Numbers of first-time freshmen who failed the “Golden Four” courses (Oral Communication, Written Communication, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning) were small. However, when they failed these courses, it had significant impact on the likelihood of graduation.

### The “Golden Four”
- **Oral Communication (GE Area A1)**
  Typically met by taking COMM 150 or ENG 210 (multilingual)
- **Written Communication (GE Area A2)**
  Typically met by taking ENG 114, 104/105, or ENG 209 (multilingual)
- **Critical Thinking (GE Area A3)**
  Typically met by taking PHIL 110 or a class offered through Ethnic Studies
- **Quantitative Reasoning (GE Area B4)**
  Typically met by taking (pre)calculus or statistics class

### The Data

Students that pass Oral Communication on their first try are more than 4.5 times as likely to graduate.

Students that pass Written Communication on their first try are more than twice as likely to graduate.

Students that pass Critical Thinking on their first try are more than 3 times as likely to graduate. Those that failed more than once did not graduate.

Students that pass Quantitative Reasoning on their first try are more than 1.5 times as likely to graduate.

### How might you incorporate this finding into your role as teacher and advisor?

Stick your ideas here!

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**SAPP Participants**

Lori Beth Way  
Chris Bettinger  
Alison Cerezo  
Juanita Darling  
Jane Dewitt  
Nancy C Gerber  
Eric Hsu  
Jenny Lederer  
Theresa Roeder  
Robert Saltzman  
Sophia Simon-Ortiz  
Sutee Sujitparapitaya  
Kimberley Altura  
Jennifer Summit

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n = 4,032 first-time freshmen from the Fall 2009 cohort were analyzed using Logistic Regression. O.R. = odds ratio.