Inspiring Teacher Education: From Assignment analysis to program redesign

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# Faculty of Education

- Bachelor of Education (AD 2 years, CD 5 years)

  - 3 Professional Semesters
    - PS1
    - PS2
    - PS3

 - 5 additional Education electives

Data Collection

- 130 Course outlines (2012/13)
  - 803 Assignments
    - 77 different genres

|	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Presentation	23	73	32	128
Lesson Plans	6	58	0	64
Reflection	6	49	6	61
Paper	9	35	9	53
Portfolio	10	8	23	41
Professional Growth Plan	0	12	21	33
Report	0	0	30	30
Letter	5	17	1	23
Self-Evaluation	4	13	6	23
Proposal	0	0	18	18
Unit Plan	0	17	1	18
Quiz	0	13	4	17
Statement of beliefs	0	17	0	17
Journal	10	6	0	16
Response	0	10	4	14

Average Number of Assignments in PSI
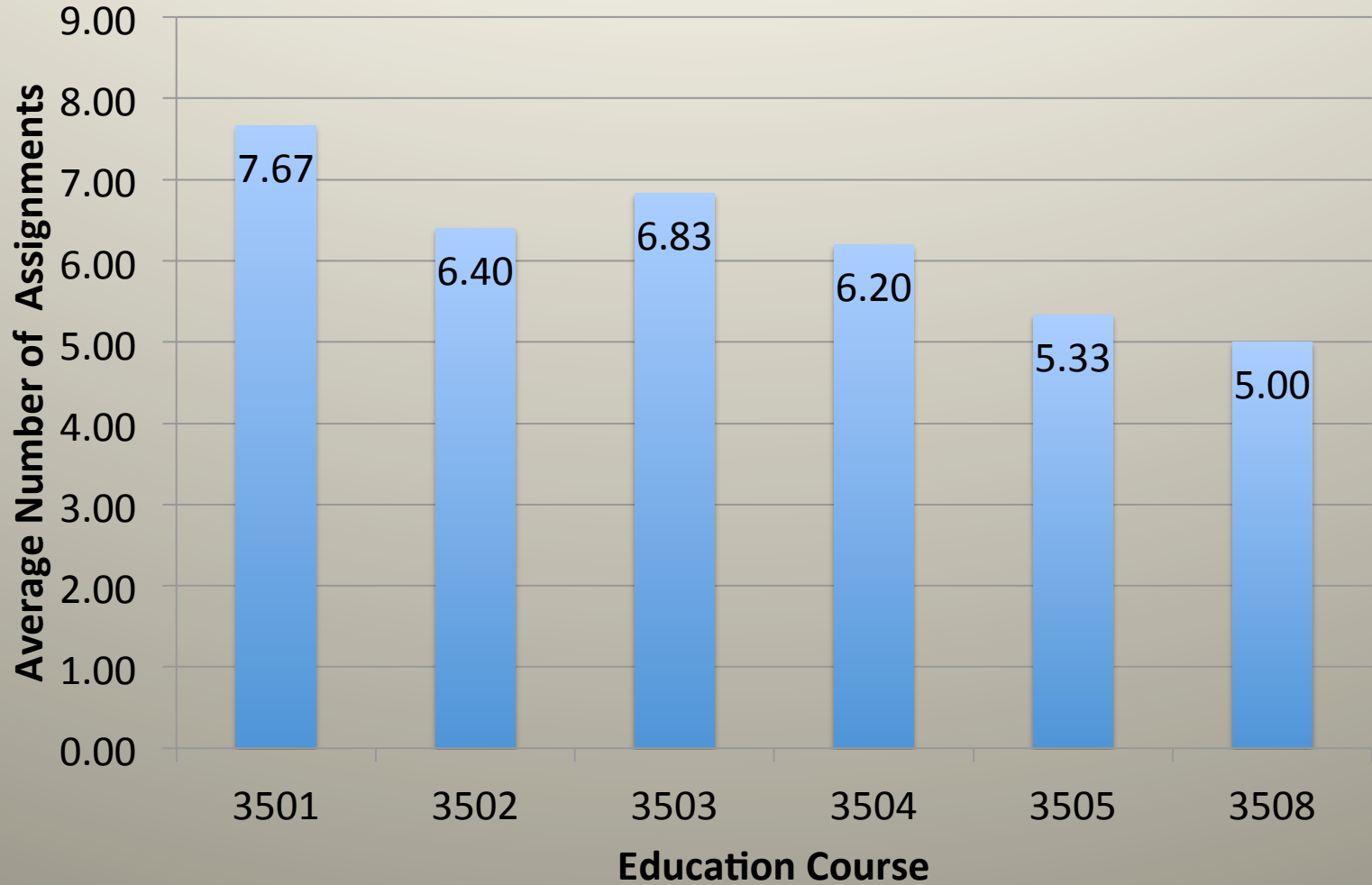
Total Frequency of Assignments for PSI Cohorts
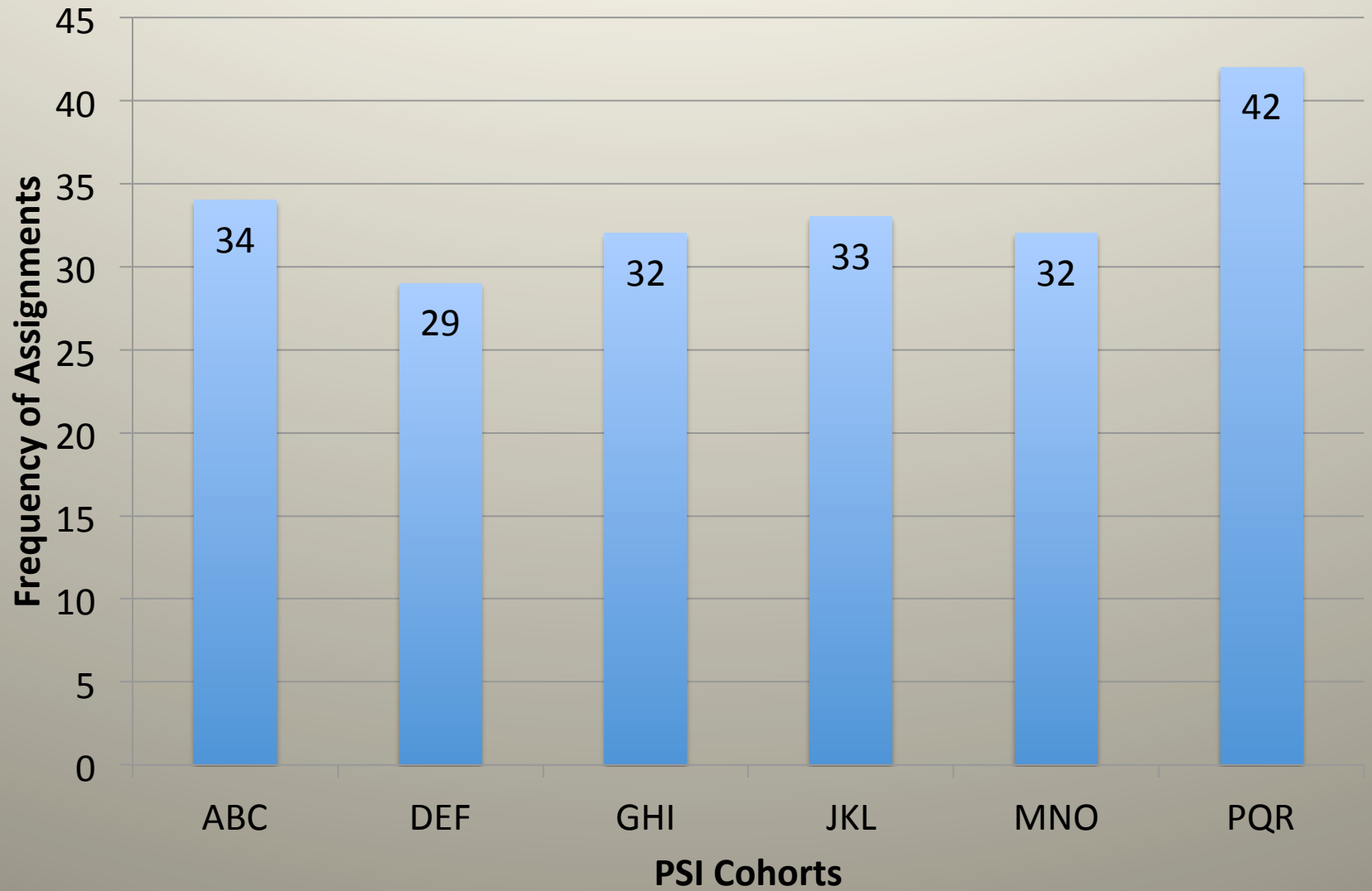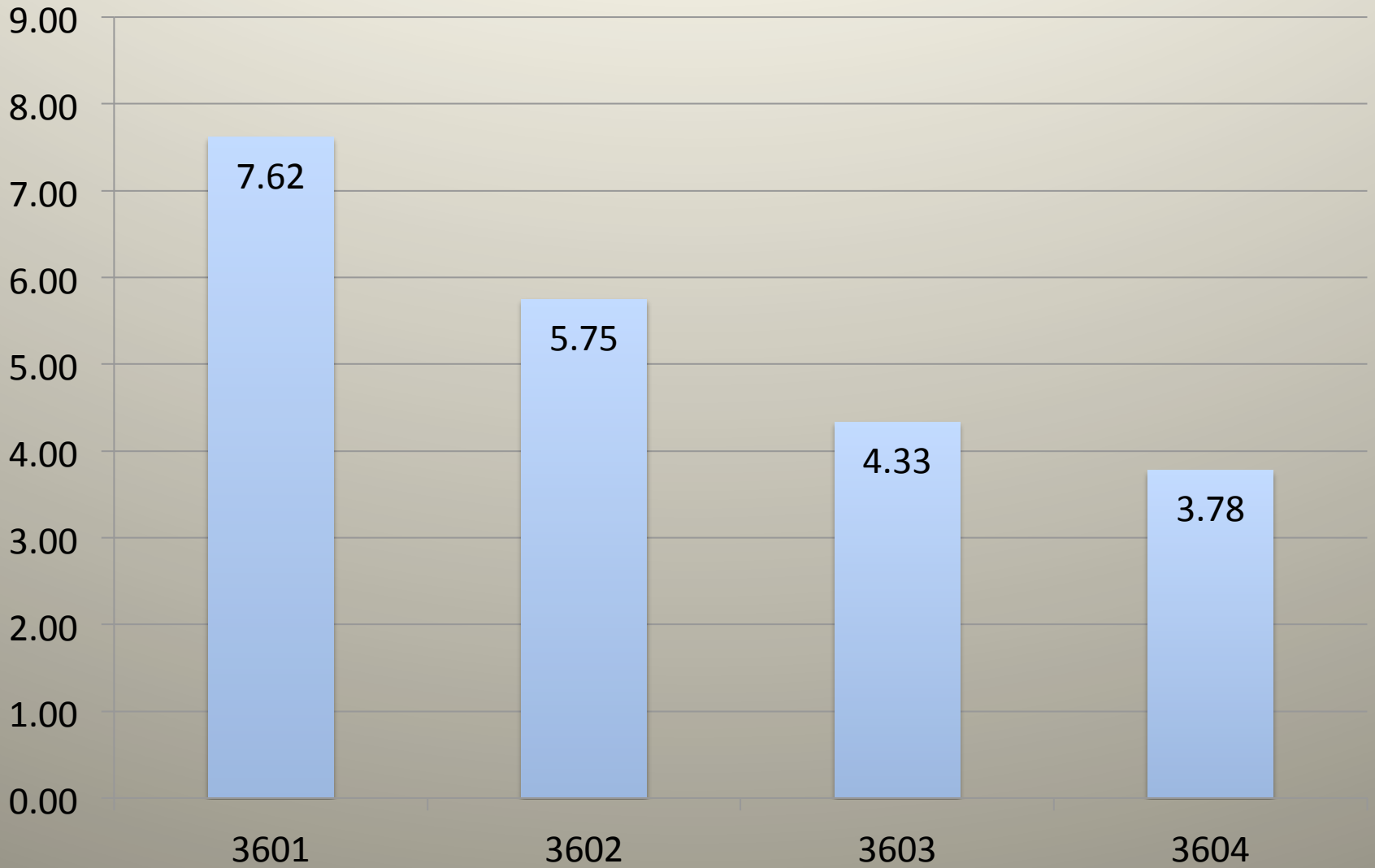
Frequency of Course Assignments for PSII Cohorts
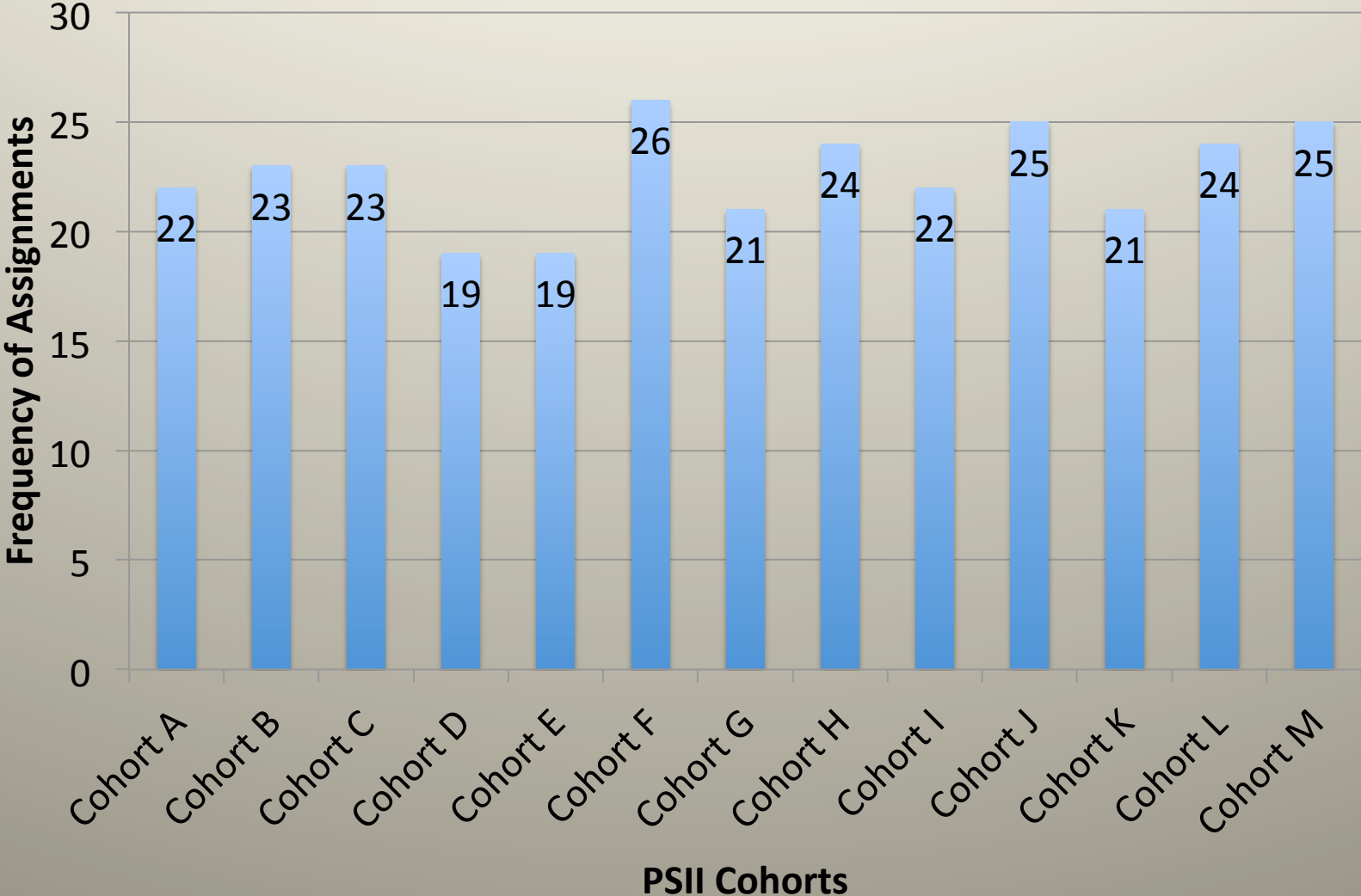
Rigor? At what cost?

