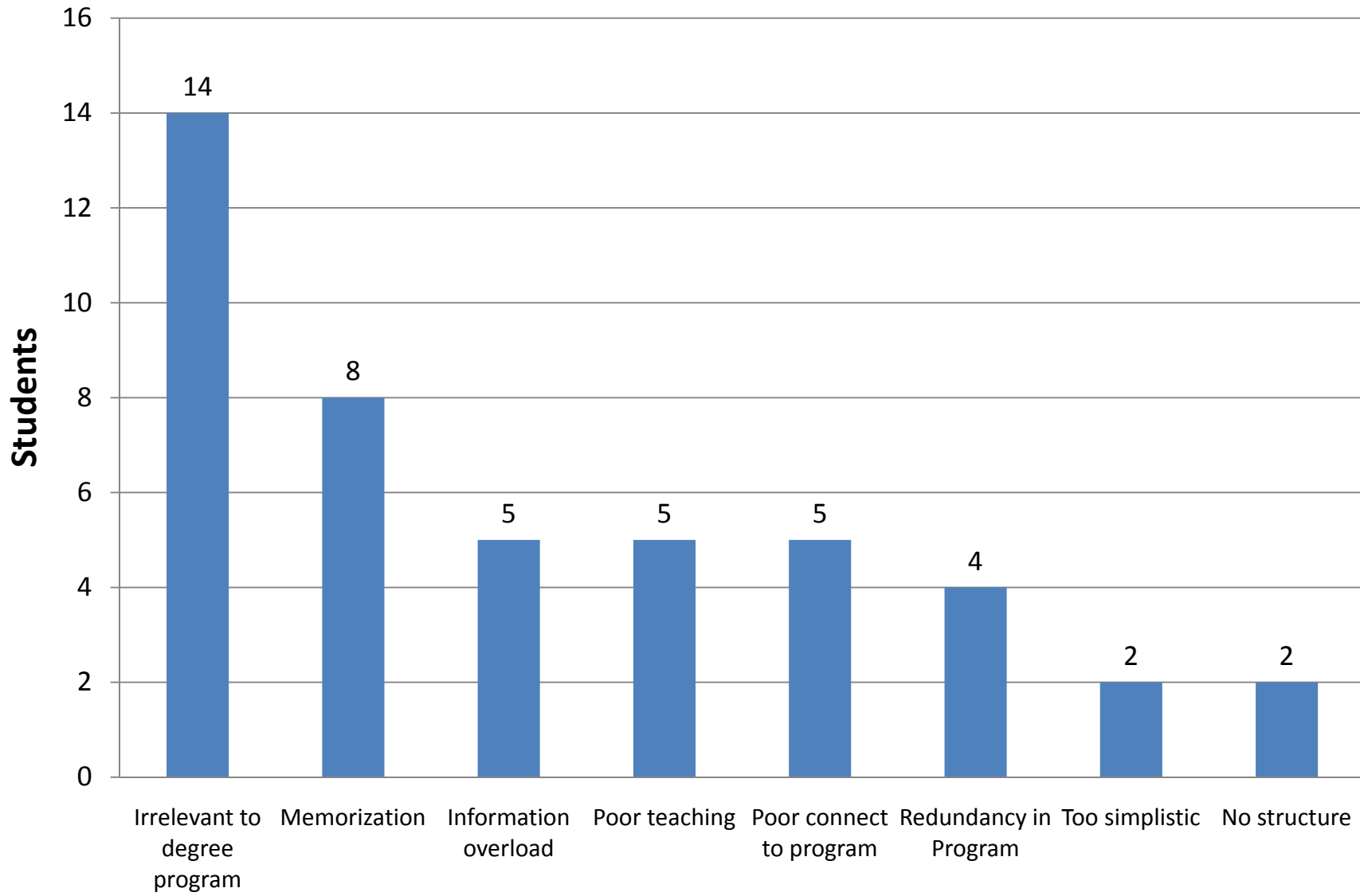
Q31: What is it about these courses that made them so useful?



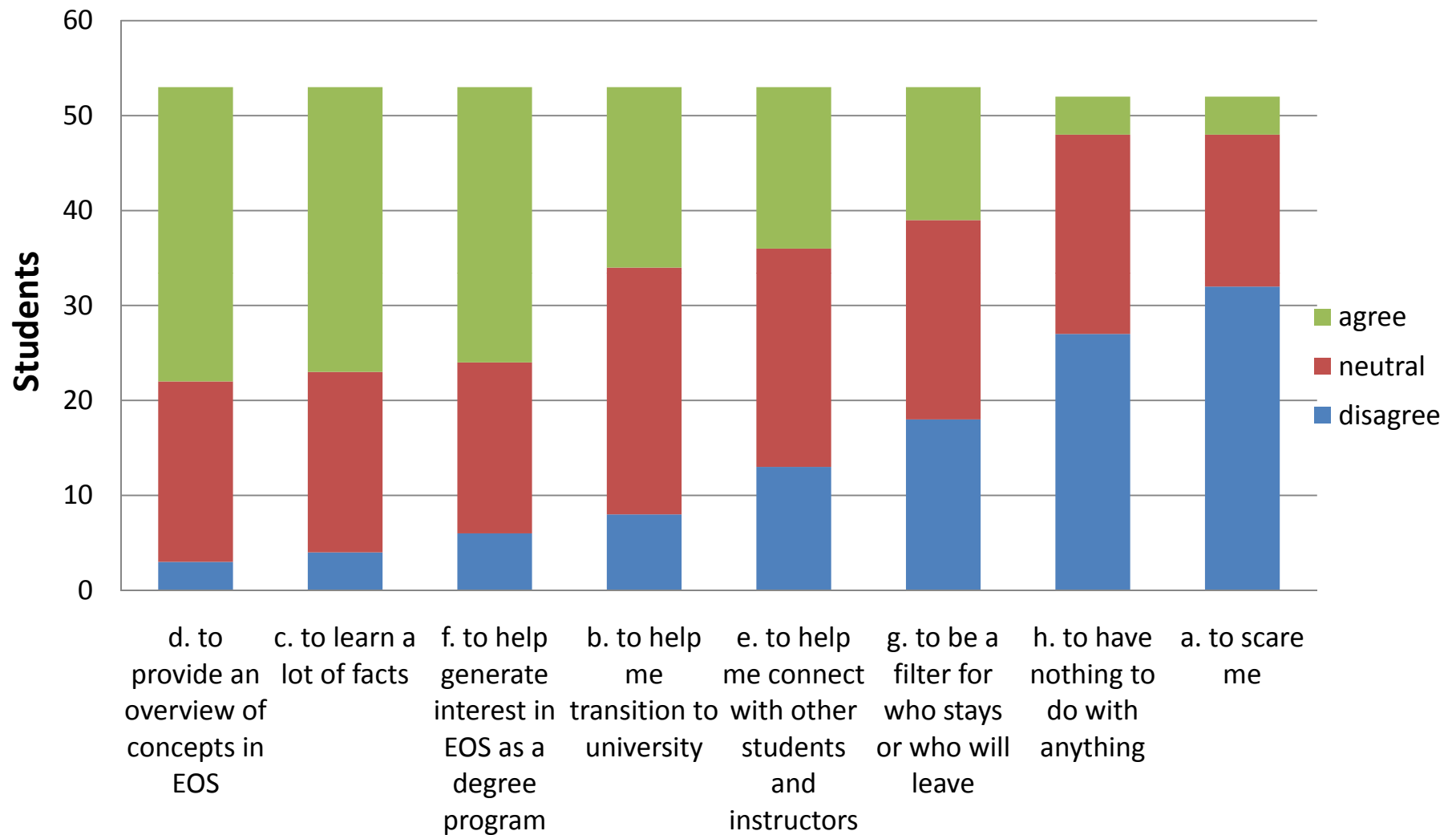
Q32: What are three courses that you feel were should be improved, changed or omitted as a requirement?



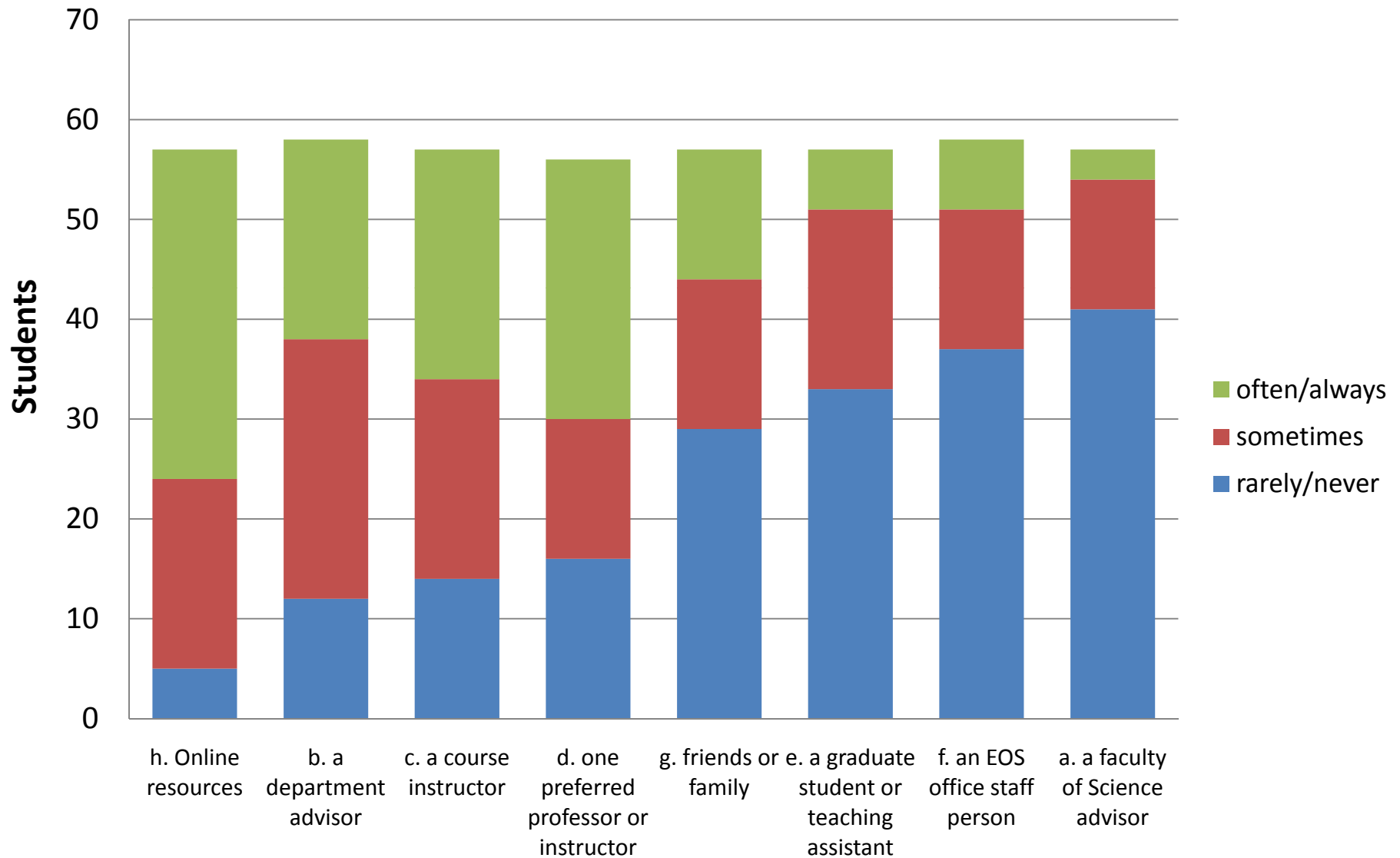
Q32: What is it about these courses that needs to be improved?



