A Study of the Trinity College First-Year Seminar Program

Conducted by Pia Bunton
Educational Studies
Fall 2002
Research Question

Are the goals of the Trinity College First-Year Seminar Program as stated by the administrators met according to the students?
Significance

• As a Mentor

• As a Senior Admissions Associate

• As a member of Trinity’s Community
Existing Research

• Range of First-Year Programs

• Peter J. Knapp’s *Trinity College in the 20th Century*.

• Trinity Publications
Methodology

• Goals of the Program
  – Semi-Structure Interviews
  – Oral Histories
  – Materials from the FYSP office

• The Survey
  – Translation
  – Distribution
  – Analysis
Goals of the FYSM

• Emphasis on writing
• Oral presentation
• College academics
• Library Program
• Resources of Trinity College and Hartford
• The responses to the survey constructed from the goals of the FYSM vary to such an extent that it is not possible to draw general conclusions. There are, however, a number of responses which give cause for alarm.
# Quantitative Responses

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Qualitative Responses

• **Positives**
  - Emphasis on professor
  - Few mentioned goals

• **Negatives**
  - Subject matter
  - Professor
Acknowledgements

Thank you to Jack Dougherty and Ricardo Dobles for guiding me through this.
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Thank you to FYSM faculty, mentors and Trinity students who took the time to answer my questions.