

Appendix Table 1: Summary Statistics

Observation Level: Student-Course-Semester						
	Pre Policy			Post Policy		
	Mean	Std. Dev	N	Mean	Std. Dev	N
Course Type						
Humanities Course	0.345	0.475	66,698	0.327	0.469	49,676
Social Science Course	0.392	0.488	66,698	0.401	0.490	49,676
Science Course	0.244	0.430	66,698	0.253	0.435	49,676
Interdepartmental Course	0.019	0.137	66,698	0.019	0.136	49,676
100-Level Course	0.458	0.498	66,698	0.430	0.495	49,676
200-Level Course	0.542	0.498	66,698	0.570	0.495	49,676
Enrolled in Classes of Size						
10 $\leq x \leq$ 25	0.533	0.499	66,698	0.590	0.491	49,676
$x >$ 25	0.467	0.499	66,698	0.410	0.492	49,676
Grading Choice						
Credit-Non Election	0.082	0.274	66,698	0.068	0.251	49,676
Withdraw	0.013	0.115	66,698	0.024	0.153	49,676
Incomplete	0.005	0.070	66,698	0.013	0.115	49,676
Course Grade	3.452	0.558	60,006	3.272	0.576	44,448
Grade Distribution						
A	0.271	0.444	60,006	0.143	0.350	44,448
A-	0.289	0.453	60,006	0.240	0.427	44,448
B+	0.208	0.402	60,006	0.258	0.437	44,448
B	0.122	0.327	60,006	0.193	0.395	44,448
B-	0.052	0.221	60,006	0.082	0.275	44,448
C+	0.023	0.151	60,006	0.036	0.187	44,448
C or below	0.035	0.184	60,006	0.048	0.214	44,448
Grades by Division						
Humanities	3.571	0.435	21,073	3.345	0.477	14,400
Social Sciences	3.464	0.507	24,019	3.278	0.532	18,354
Science	3.239	0.712	13,743	3.156	0.720	10,845

NOTE: Summary statistics are for those courses that are covered by the policy (100/200 level courses with more than 10 students). Pre-Policy is data from Fall 1999 to Spring 2003. Post Policy is data from Fall 2004 to Spring 2008. We omit the two semesters (Fall 2003 and Spring 2004) during which the grading policy was being proposed and voted on

Appendix Table 2: Summary Statistics

Observation Level: Student						
	Pre Policy			Post Policy		
	Mean	Std. Dev	N	Mean	Std. Dev	N
Demographics						
Black	0.055	0.228	4,473	0.051	0.220	3,663
Asian	0.220	0.415	4,473	0.247	0.432	3,663
International	0.055	0.228	4,473	0.079	0.270	3,663
Latina	0.054	0.227	4,473	0.055	0.228	3,663
Native American	0.004	0.056	4,473	0.004	0.061	3,663
White/Caucasian	0.500	0.500	4,473	0.406	0.491	3,663
First Generation	0.078	0.261	4,473	0.111	0.315	3,663
Legacy	0.105	0.306	4,473	0.115	0.319	3,663
Non-Traditional Aged	0.034	0.182	4,473	0.018	0.132	3,663
Academic Background/Performance						
Cumulative GPA	3.499	0.351	4,464	3.315	0.384	3,662
SAT-Verbal	667.40	75.11	4,218	689.31	68.63	3,410
SAT-Math	659.50	69.86	4,218	679.26	65.28	3,410
SAT-Writing	659.14	89.69	3,890	688.28	74.72	2,202
ACT	28.82	3.04	878	29.34	2.85	1,012
QR Score	12.52	2.99	2,689	12.69	2.97	3,622
Academic Honors at Graduation						
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	0.052	0.221	3,870	0.023	0.149	2,518
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	0.205	0.404	3,870	0.097	0.296	2,518
<i>Cum Laude</i>	0.248	0.432	3,870	0.160	0.367	2,518
<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>	0.106	0.308	3,870	0.112	0.316	2,518

NOTE: Students are only observed once (in the last semester for which we have data) for the purposes of constructing this table. To allow the policy to materially impact outcomes, Pre-Policy now counts anyone who graduated in the Class of 2004 or prior. Post Policy counts students in the Class of 2006 or later

Appendix Table 3: Summary Statistics

Observation Level: Course Evaluation of a Faculty Member						
	Pre Policy			Post Policy		
	Mean	Std. Dev	N	Mean	Std. Dev	N
Numerical Rating of Faculty (1=highest)	1.590	0.477	2,824	1.546	0.423	2,592
Fraction Giving Professor a Rating of						
"Strongly Recommend"	0.608	0.247	2,824	0.623	0.235	2,592
"Recommend"	0.245	0.145	2,824	0.248	0.147	2,592
"Neutral"	0.097	0.110	2,824	0.089	0.104	2,592
"Do Not Recommend"	0.051	0.096	2,824	0.040	0.076	2,592
Numerical Rating of Course (1=highest)	1.698	0.400	2,824	1.659	0.365	2,592
Fraction Giving Course a Rating of						
"Strongly Recommend"	0.511	0.214	2,824	0.525	0.211	2,592
"Recommend"	0.326	0.144	2,824	0.326	0.146	2,592
"Neutral"	0.116	0.112	2,824	0.113	0.108	2,592
"Do Not Recommend"	0.047	0.078	2,824	0.036	0.059	2,592

Appendix Table 4: Student Sorting

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	QR Score	Lowest 5% on QR Score	Lowest 5% on SATV
Treated*Post	-0.185 (0.129)	-0.003 (0.007)	0.002 (0.003)
Observations	116,374	99,947	109,179
R-squared	0.745	0.155	0.277
Demographics	YES	YES	YES
Other Controls	YES	YES	YES
Department FE	YES	YES	YES
Semester FE	YES	YES	YES

Robust standard errors (clustered by department) in parentheses

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

The dependent variable in Col (2) and Col (3) is a binary variable indicating whether or not the observation is of a student who is in the lower 5% of the respective distribution

Demographics include indicator variables for race/ethnicity and for non-traditional aged students, legacy students and first-generation college students.

