

**An Analysis of Undergraduate Course Delivery
At the University of Victoria:
Academic Year 1996/97**

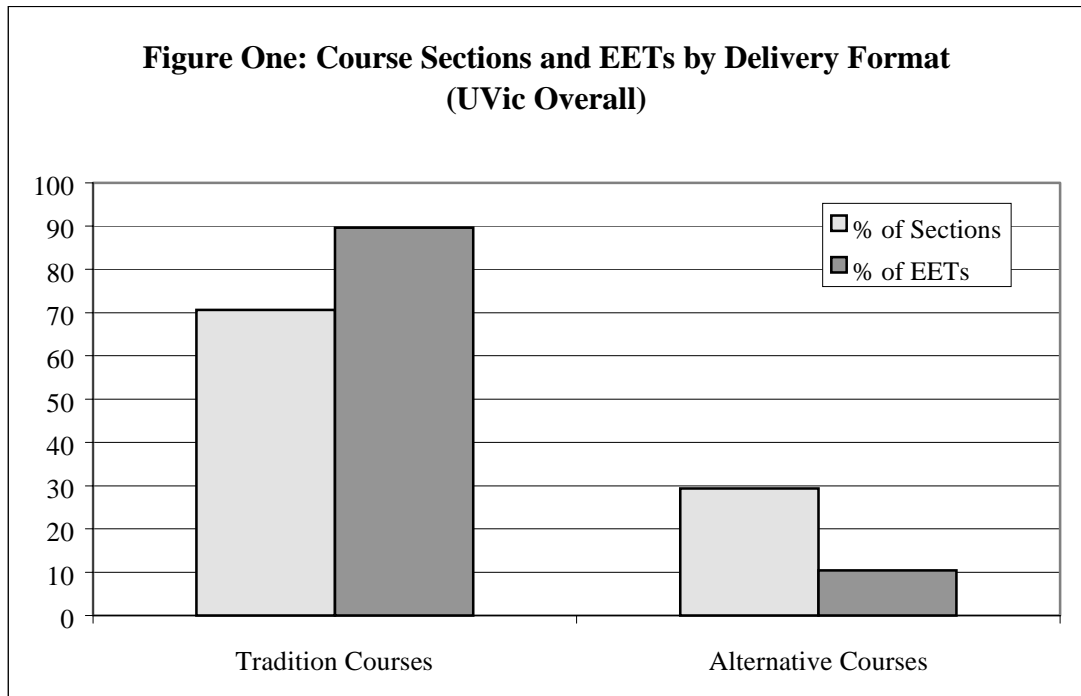
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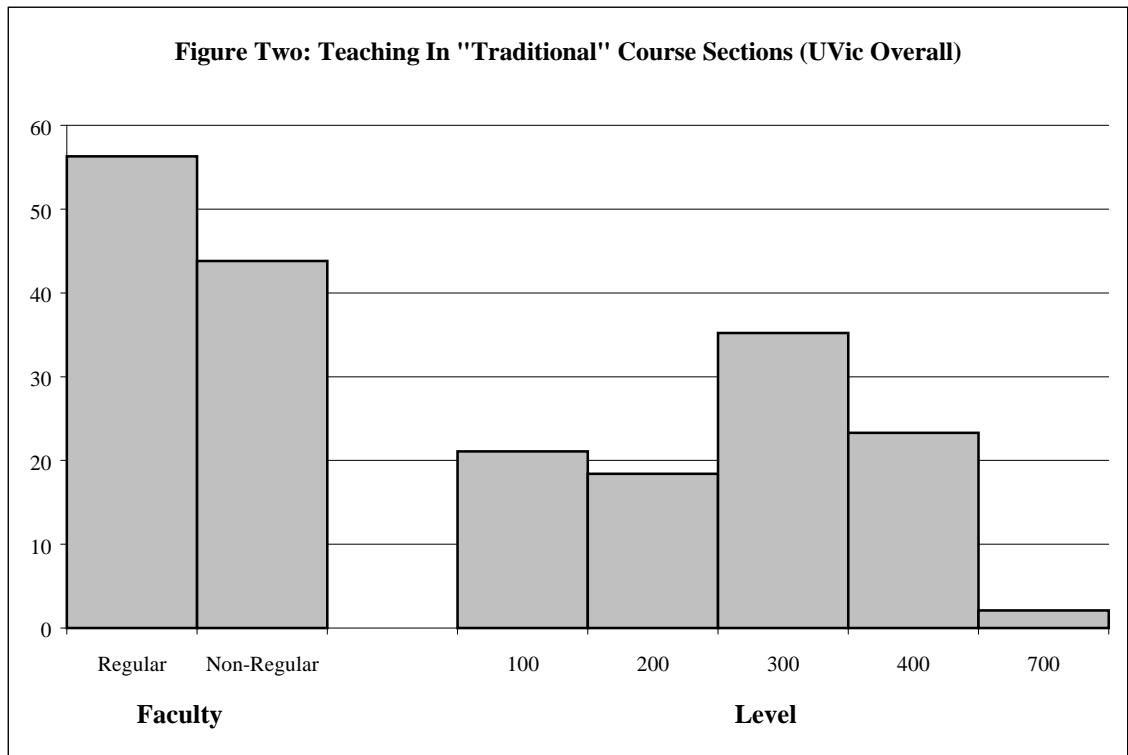
November 1997