Q33: For me, the purpose of 1st year EOS courses seemed to be:

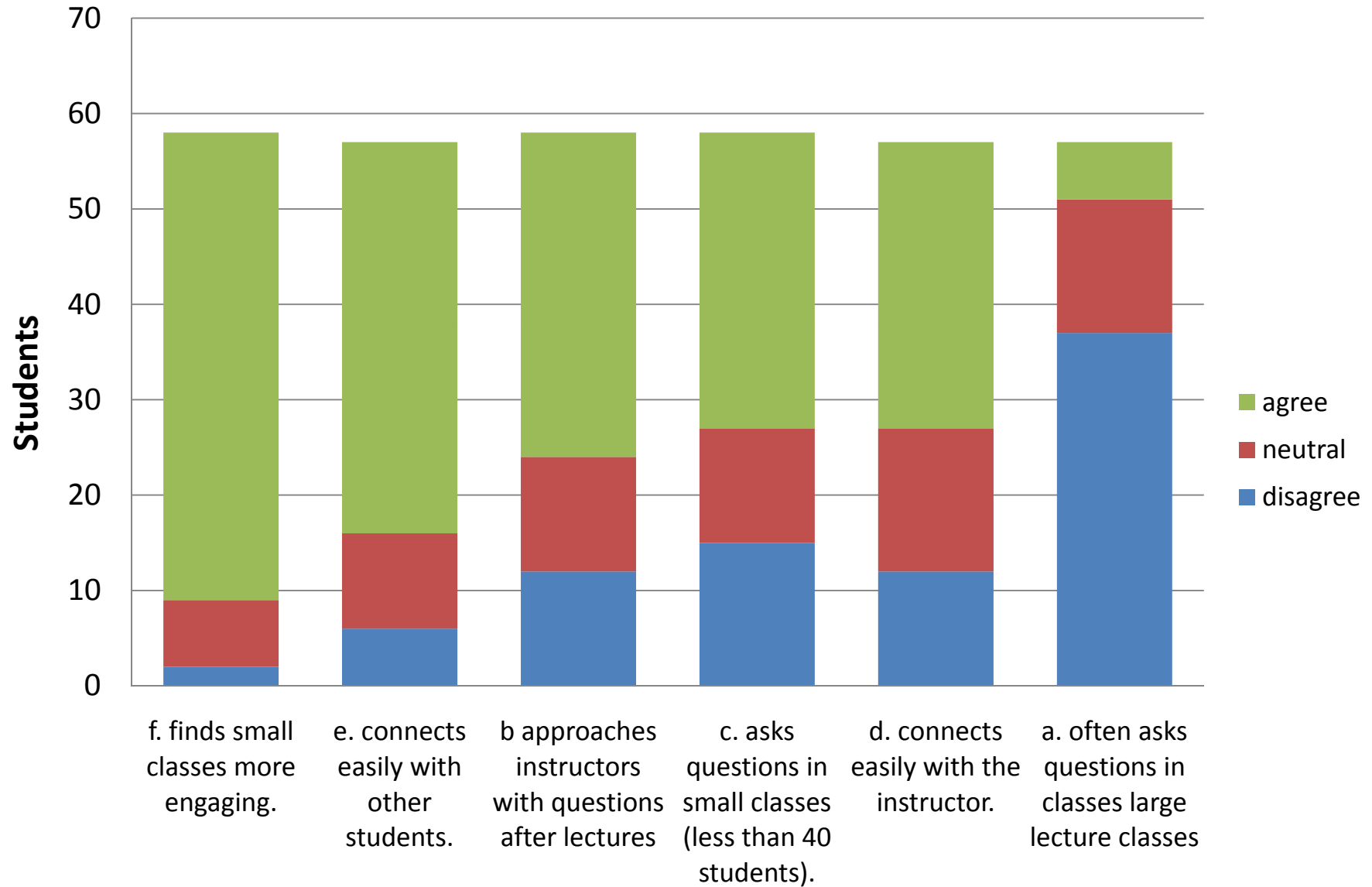


Q34: When I had a question about the EOS program, I approached:

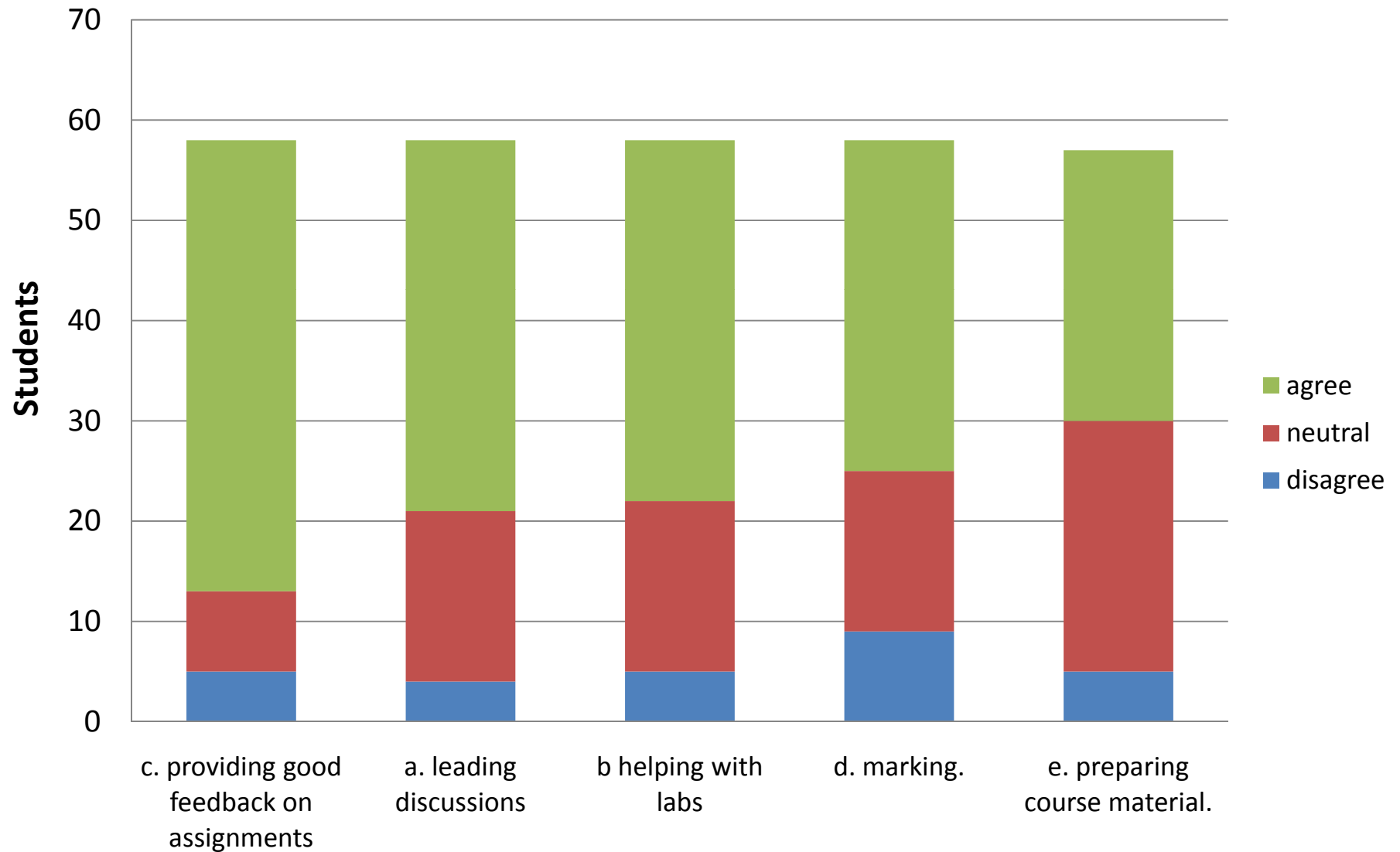


- **Q34: When I had a question about the EOS program, I approached (other):**
 - Students from previous years
 - Current students
 - Front office staff was great
 - I found the advising staff to be unhelpful

Q35: I am generally the kind of student that...