Program Evaluation Surveys

- PSI helped students develop:
  - Lesson planning skills
  - Classroom management skills
  - A realistic view of teaching
  - Confidence
  - Ability to manage teaching load
  - Communication skills

Program Evaluation Surveys

- PSI Could be Improved by focusing on:
  - Long term planning
  - Classroom assessment
  - Offering more opportunities for teaching
  - Bridging the gap between elementary and secondary classrooms
  - More links between courses and teaching
  - Reducing assignments and workload

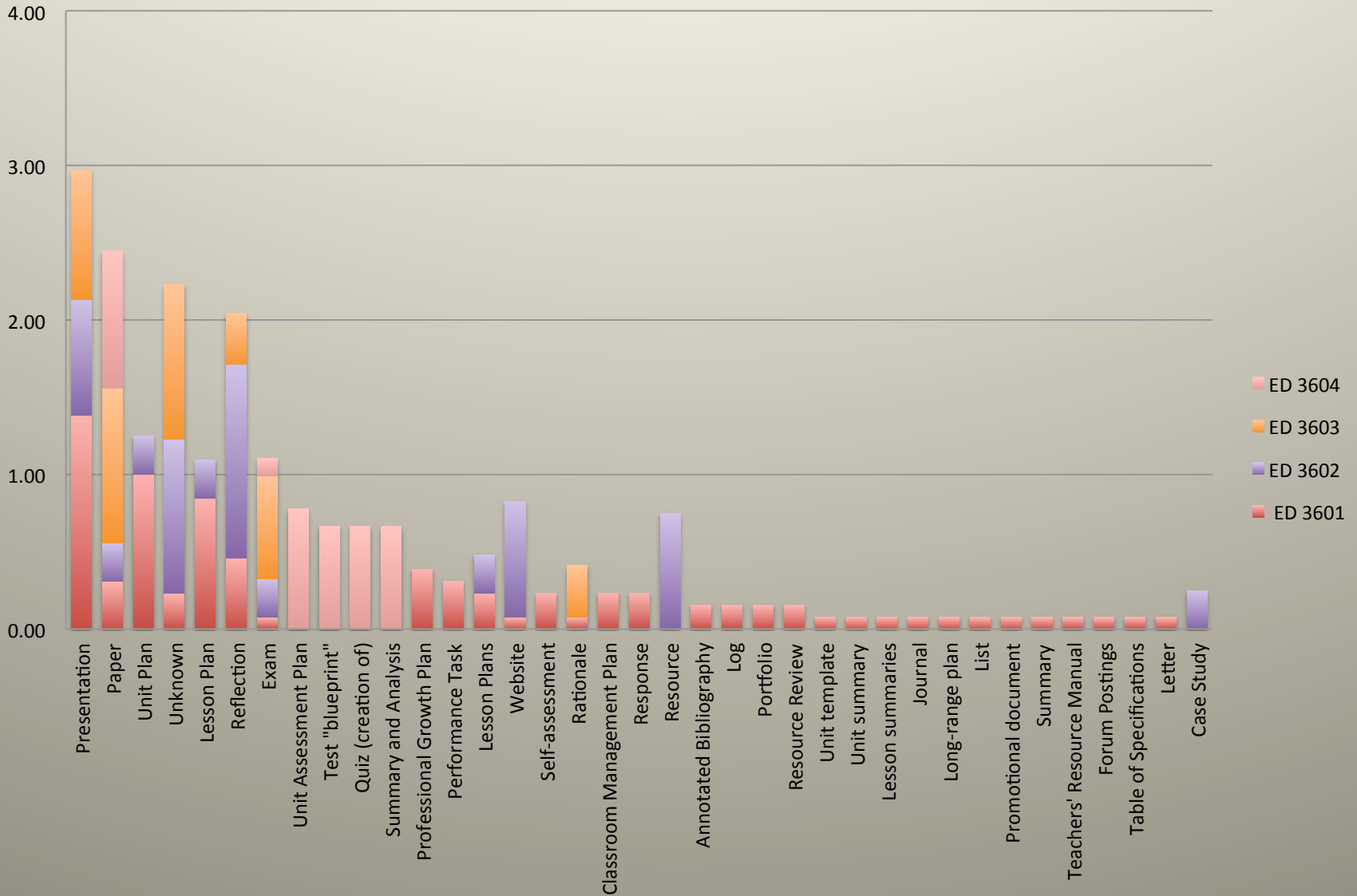Total Frequency of Assignments by Type and PSI Class for 2013
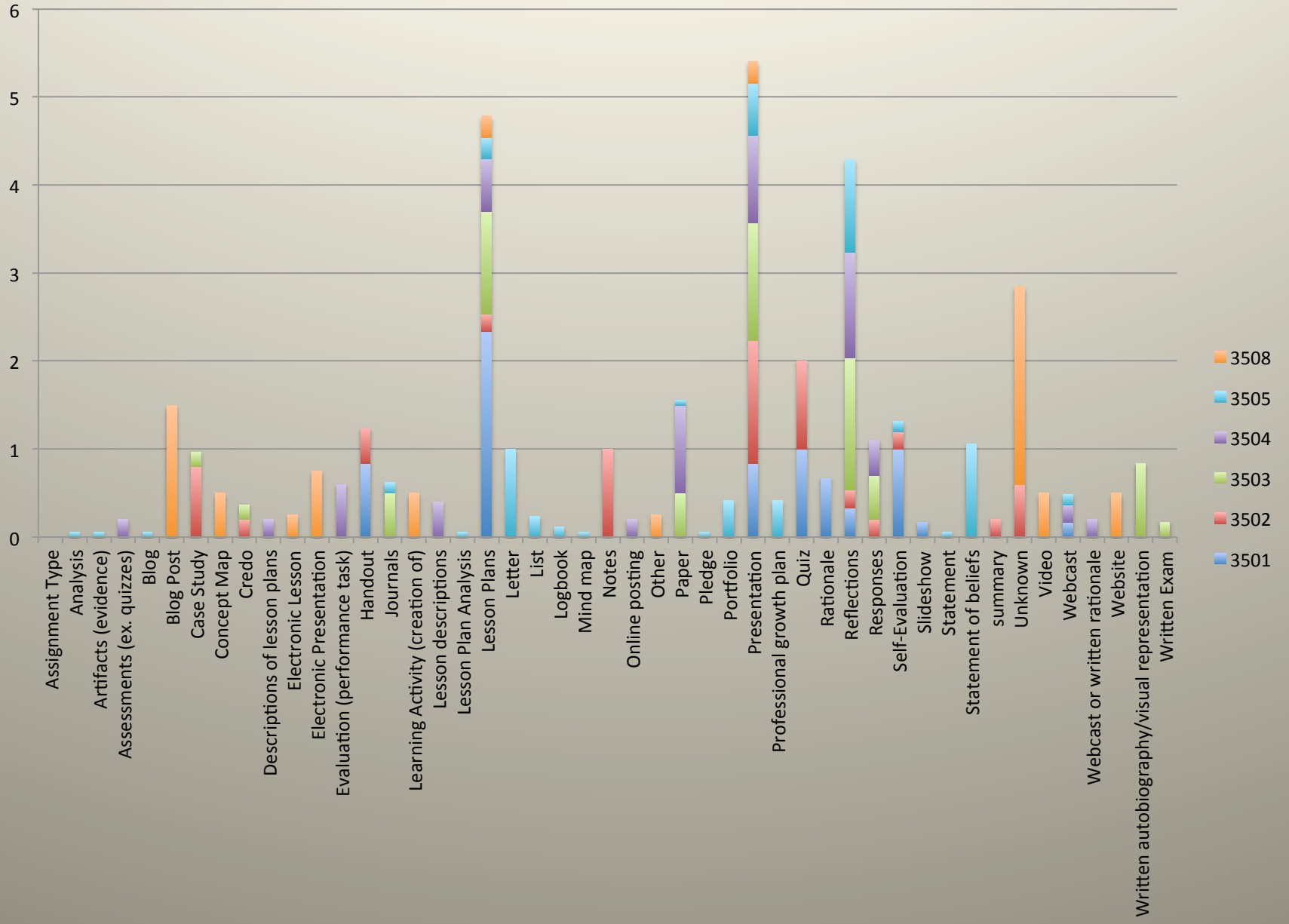
Frequency of Assignments by Type and Course in PS2