Other Controls include Class Size, indicator variables for Humanities, Social Science or Science/Math courses as well as an indicator variable for 200-level courses.

Sample sizes for the last two columns differ because SAT Verbal scores are not available for all students, and the QR test was not administered to the first set of graduates in our sample.

Appendix Table 5: Correlates of Student Evaluations

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Rating	“Strongly Recommend”	“Recommend”	Neutral	“Do Not Recommend”
Course GPA	0.181*** (0.053)	0.090*** (0.032)	0.058*** (0.016)	-0.024** (0.011)	-0.034*** (0.009)
Age/10	-0.094*** (0.029)	-0.046*** (0.015)	-0.032*** (0.010)	0.018*** (0.006)	0.015** (0.006)
Male Faculty	-0.022 (0.027)	-0.008 (0.016)	-0.007 (0.009)	-0.000 (0.005)	0.007 (0.005)
Years Worked/10	0.090** (0.034)	0.038** (0.018)	0.032** (0.012)	-0.011 (0.007)	-0.020*** (0.007)
Non Tenure-Track	0.005 (0.068)	0.011 (0.034)	0.001 (0.024)	-0.009 (0.013)	0.007 (0.013)
Visiting	-0.109 (0.065)	-0.064* (0.037)	-0.037 (0.022)	0.028* (0.015)	0.009 (0.009)
Tenured	-0.008 (0.047)	0.000 (0.024)	-0.003 (0.016)	-0.003 (0.011)	0.006 (0.008)
200 Level	0.072** (0.034)	0.030* (0.017)	0.028** (0.013)	-0.014* (0.008)	-0.014** (0.006)
Class Size/10	0.006 (0.007)	0.000 (0.004)	0.004 (0.002)	-0.002 (0.001)	-0.002* (0.001)
Social Sciences	-0.133*** (0.043)	-0.069*** (0.022)	-0.045*** (0.015)	0.027*** (0.008)	0.019** (0.008)
Sciences	-0.195*** (0.059)	-0.102*** (0.030)	-0.071*** (0.021)	0.048*** (0.012)	0.022** (0.010)
Fraction WDR	-1.316*** (0.385)	-0.569*** (0.189)	-0.471*** (0.136)	0.195** (0.075)	0.276*** (0.095)
Fraction CR/NON	-0.632*** (0.184)	-0.282*** (0.087)	-0.220*** (0.069)	0.090** (0.037)	0.130*** (0.037)
Observations	2,777	2,777	2,777	2,777	2,777
R-squared	0.133	0.117	0.121	0.084	0.102

Robust standard errors (clustered by department) in parentheses

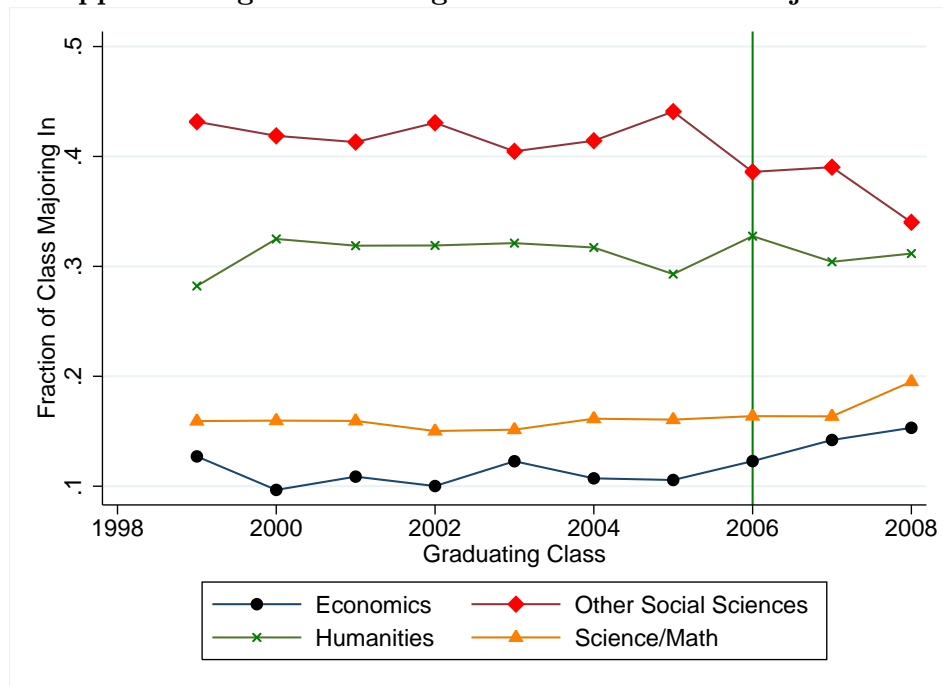
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

These results are from the period before the grading policy was implemented

Rating is calculated on a scale of 1-4 using 4 for “Strongly Recommend”, 3 for “Recommend” etc. so a higher number indicates a stronger rating.

Controls for racial/ethnic characteristics of faculty were included but not shown in the table.

Online Appendix Figure 1: Change in the Number of Majors Over Time



- The vertical line indicates the beginning of the POST period in our regressions. This covers students who would have declared their major after the policy was implemented.