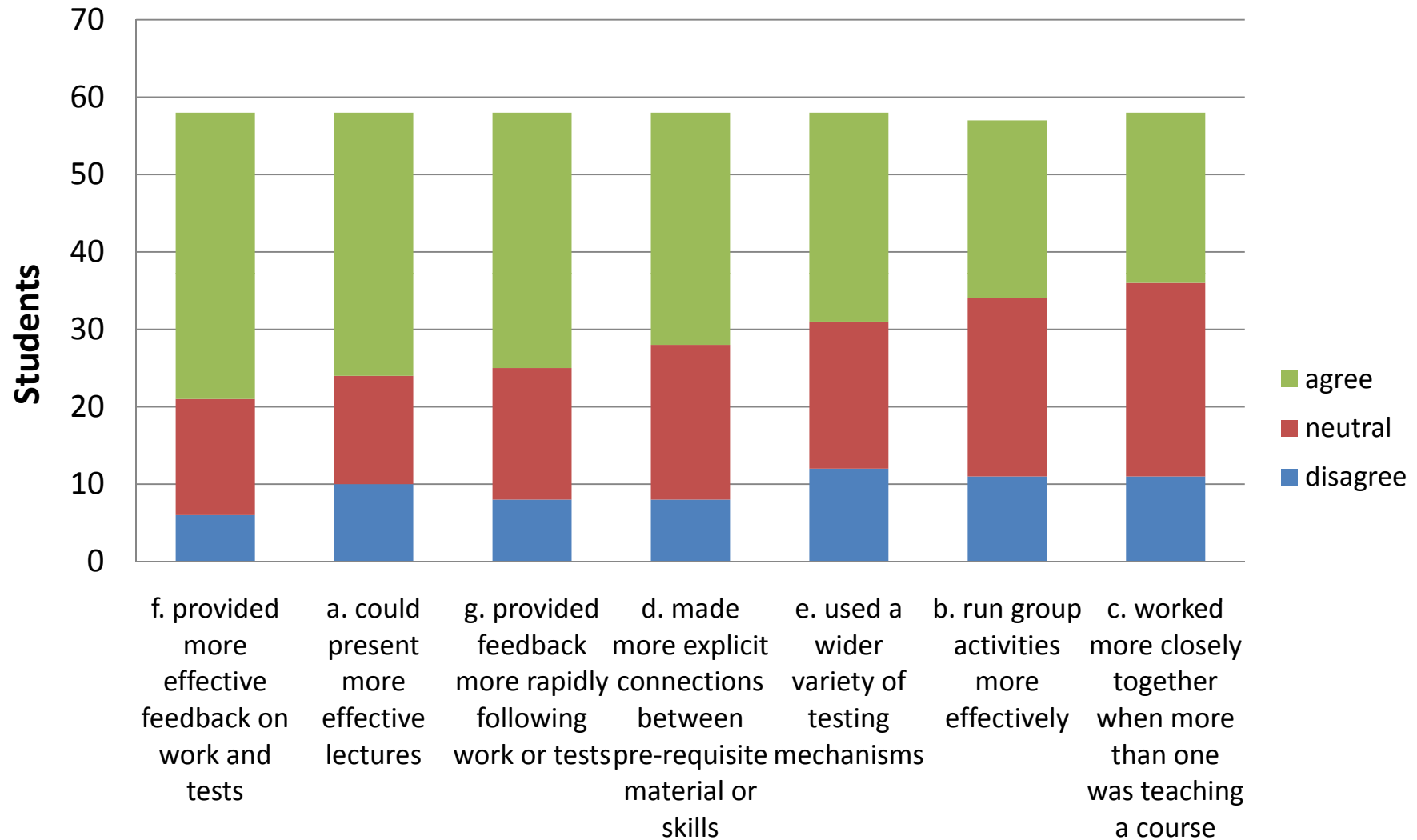


Q36. Regarding teaching assistants (TAs), I feel they would benefit from more training / practice in ...



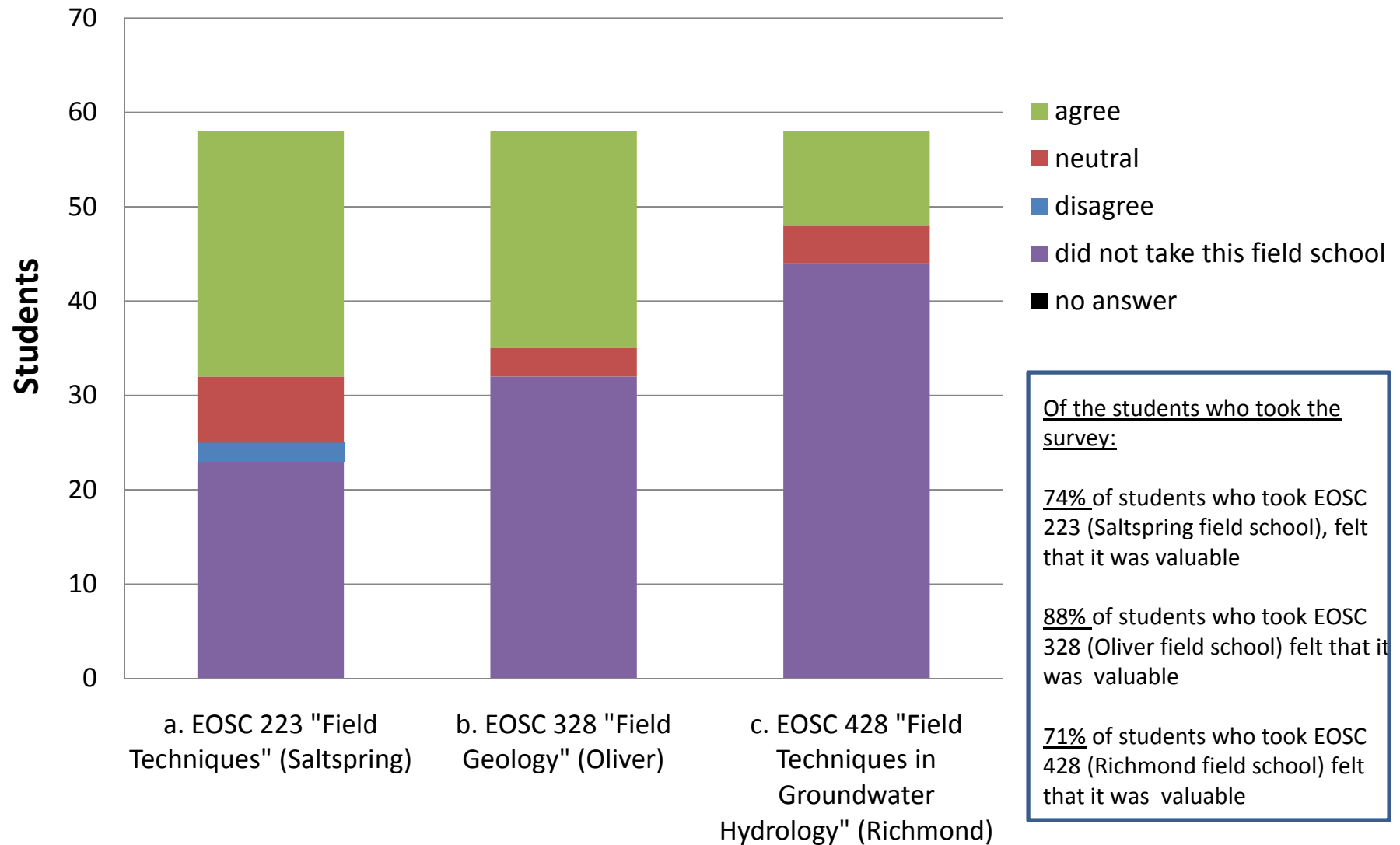
- Q36 TAs would benefit from (comments for other):
 - TAs should have recently studied the subject matter.
 - TAs should develop a good rapport with students.
 - General Communication skills, importance of clarity when explaining concepts.

Q37. Regarding professors in EOS, I feel the program would benefit if they...

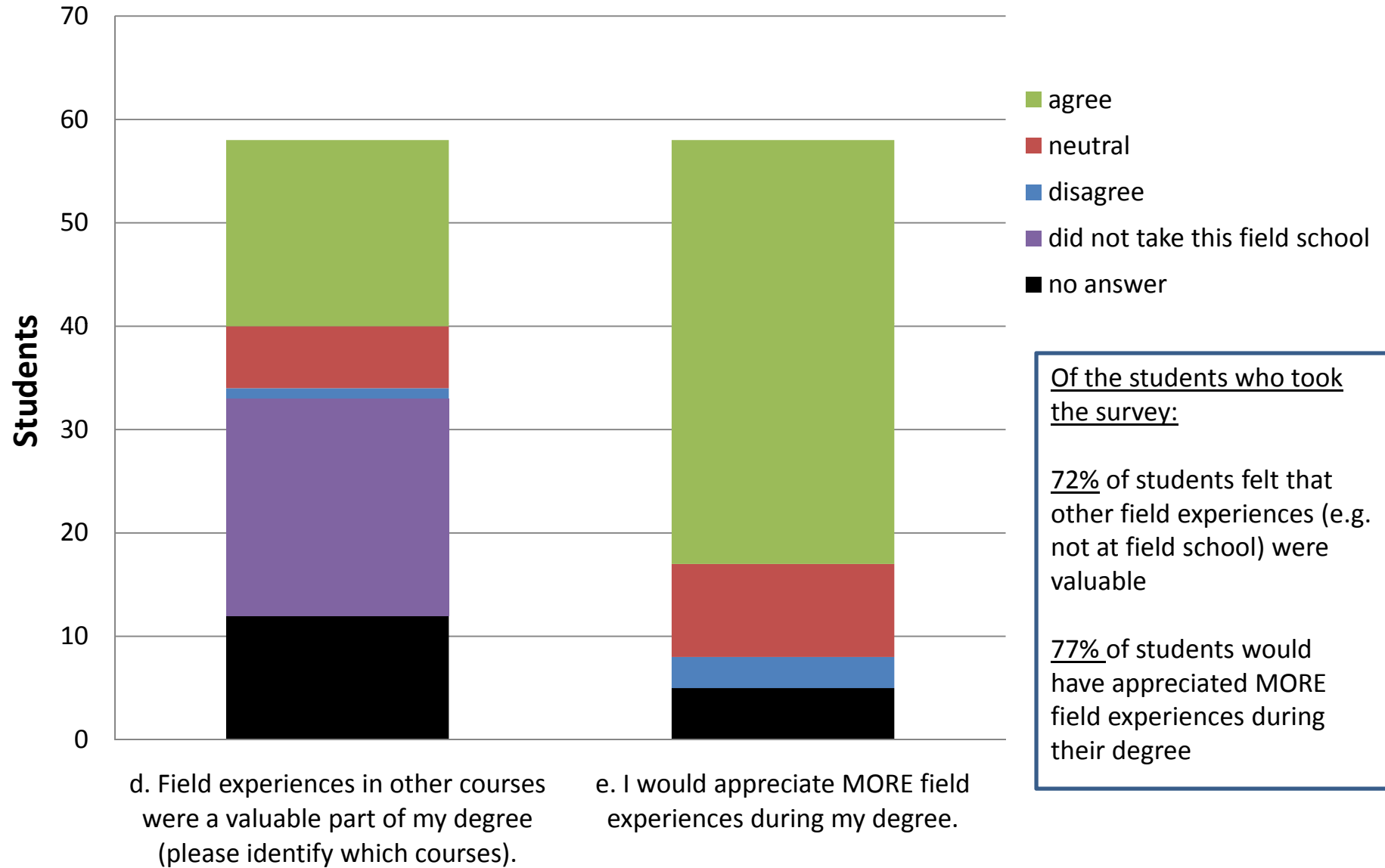


- Q37 Professors would benefit from (comments):
 - Have more quizzes during the semester to stimulate thinking.
 - Overall, I found that EOS professors were more than qualified and knowledgeable, and most of them taught very effectively.
 - Stop using PowerPoint as a crutch. Lectures based on recycled powerpoints frequently evolve into unorganized rambling.