Legend:
- ED 3604
- ED 3603
- ED 3602
- ED 3601

Y-axis values: 0.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00

X-axis categories: Presentation, Paper, Unit Plan, Unknown, Lesson Plan, Reflection, Exam, Unit Assessment Plan, Test "blueprint", Quiz (creation of), Summary and Analysis, Professional Growth Plan, Performance Task, Lesson Plans, Website, Self-assessment, Rationale, Classroom Management Plan, Response, Resource, Annotated Bibliography, Log, Portfolio, Resource Review, Unit template, Unit summary, Lesson summaries, Journal, Long-range plan, List, Promotional document, Summary, Teachers' Resource Manual, Forum Postings, Table of Specifications, Letter, Case Study

Compartmentalization vs Integration

Inspiring Education

"[R]ather than study a large number of subjects, each independent of the other, learners would focus more deeply on a curriculum that allows for more interdisciplinary learning, combining the arts and other academic streams" (Hancock, 2010, p. 7).

Inquiry-Based & Integrated Teacher Education Curriculum

- What does an Inquiry-based, integrated teacher education curriculum look like?

Re-envisioning PS1

- Request to pilot a new design with a single cohort group in PS1

- UPDC decision: redesign must be across entire set of PSI cohorts.

Re-design Timeline

- April 28:   Planning meeting of lead instructors in each PS1 course.

- May 5:   Faculty Retreat. Presentation of Initial concept to Faculty.

- May-June: Series of design meetings with lead instructors.