1. Summary

At UVic, undergraduate courses are delivered in numerous formats. The majority are delivered in a “traditional” fashion -- by a single instructor, for credit, in a classroom-based (or similar) lecture format, on campus. (Sometimes such courses involve a laboratory or seminar component as well). A significant minority of courses, however, are delivered in “alternative” formats ranging from independently supervised studies, to co-op work term placements, to team-taught courses. This report



- 71 percent of all course sections representing 89 percent of undergraduate EETs are of the “traditional” variety; 29 percent of sections representing 11 percent of EETs fall into one of the “alternative” delivery formats.



- 56 percent of “traditional” course sections are taught by UVic’s regular faculty; 44 percent by non-regular faculty.
- About 20 percent of “traditional” course sections are offered at each of the 100 and 200 level, one-third are at the 300 level; and one quarter are at the 400 level.

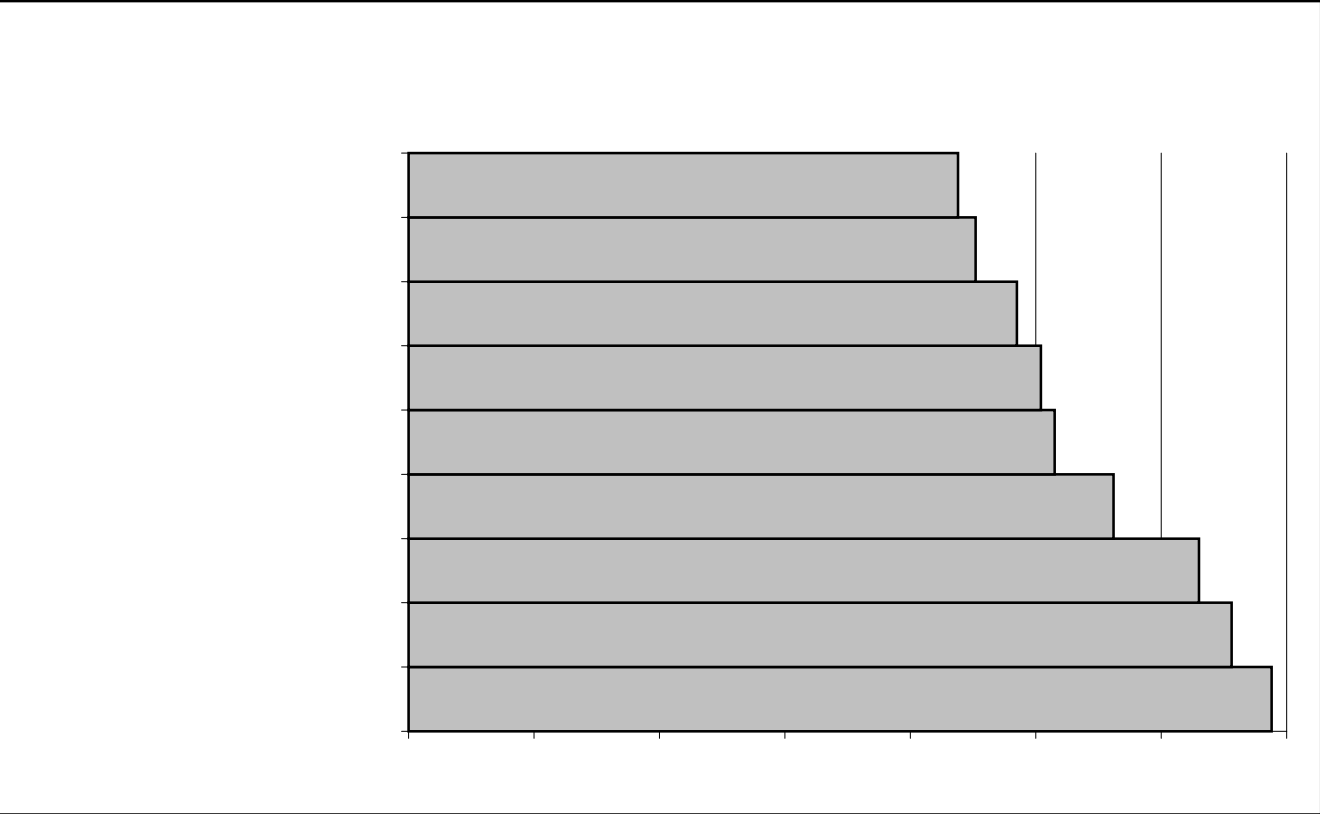
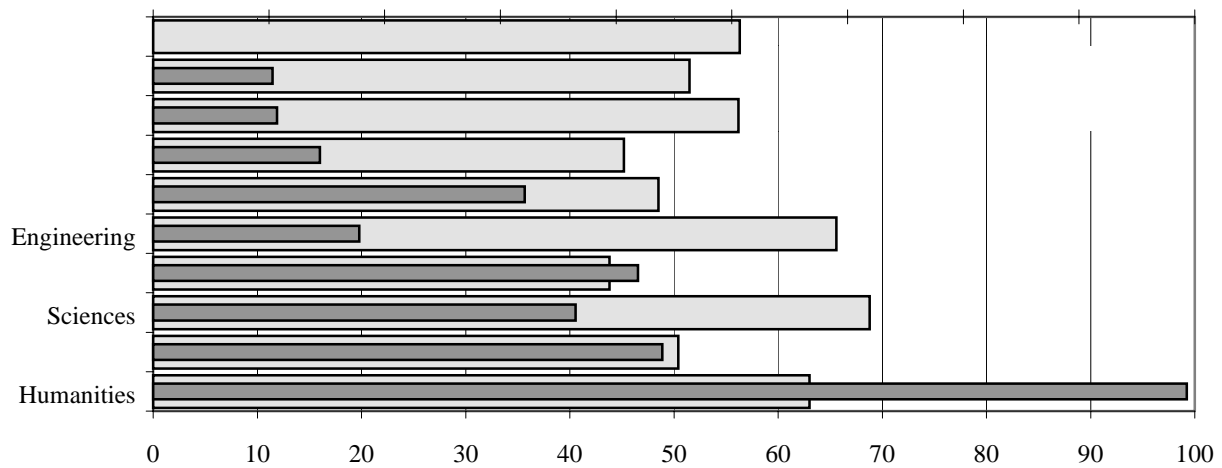