Q38. My experiences in the following field courses were a valuable part of my degree:



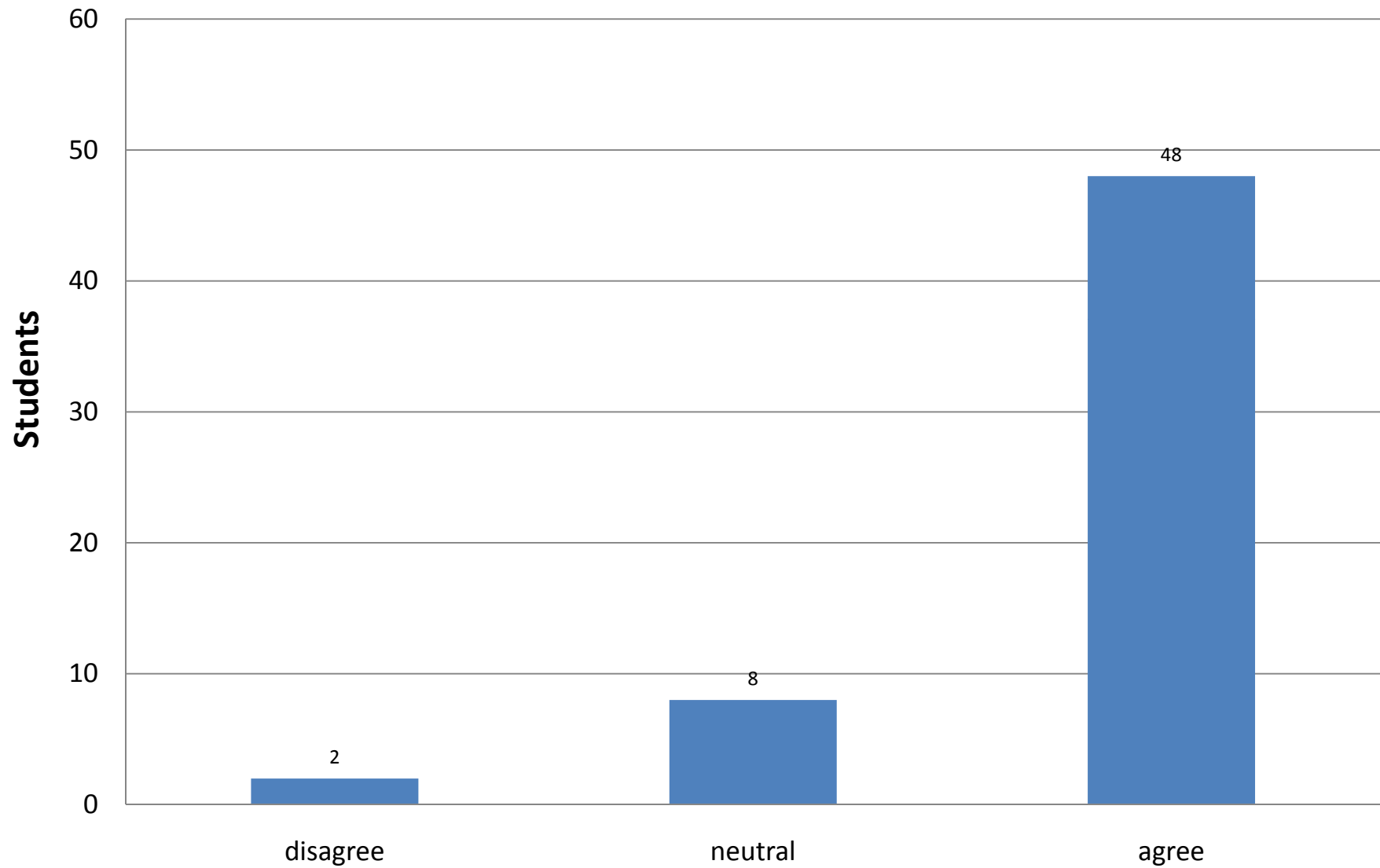
Q38. Field Experiences



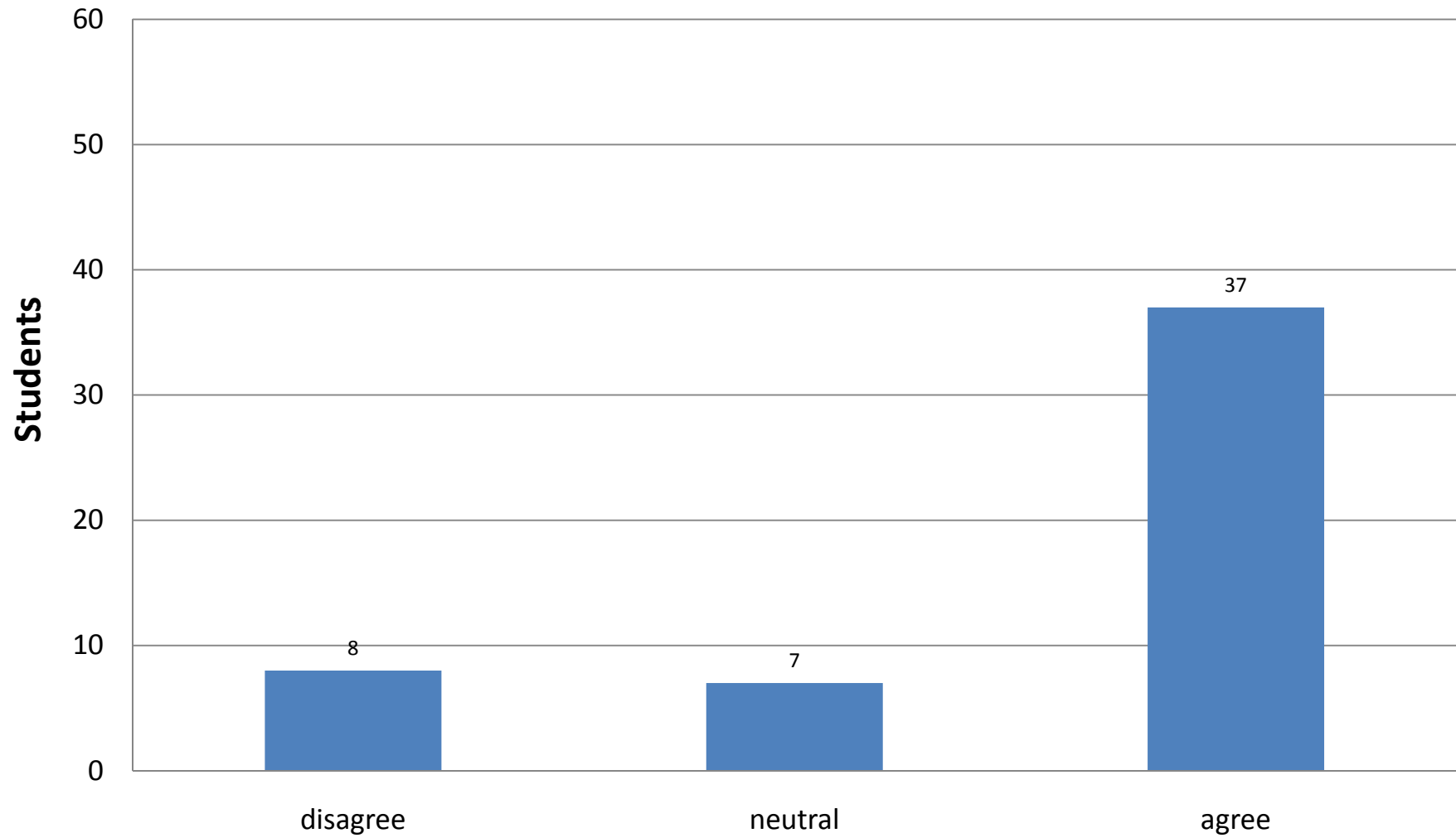
Q38 – Other Valuable Field Experiences (values indicate number of responses):

- BIOL 402 Aquatic Ecology - 1
- BIOL 404 Ecological Methodology - 1
- BIOL 405 Marine Ecology - 1
- BIOL 406 Plant Ecology - 1
- BIOL 409 Ecology Field Course - 3
- BIOL 427 Terrestrial Vertebrate Zoology - 1
- CIVL 235 Plane Surveying - 5
- ENVR 200 Env. Sci. I - 1
- ENVR 300 Env. Sci. II - 1
- EOSC 221 Petrology - 1
- EOSC 320 Sedimentology - 1
- EOSC 420 Volcanology - 5
- EOSC 421 Adv. Sed - 1
- EOSC 422 Structural Geol. - 1
- EOSC 424 Adv. Ore Deposits - 2
- EOSC 430 Aqueous Geochemistry - 1
- EOSC 473 Methods in Oceanography - 1
- GEOG 306 Hydrology - 1
- GEOG 308 Quaternary and Applied Geomorphology - 1
- GEOG 309 Geographical Biogeosciences Field Course - 1