- July 15:   MEd Curriculum Design Challenge Day
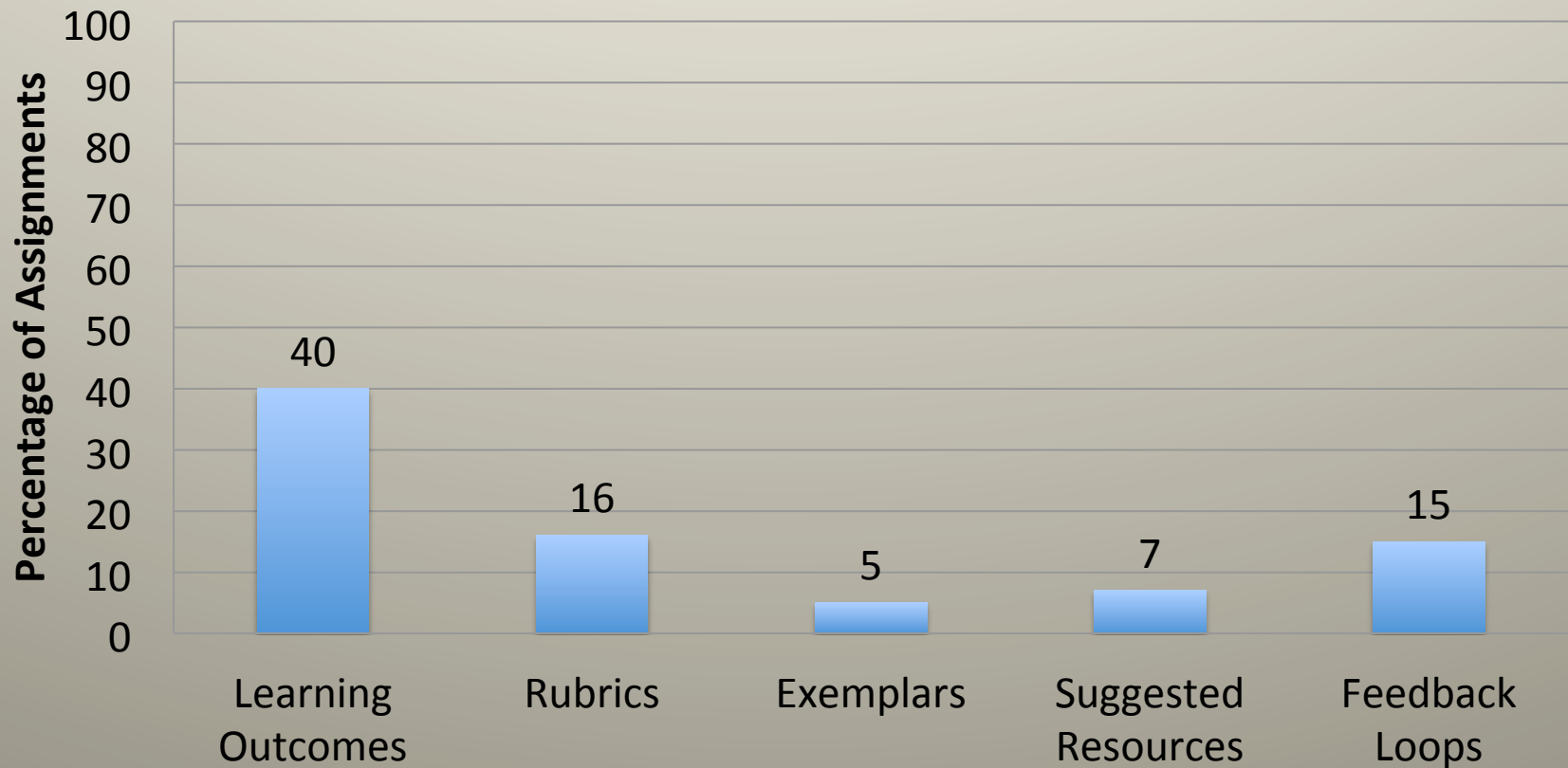
- Aug 24-27   PS1 Planning days

