

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS 2002

I. ACADEMIC

1. List the subjects you are currently taking in High School.

Algebra I (5)	Gym/Health (13)
Algebra II/Trig – Honors (5)	Integrated Science - Advanced (7)
Art I (5)	JROTC (2)
ATC Careers (1)	Latin 1 (3)
Band (1)	Life Science (2)
Biology - Honors (4)	Physical/Earth Science (1)
Choir (1)	Religion (11)
English 1 (8)	Spanish 1 (6)
English – Honors (5)	Study Hall (1)
French I (2)	World History (5)
Geometry (3)	

2. Indicate how prepared you were for test-taking in High School
Check the appropriate box in the chart below for each test format.

Well Prepared ~ I'm doing well, few if any struggles
 Prepared ~ I do well most of the time, a few struggles
 Unprepared ~ I am having difficulty

	Well Prepared	Prepared	Unprepared
Short Essay	7	6	
Long Essay	4	9	
Fill in Blank/Matching	6	7	
Projects/Papers	7	6	
Multiple Choice	7	6	
Other	1 (Diagrams)	1 (Exams)	1 (AlgII/Trig)

3. Indicate how you are doing in the following **areas of study** in High School.
Check the appropriate box in the chart below for each.

Well Prepared ~ I'm doing well, few if any struggles
 Prepared ~ I do well most of the time, a few struggles
 Unprepared ~ I am having difficulty

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS(Continued)

	Well Prepared	Prepared	Unprepared
Homework	5	7	1
Organization	5	5	3
Tools/Technology	2	10	0
Note-taking	5	5	3
Religion	6	6	1
Math	8	4	1
Science	3	6	4
Reading	5	7	1
Writing Skills	4	9	0
Social Studies	5	5	0
Foreign Language	5	4	4
Music	3	2	4
Art	5	4	1
Physical Education	9	4	0
Other (specify)			1 (Health)

4. If you marked “Unprepared” in any row above, please explain. Please be as specific as possible.

Science is the subject that I have done the worst in. I think our program at St. Thomas is terrible and not good at all. Our program didn't help me one bit. I had to start all over with everything. I think at St. Thomas we need to learn to take more notes on lectures.

In Latin, I've lost total interest in the class. It is very difficult, and my class does not like our teacher including me. Most of my class is struggling and she is giving out way too many random and ridiculous detentions.

I think the language program at St. Thomas could be a bit more developed. We didn't learn much in Spanish.

I think Latin which was more difficult than I expected.

At St. Thomas, your Language Department doesn't teach your students very well. The program wasn't very strong and I was unprepared.

5. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students academically for their Freshman year in high school?

I think that students should have to type out all their papers or at least the majority of them.

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS(Continued)

St. Thomas prepared me very well for high school that I can hardly think of any complaints other than getting rid of the "Integrated Science" program. High school science involves more writing assignments. St. Thomas should return to a more traditional science program.

Get a better science program. Teach them how to take notes, and how to study for any tests.

Find a copy of the MLA Format & make sure everyone knows it (everyone=junior high). You use it everyday at C.C.

Give lots of homework to prepare them for the load ahead.

Make sure that everyone knows how to write a good essay. I.e.: Thesis with supporting details.

Non-academically: suggest that students carry books in front of you; get rid of backpacks. No one at CC uses them; they just get in the way.

I think that St. Thomas should pressure the students more with their homework. For example: don't accept any late homework unless student was absent or missed school for a good reason.

Maybe you could work more on how to write essays. I was prepared on how to write them, but I think that we need a little more work on citing resources, in the actual paper, because we have to do it all the time in high school.

I think you helped us as much as you could, but the kids who aren't doing well do so because choose to.

Make them do a Science Fair.

Don't teach them something that they aren't going to use during high school.. such as diagramming in English; we have not done anything like that. It's mostly reading, poetry and a few days of grammar.

Teach Religion, not just the history of our church. The Social Studies program was overwhelming and I don't remember much of it; take more time to cover the information.

It can change the Science Program.

Give more long-term projects with less class time to work on them. More tests and quizzes.

I was prepared and ready for high school.

I don't know. Do what you have been doing.

They can try to find out the curriculum for high school. Especially science and teach us a lot of that because what I learned in science I wasn't taught well.

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS(Continued)

II. SOCIAL

- 1 List your extra-curricular activities (sports, clubs, drama, Music etc.)

2. Every freshman student experiences some anxiety before entering High School. Now that you've been there awhile, how comfortable do you feel?

Very Comfortable ___ Comfortable ___ Uncomfortable ___

- 3 How long did it take you to feel comfortable socially?

1-4 weeks ___ 4-8 weeks ___ full semester ___ still not comfortable ___

4. List any experiences that helped you feel more comfortable.

5. I see or experience pressure to:

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Use drugs			
Use alcohol			
Be sexually active			
Smoke			
Use inappropriate language			
Skip class			
Cheat			
Lie			
Attend unsupervised parties			
Fight			
Discriminate racially			
Discriminate socially			

6. How would you advise incoming Freshmen to handle peer pressure? Indicate how helpful each of the following were in helping you deal with peer pressure.

	Very Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Not at all Helpful
St. Thomas friends			
Other friends			
Family			
Clubs			
Teams			
Peer Ministry			
School staff			
Prayer			

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS(Continued)

7. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students socially for their Freshman year in high school?

III. SPIRITUAL

1. Do you attend Mass every weekend? (Circle one) YES ___ NO ___

2. In which of the following ministries do you participate either at school or at St. Thomas parish (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>_____ Usher</p> <p>_____ Choir</p> <p>_____ Lector</p> <p>_____ Children’s Liturgy of the Word</p> <p>_____ Eucharistic Minister</p> <p>_____ Parish Nursery</p> <p>_____ Service Projects (specify) _____</p> <p>_____ Other (specify) _____</p> | <p>_____ Donut Ministry</p> <p>_____ St. Thomas Community Dinners</p> <p>_____ Youth Ministry (ROC)</p> <p>_____ Students for Life</p> <p>_____ H.O.P.E. Volunteers</p> <p>_____ Peer Ministry</p> |
|--|--|

3. Indicate how often you use the Bible for any of the following (check all that apply):

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Rarely, if ever
Personal Prayer or Reading					
Liturgy Planning					
Bible Study Group					
Class Work					
Other					

4. How prepared do you feel to answer questions in the following areas of your Catholic faith?

	Very Prepared	Somewhat Prepared	Not at all Prepared
Baptism			
Reconciliation			
Eucharist			

FRESHMAN SURVEY RESULTS(Continued)

Confirmation			
Morality & Chastity			
Scripture			
Doctrine			
Church History			
Devotions to Mary & the Saints			
Mass			

5. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students spiritually for their freshman year in high school?