Q39. I enjoyed studying EOS at UBC

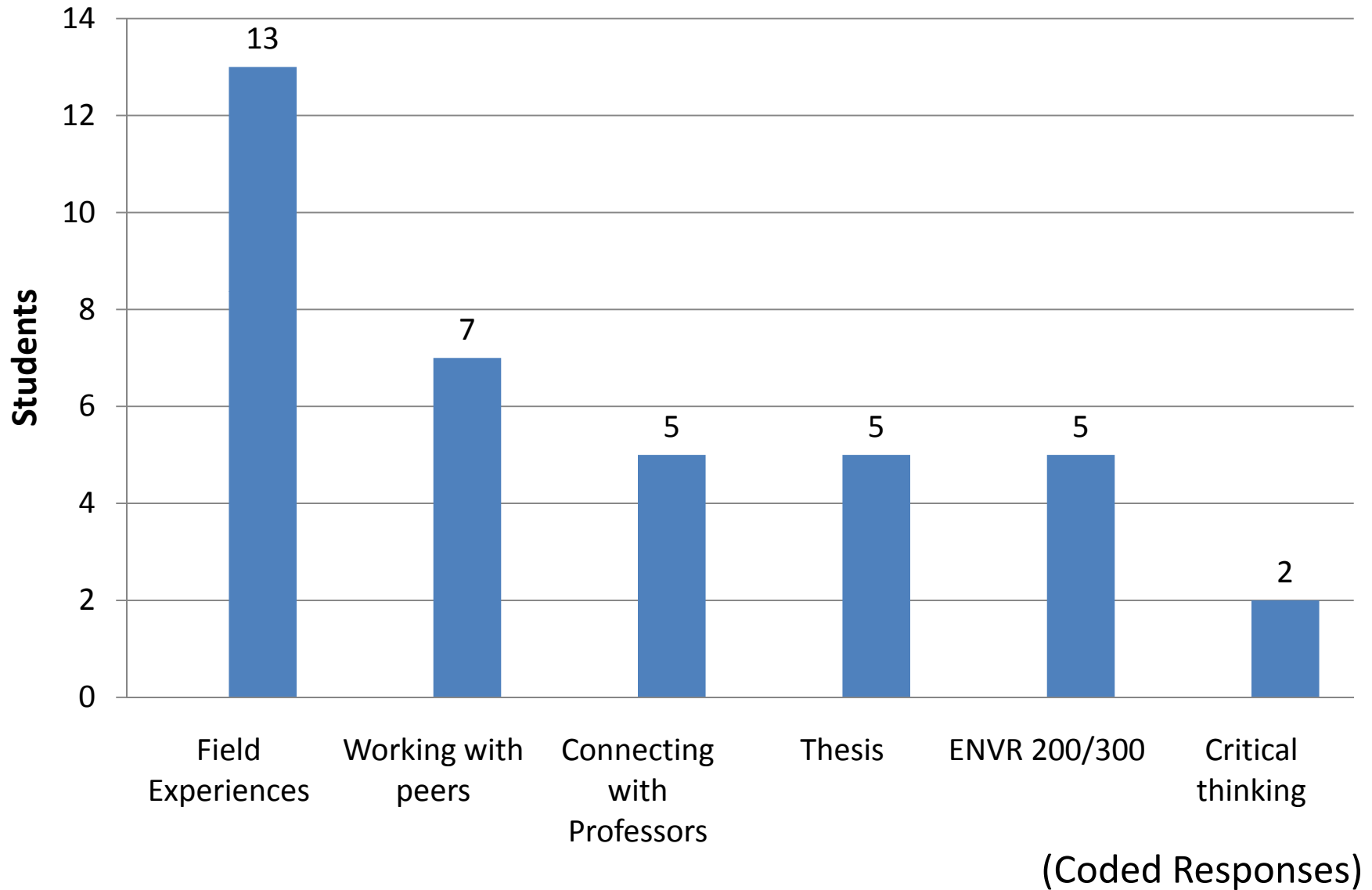


Q40. I experienced a strong sense of community in the EOS program

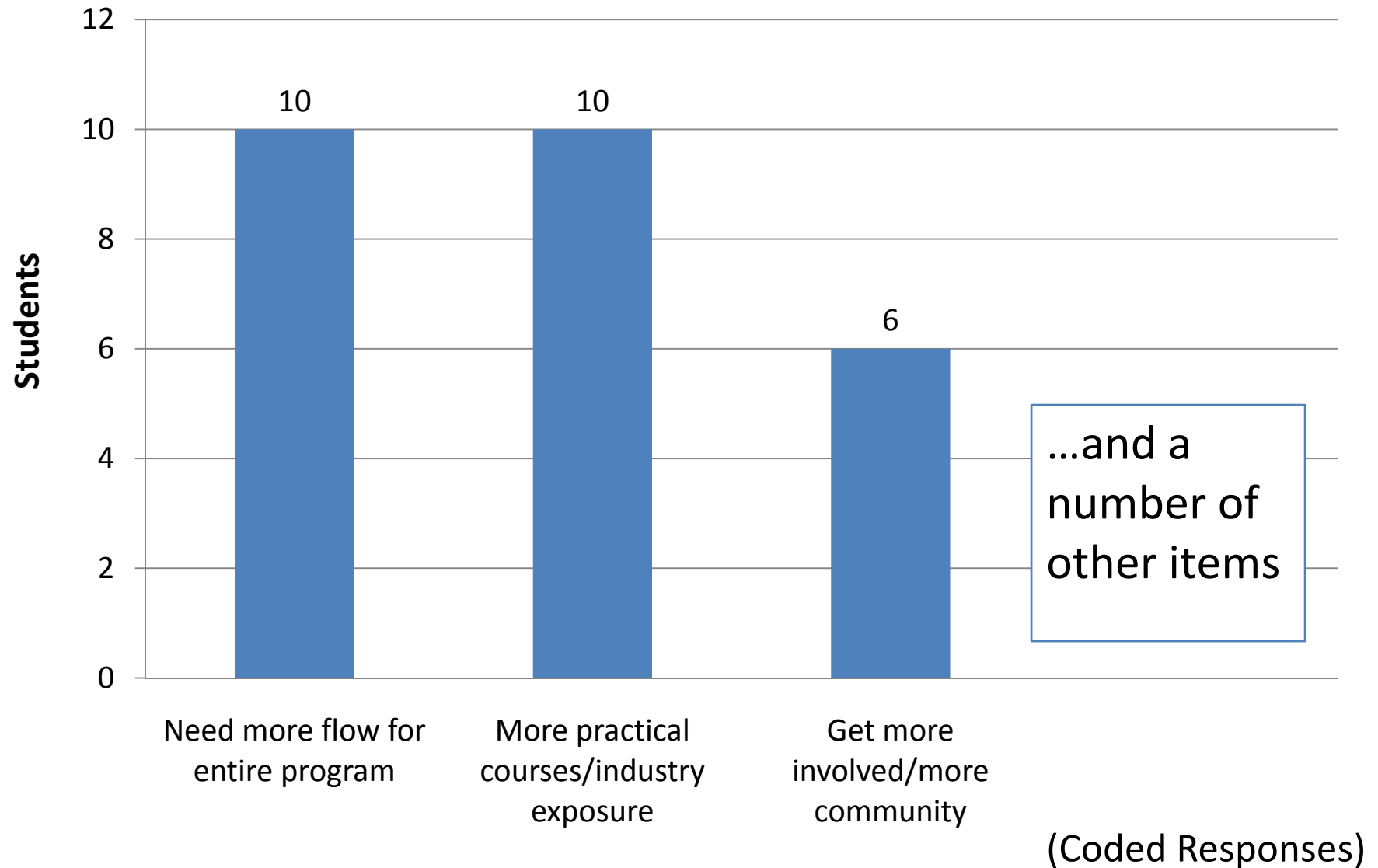


- Q41 – How might community be enhanced within the EOS program?
 - Coding glitch occurred, no data collected for this question.

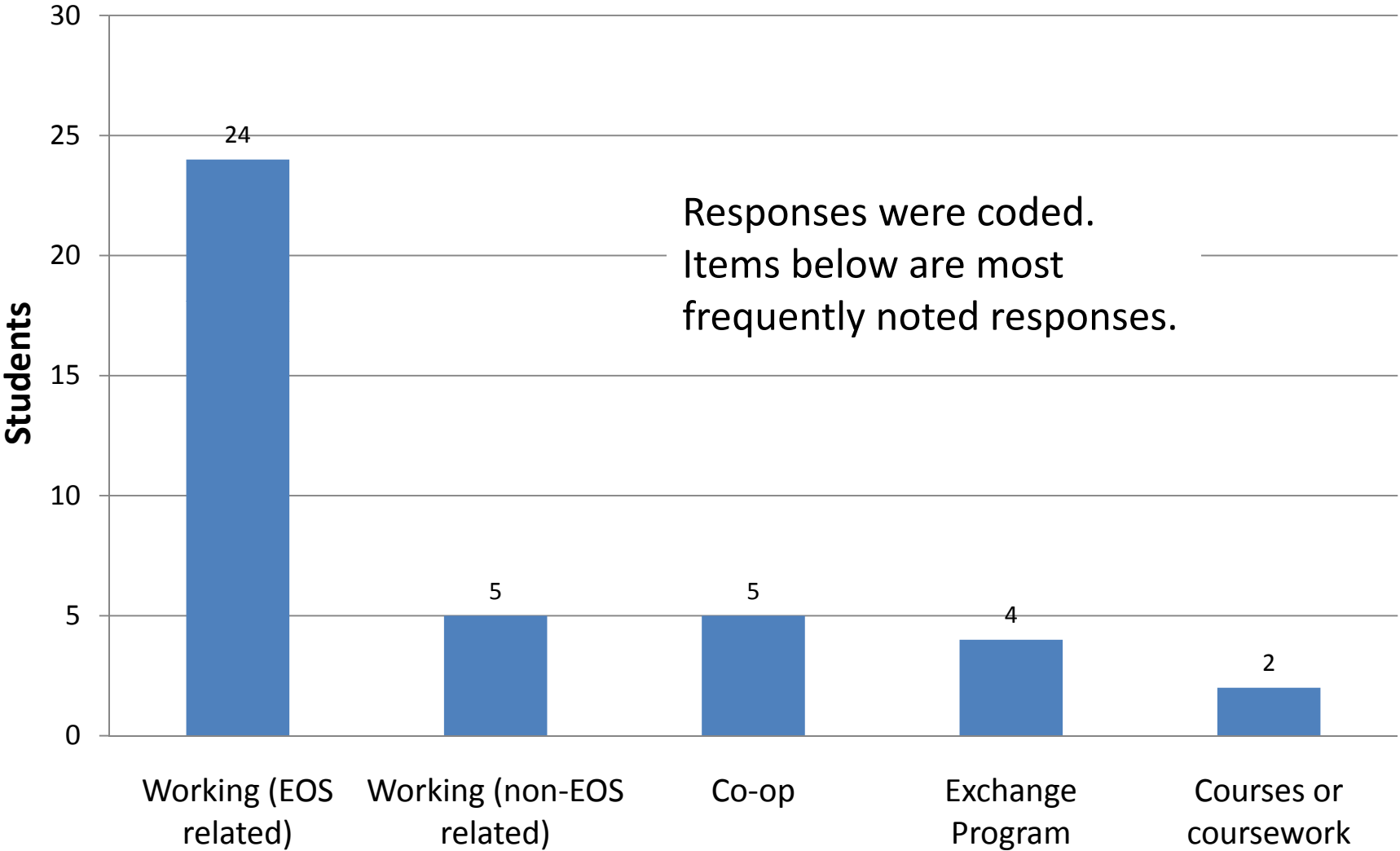
Q42. The most positive learning experience I had within EOS was:



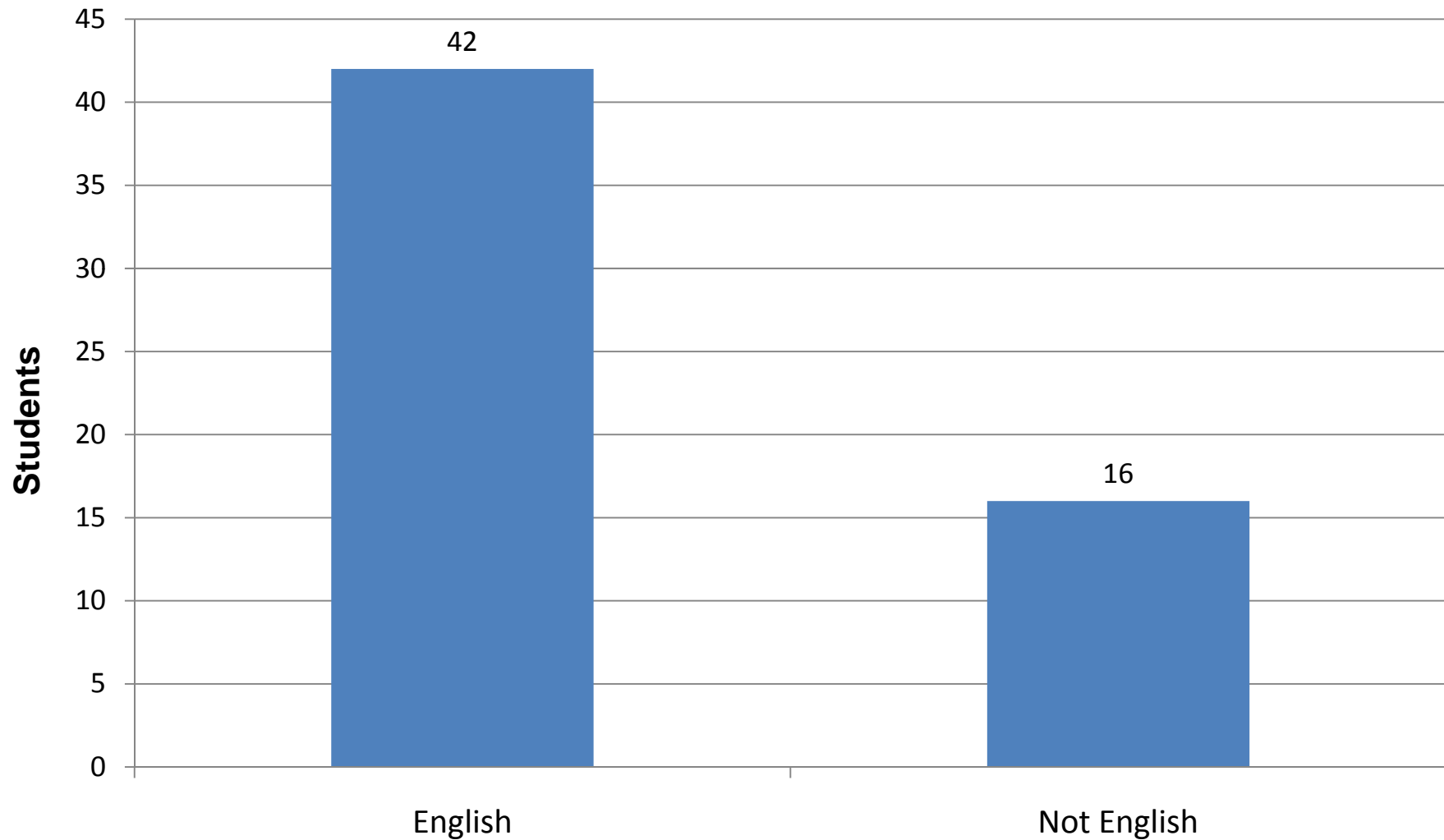
Q43 and Q44. If I could change one thing about my learning experience in EOS it would be:



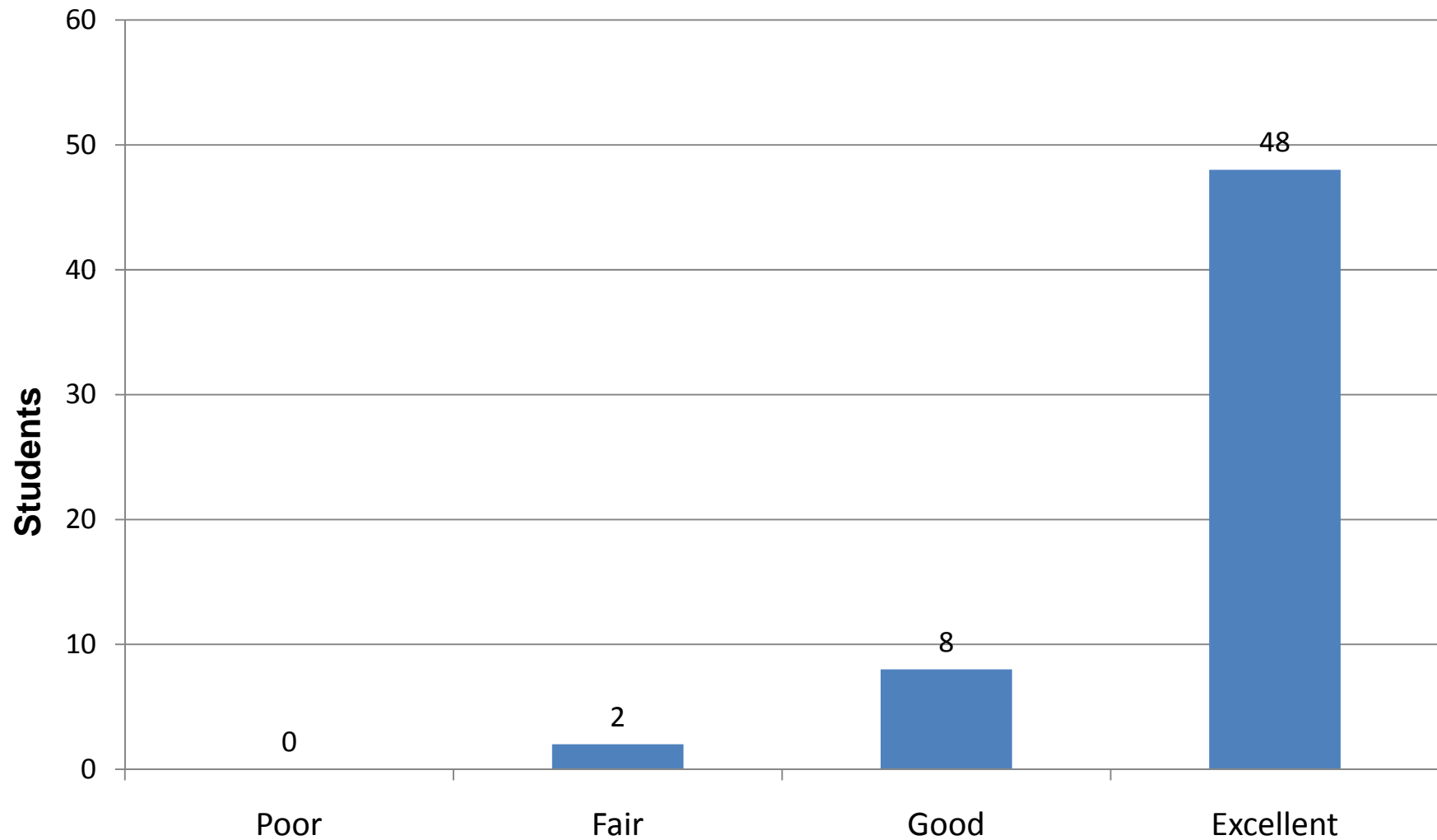
Q45. What was the most significant learning situation RELATED TO YOUR DEGREE that you experienced OUTSIDE OF UBC?



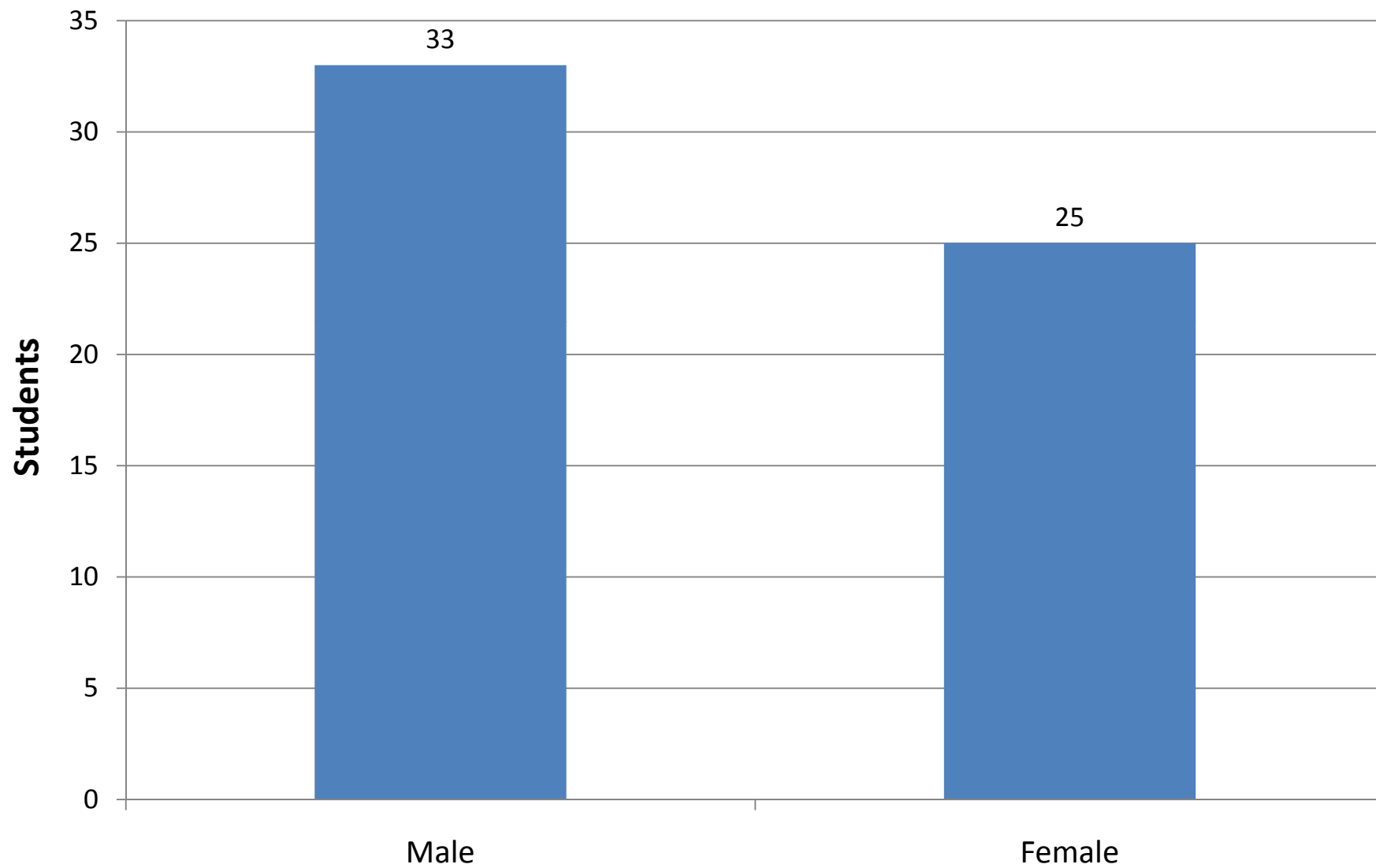
46. Which was the first language spoken in your household while growing up?



