



### NSSE Benchmarks Comparing UTC Freshmen and UTC Seniors with Peers

- BENCHMARK 1 – Level of Academic Challenge**  
 "Colleges and universities promote high levels of student achievement by emphasizing the importance of academic effort and setting high expectations for student performance."  
 UTC freshmen were **lower** than those at other comprehensive universities; seniors did not differ.
- BENCHMARK 2 – Active and Collaborative Learning**  
 "Students learn more when they are directly involved in their education, reflect on what they are learning, and collaborate with others in solving problems or mastering difficult material. Such learning prepares students for problems they will encounter daily during and after college."  
 UTC freshmen were **lower** than those at other comprehensive universities; seniors did not differ.
- BENCHMARK 3 – Student-Faculty Interaction**  
 "Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve practical problems outside the classroom. Faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for continuous, life-long learning."  
**Neither** UTC student group differed from national norms.

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- BENCHMARK 4 – Enriching Educational Experiences**  
 "Complementary learning opportunities in and out of class enhance academic programs. Diversity experiences teach students valuable things about themselves and others. Technology facilitates collaboration between peers and instructors. Internships, community service, and senior capstone courses provide opportunities to integrate and apply knowledge."  
 UTC freshmen and seniors were **lower** than the national average.
- BENCHMARK 5 – Supportive Campus Environment**  
 "Students perform better and are more satisfied at colleges that are committed to their success and cultivate positive working and social relations among different groups on campus."  
 UTC freshmen and seniors were **lower** than the national average.