Figure Five: Number of "Traditional" Sections Taught and Percentage Taught by Regular Faculty



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**Table One: Distribution of Undergraduate Course Sections and EETs by Delivery Format and Faculty
November 1997**

	Humanities	Social Sciences	Science	Education	Engineering	Fine Arts	HSD	Law	Business	Total
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(a) Course Sections



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



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Table Three: Mean Section Sizes of 1996/97 "Traditional" Course Sections by Dept/School and Level
 November 1997

Faculty/Department	Course Level					All	Number of Sections
	100	200	300	400	700		
English	25.89	22.67	25.49	23.48		24.96	246
French	20.95	17.29	17.33	16.92		18.36	61
Germanic Studies	18.88	17.00	8.67	8.71		12.42	33
Greek/Roman Studies	39.60	34.50	29.14	6.00		30.56	27
Hispanic Studies	28.50	24.20	26.83	12.90		24.77	56
History	67.73	53.13	30.38	18.60		37.02	90
Interdisc. Humanities	22.00	33.00	27.00	11.00		24.00	5
Linguistics	61.33	44.43	23.92	15.54		29.00	51
Pacific/Asian Studies	23.71	41.83	17.42	16.73		24.03	66
Philosophy	36.92	41.79	39.67	17.50		38.04	50
Slavonic Studies	20.00	10.00	26.00	11.00		19.07	15
Women's Studies	44.00	23.42	23.55	8.40		23.69	32
Humanities Total	29.15	31.19	25.97	17.22		26.43	732
Anthropology	81.00	65.10	32.84	18.63		47.75	56
Environmental Studies			30.39	26.79		28.81	32
Economics	91.64	48.58	37.93	20.13		46.51	78