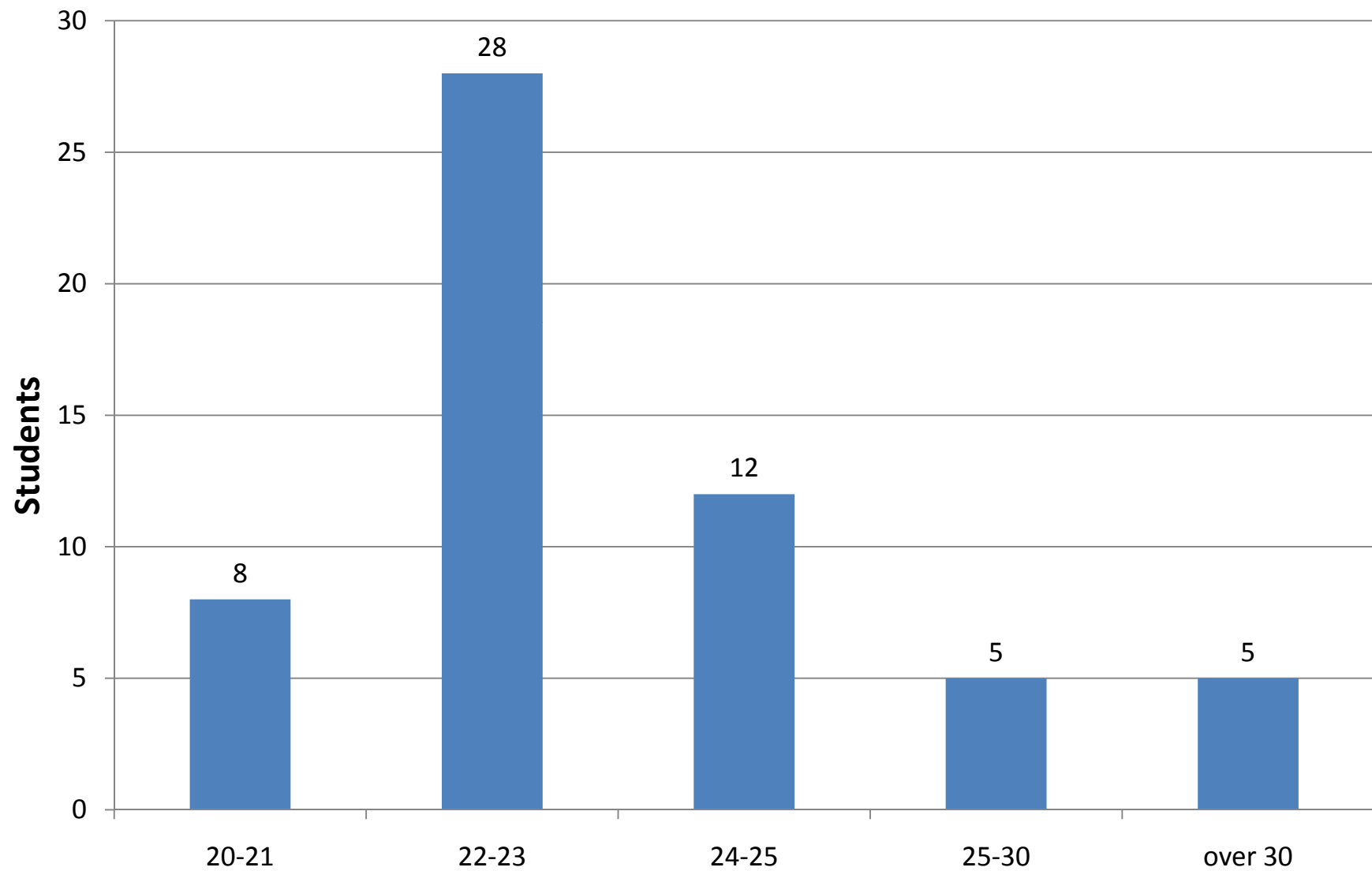
47. How would you rate your ability to read and write in English?



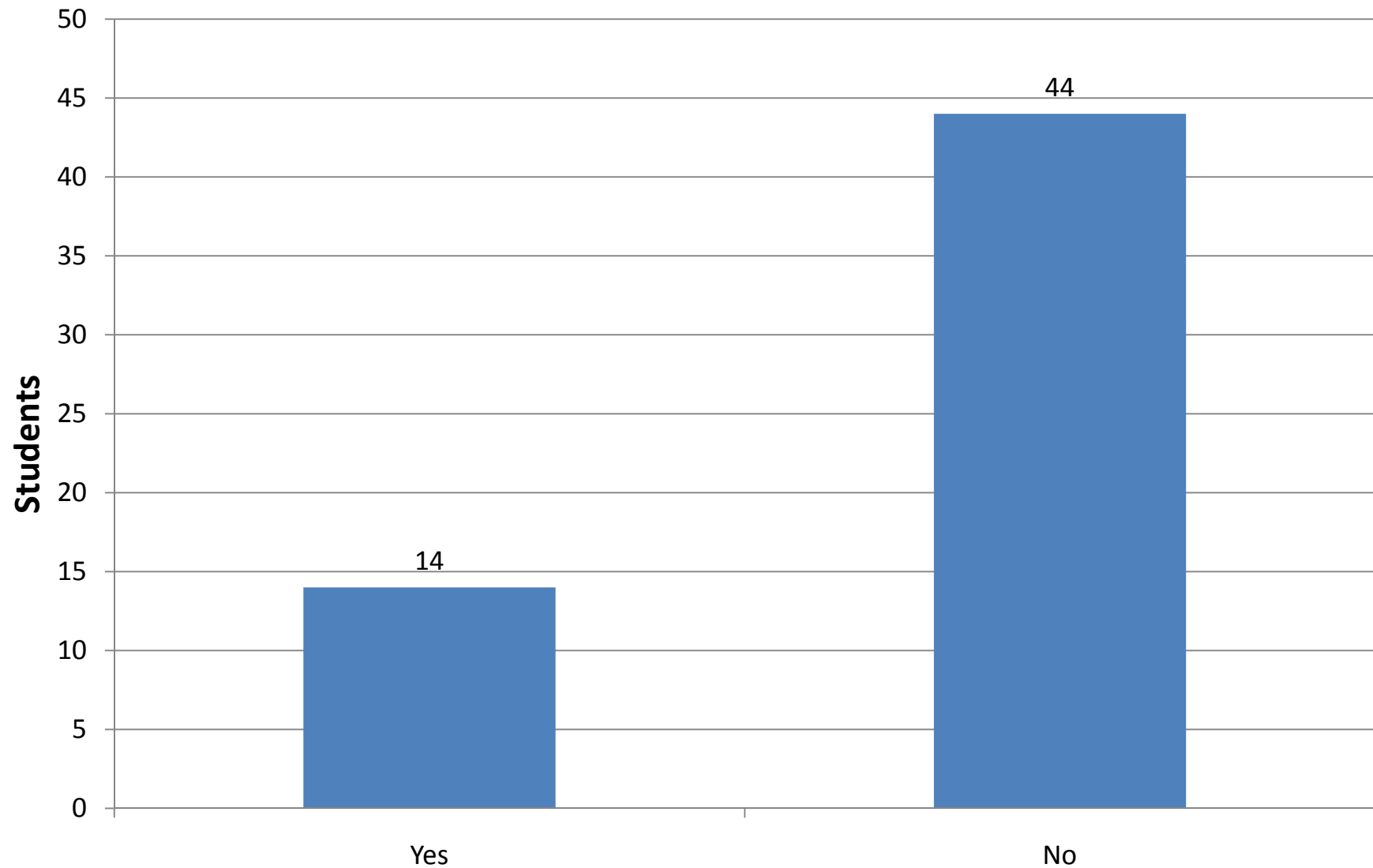
48. What gender are you?



