



Measuring College Behaviors  
Beyond Academics

Center for Learning Outcomes Assessment - Educational Leadership – Bayh College of Education - Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN 47802

## UniLOA Reliability

### Internal Reliability

To determine internal consistency of the UniLOA's individual scales, standardized Cronbach's Alpha was selected.

Reported as a 0 – 1 scale, social scientists often regard .7 as a minimal alpha to suggest sufficient quality but higher alphas are desirable. At .7, the standard error of measurement is approximately .55 of a standard deviation.

It should be noted that alpha increases as the number of items on a scale increases. The UniLOA uses 10 items per scale (domain), and each domain possesses the following alphas:

Scale (Domain)	Standardized Cronbach's Alpha Internal Reliability Estimate
<b>Overall Internal Reliability</b>	<b>.82</b>
<i>Individual Domains Internal Reliability:</i>	
Critical Thinking	.87
Self-Awareness	.80
Communications	.80
Diversity	.80
Citizenship	.85
Membership and Leadership	.84
Relationships	.80

### External Reliability

External reliability refers to an instrument's consistency in results over time.

The UniLOA has been administered to college students across the nation, from a variety of institutional and organizational affiliations. While items, domains, and overall scores have differed, results consistently reveal the same overall patterns, including:

- General revealed patterns across all domains and items are consistent from one year to the next
- Lowest and highest scoring items are typically the same from any sample or demographic variable
- Lowest and highest scoring domains are typically the same from any sample or demographic variable Findings for various demographic variables are highly consistent with current research in the social sciences