Design Concerns

Percentage of PS1 and PS2 Assignments by Weighting
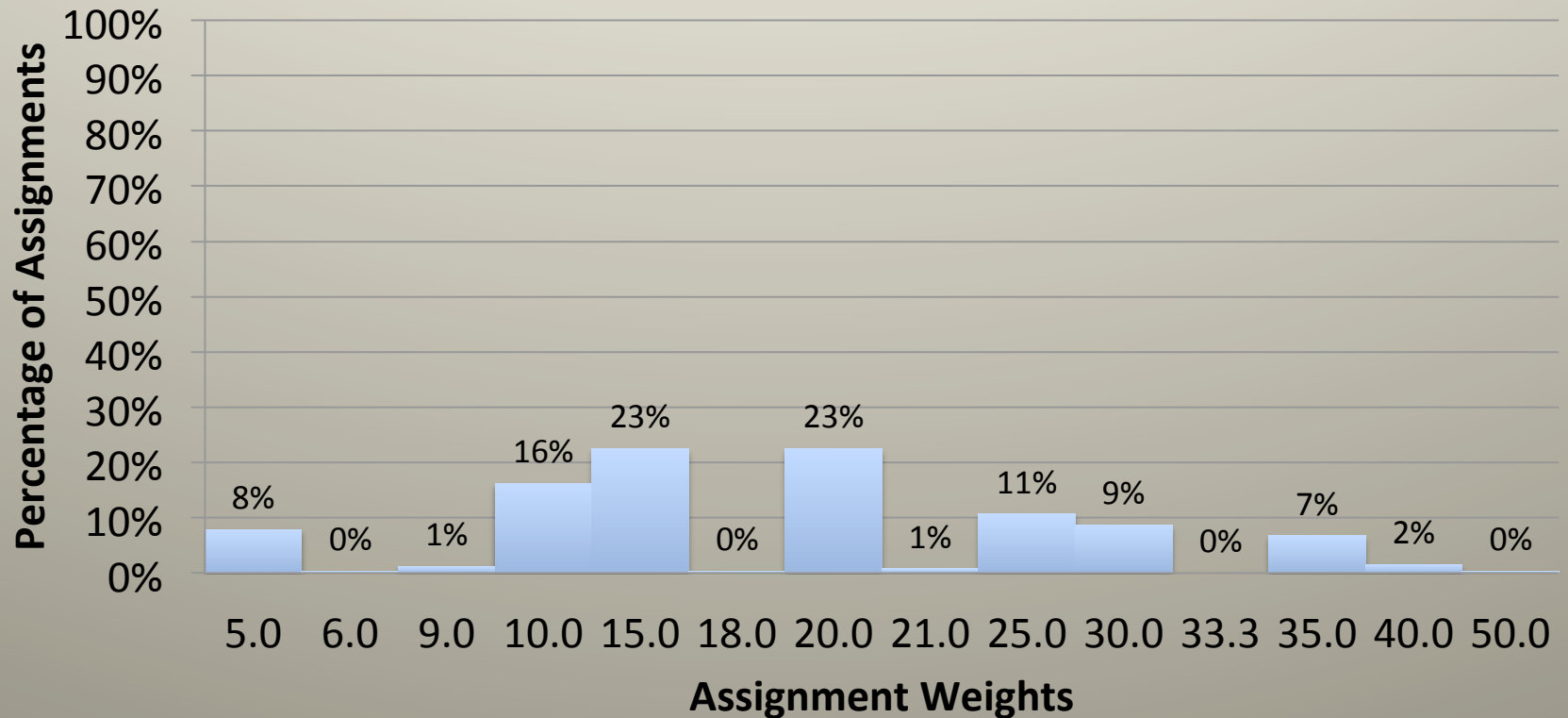
Design Concerns

Design Features Present in PS1 and PS2 Assignments

Design Concerns

- Albertans see the role of teacher changing from that of a knowledge authority to an architect of learning – one who plans, designs and oversees learning activities. The teacher would consider interests, passions, talents and natural curiosities of the learner. He or she would inspire, motivate and plant the seeds for life-long learning…. Learners in particular told us that teachers need to be innovative, passionate and positive about teaching (Hancock, 2010, p. 7).

Initial Design Ideas

- Integrated Digital Portfolio
  - Integrated mini-unit
    - Grounded in a Real Classroom Environment & Research-based
      - Literacy across the curriculum component
      - Differentiation based on analysis of student needs
      - Effective use of technology
      - Clear links to learning outcomes
      - Integrated assessment plan
  - Multimodal research presentation on contemporary issue in education.
    - Implications for curriculum and assessment design
    - Impact on diverse student populations
    - Implications for language education and technology integration

Initial Design Ideas

- Learning Artifacts
  - Collection of artifacts that demonstrate learning linked to course outcomes
- Defense paper
  - Claims learning from each course within the PS1 semester.
  - Points to concrete examples within the portfolio to substantiate these claims.
  - Connects claims to key readings, discussions, and other forms of content from each course.

Future Research

- Continue to track student experience through surveys.
- Analysis of digital portfolios.
- Interviews/focus groups with students exploring their experiences.