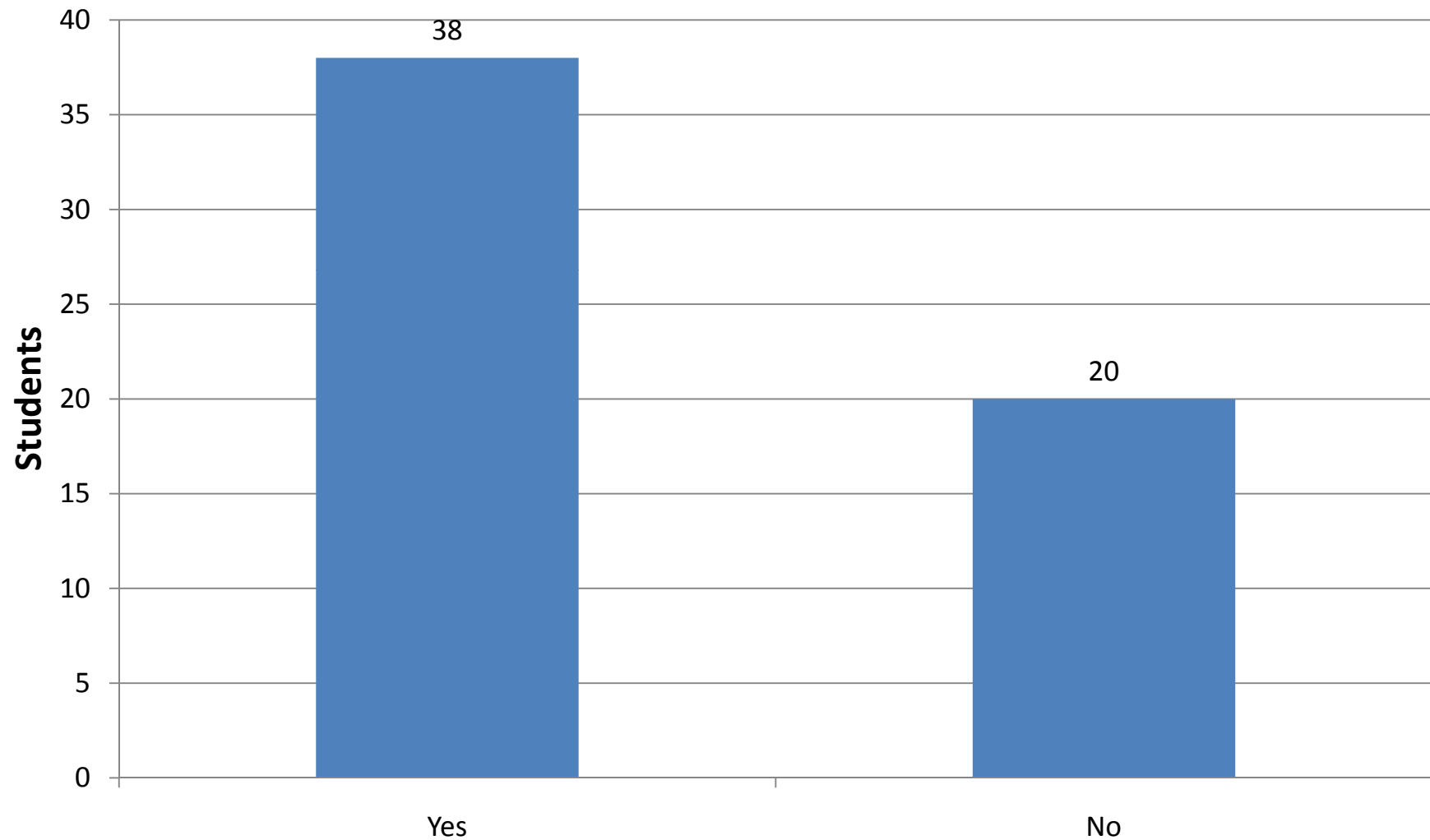
49. What is your age?



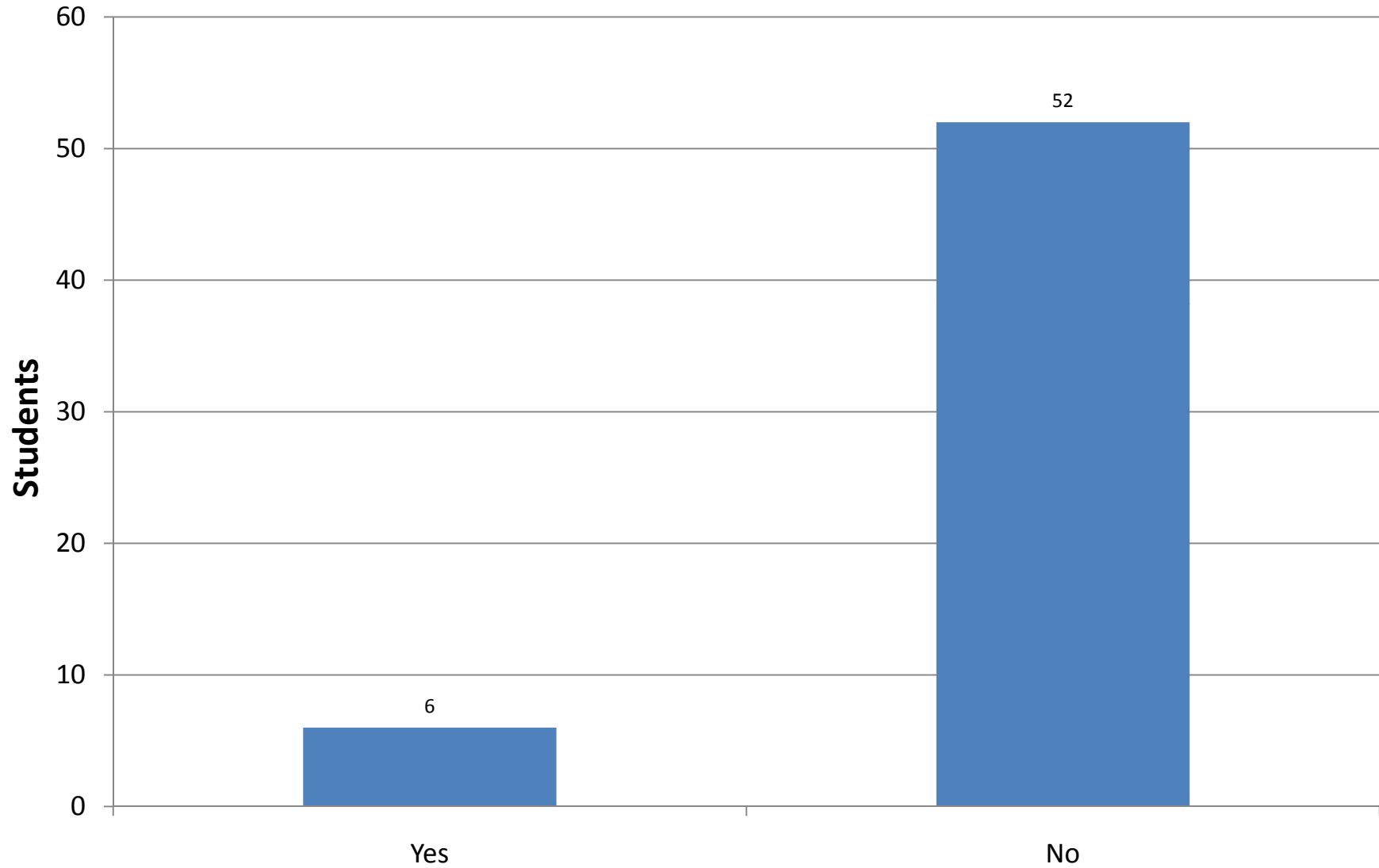
50. I was a transfer student to UBC



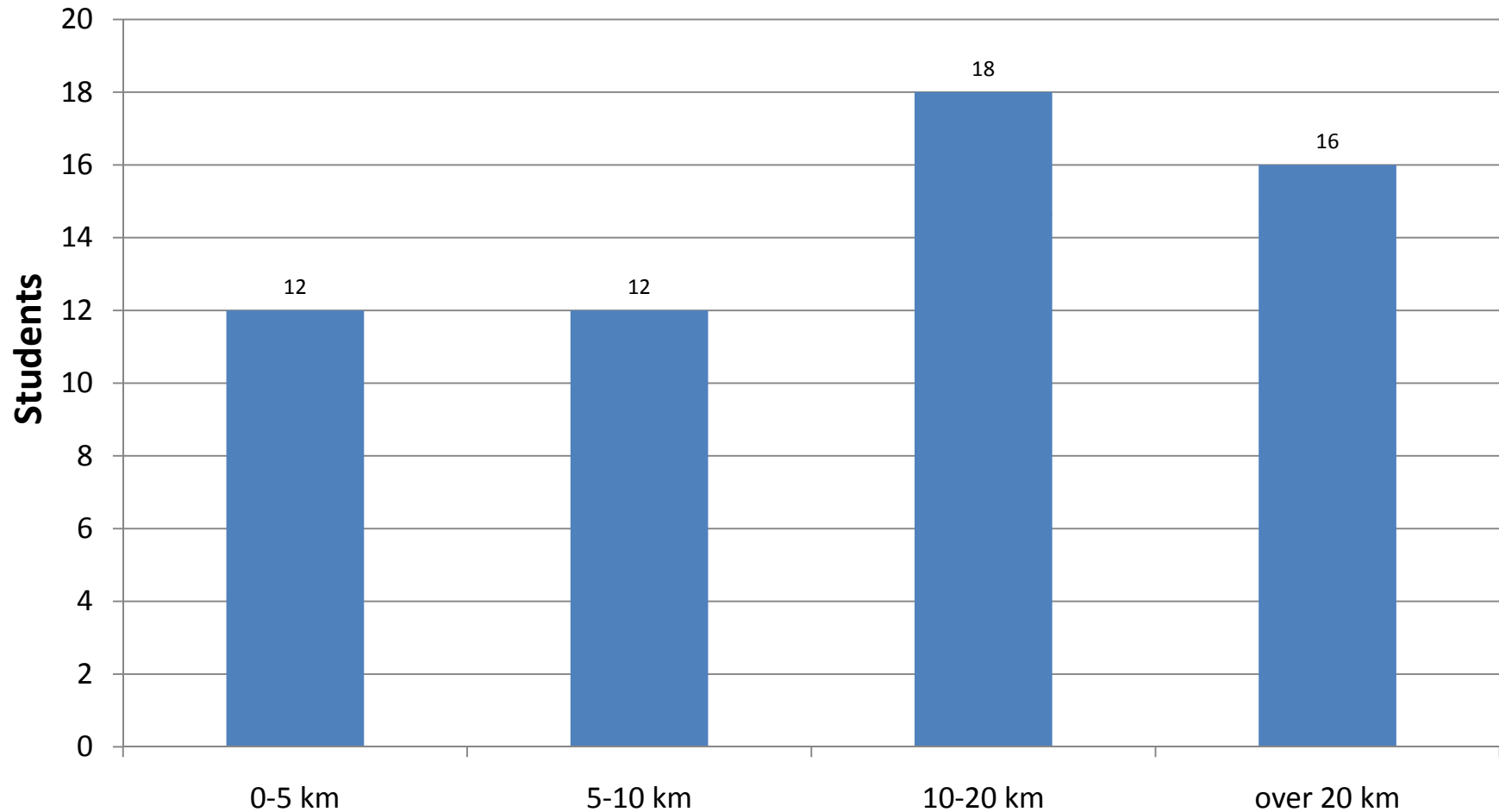
51. I have had to work in order to pay for my education



52. I provided some financial support for my children/spouse/family members in addition to going to UBC



53. What was the longest cummute (in km) you had to make regularly (for at least 1 term) while at UBC?



54. Roughly how long did you spend working on this survey?