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 November 1997

Faculty/Department	Course Level						Number of Sections
	100	200	300	400	700	All	
Child/Youth Care		39.57	24.00	30.25		31.57	21
Health Info Systems	44.67	36.67	22.00	20.86		26.95	21
Interdisc. HSD			23.00	13.75		18.38	8
Nursing			28.25	24.09		26.26	23
Public Administration			17.20	17.67		17.38	8
Social Work		35.33	20.80	21.11		23.80	30
HSD Total	44.67	37.44	22.98	22.64		25.52	111
Commerce	98.00	68.04	54.43	35.29		55.32	66
Entrepreneurship			38.00	28.88		31.36	11
International Mgmt			48.83	35.00		40.53	15
Tourism Mgmt			32.75	22.60		27.11	9
Business Total	98.00	68.04	47.66	32.28		47.27	103
Law Total	49.94		24.55			29.57	86
University Total	52.92	47.27	30.99	20.28	23.38	36.00	2643

- 1 The tables are based on course sections data for the academic year 1996/97. The data are accurate as at the download dates (November 1 for fall and year sections; March 1 for spring sections; and August 1 for summer sections). The data are consistent with the Institutional Analysis "class populations reports". All undergraduate course sections were downloaded for analysis. The analysis excluded all graduate-level teaching; all advising, counselling, and other out-of-class activities of faculty; and, of course, all research and service functions.
- 2 Course sections can fall into more than one classification. The method/order used to classify sections was to assign a default value of "traditional delivery" to all sections, and to overwrite this value for the following conditions:
 - (a) zero credit course sections, excluding co-op work term sections, were assigned to a category;
 - (b) co-op work term course sections were assigned to a category;
 - (c) independently supervised studies (ISS), directed readings, and thesis/major project courses were assigned to a category on the basis of the 1996/97 "pro forma" registration list; all sections with registrations of 3 or less not included on the pro-forma list were checked to ensure their proper classification;
 - (d) off-campus courses were defined as having section numbers between 50-83; this analysis did not utilize the ISIS "course location" field; it relied on course section numbers only, supplemented with information from the academic units
 - (e) practicum course numbers were checked with Social Work, Education and Nursing;
 - (f) cross-listed courses were identified using the cross-listing master list, and through discussions with individual departments; one of each cross-list "pair" was defined as a duplicate and deleted; the "surviving" element was the one linked to the home department of the instructor; the registrations for the deleted element were assigned to the surviving element;
 - (g) course sections for courses taken on exchange were identified through discussions with individual departments;
 - (h) courses in ISIS with missing instructor values, or values of "TBA" or "members of department" were assigned an instructor name, where possible, based on discussions with departments; where the course was team/jointly taught, it was so classified;
 - (i) courses with instructor values of "special evaluation" were assigned to the "challenge credit" category;
 - (i) courses with section numbers of 84-90 were classified as "other".
- 3 The status of instructors as "regular" or "non-regular" was undertaken by manually checking a comprehensive list of regular faculty names against the "instructor name" field in the data base. Where matches could be made, based in part on discussions with departments, the course section was assigned to a regular faculty member. All extra-to-load teaching by regular faculty members was classified as "regular".
- 4 Tables One includes all 3746 course sections offered in 1996/97, regardless of credit value or type. Sections appear in the table unweighted. EETs values (equal to unit course registrations divided by 15) do capture the varying unit value of courses and the number of registrations in the sections. Non-credit courses, including co-op work term courses, do not contribute to EETs totals.
- 5 Table Two includes only the 2643 "traditional" format course sections. Each section is weighted by its unit value; for example, a 3-unit course is weighted twice as heavily as a 1.5 unit course. The total number of sections (2746) has been adjusted to represent 1.5 unit equivalent sections (weighted n=2970).

- 6 Table Three again describes the 2643 "traditional" format course sections. Each section appears unweighted; in other words, both 3-unit and 1.5 unit sections (and other sections with unit values greater than zero) contribute to mean section sizes equally.
- 7 The classification of courses relied on information available in the course sections data base, and on information obtained from academic units. Since every data item could not be manually confirmed, it is certain that some classification errors remain. However, we believe the tables still present a reasonably reliable picture of the range of undergraduate teaching strategies employed by the academic units. Any analysis on smaller departments/schools is subject to greater data error than that performed on larger departments or faculties. The Faculty of Human and Social Development offers the majority of its course sections in "alternative" formats; the data should be interpreted accordingly.
- 8 Rows and columns may not sum to the displayed total, or to 100%, because of rounding.
- 9 All tables should be read and interpreted with caution. For example, a course section for an ISS course is a different entity than a section in a co-op work term course or a section of a regularly scheduled course. Arts co-op course sections have been assigned to the Faculty of Humanities; reassigning these sections would affect the "course sections", but not the "EETs" portion of Table One. Some co-op work term sections use the same course prefix as regular courses (e.g. COM), others have unique prefixes (e.g. BCMB).