

Can a checklist help students improve their writing, information literacy, and analytic thinking skills?

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Yes

CHECKLIST COVERSHEET

Complete this checklist and include it as a cover sheet with your assignment submission. Assignments without the checklist will not be accepted. See *the APA Formatting and Style Guide* at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/1/>.

Sources

Which of the following types of sources did you cite in your paper?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journal article | <input type="checkbox"/> Image |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book | <input type="checkbox"/> Government document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book chapter | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal communication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Podcast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper article | <input type="checkbox"/> Dataset |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Film | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Citations and Bibliography

- Do the entries in your reference list or bibliography adhere to American Psychological Association (APA) citation style?
- Do the citations in the text of your paper adhere to APA citation style?
- Do all of the sources you cite in the text of your paper have a corresponding entry in your reference list or bibliography?
- Do all of the entries in your reference list or bibliography have a corresponding citation in the text of your paper?

Quotes, Claims, and Evidence

- Are all of the knowledge claims you make in your paper supported by some kind of evidence?
A knowledge claim is something you assert to be true (as opposed to your belief, intuition, or personal experience). Evidence is any research finding or scholarly report that you use to support your knowledge claim.
- Have you evaluated your sources?
Pay particular attention to the (1) the authoritativeness, perspective, and potential bias of the author; (2) credibility or validity of the findings; (3) relevance and purpose of the source itself.
- Did you provide a citation for all of the facts, quotes, and ideas that you borrowed from your sources?
It's not enough to cite facts and quotes; you must also cite any idea that you have borrowed from a source, even if you have expressed it in your own words.
- Are all of your quotes necessary?
When the quote you have selected is not the best or only way to express a fact or idea, express it in your own words. And cite it.

5 Core Competencies - Regional Context

> Written

> Oral

> Qualitative

> Critical Thinking

> Information Literacy

Curriculum - Local Context

Writing 2 / Transfer writing requirement

Typically taken in the first year. Students receive instruction and feedback in writing.

Senior Seminars

Requires satisfaction of Entry Level Writing and Composition requirements. Enrollment restricted to students in the major, juniors and seniors.

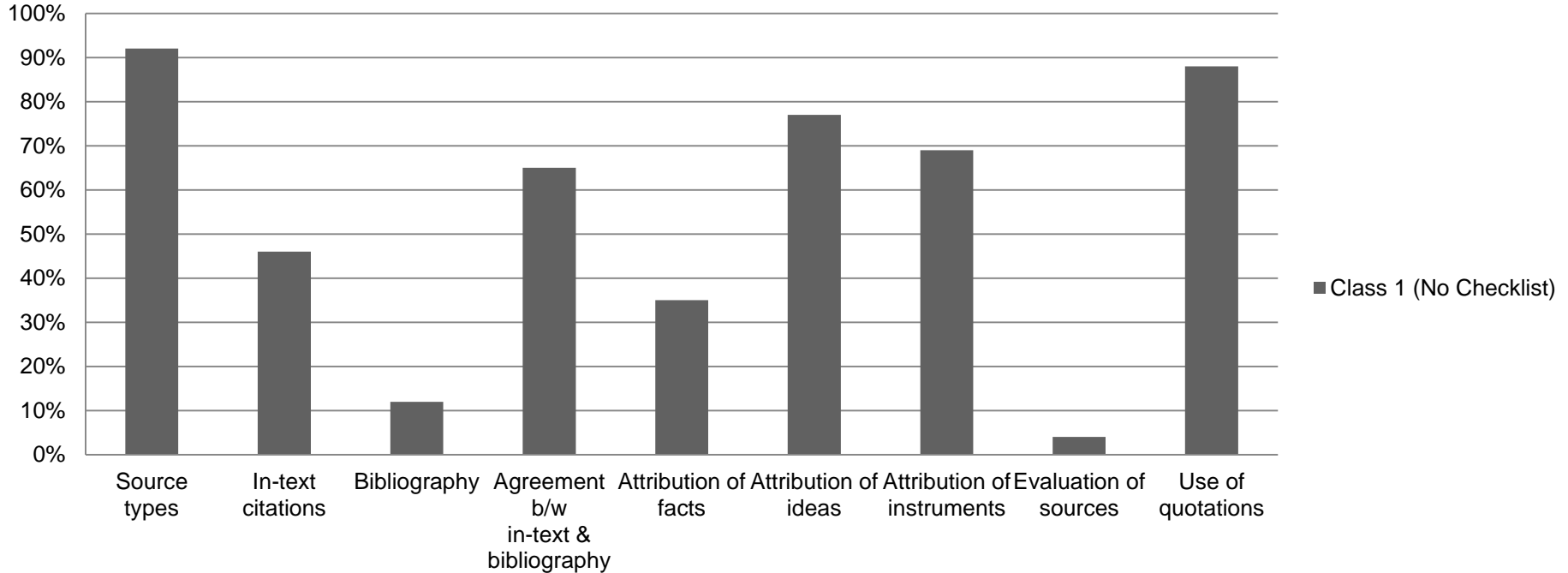
Research Questions

- (1) In what areas do most students have developing or proficient skills and in what areas do they need improvement?
- (2) In what areas did the checklist lead to improvement?
- (3) In what areas do students still lack skills?
- (4) Were there any differences related to background characteristics (ethnicity, language, and transfer status)?

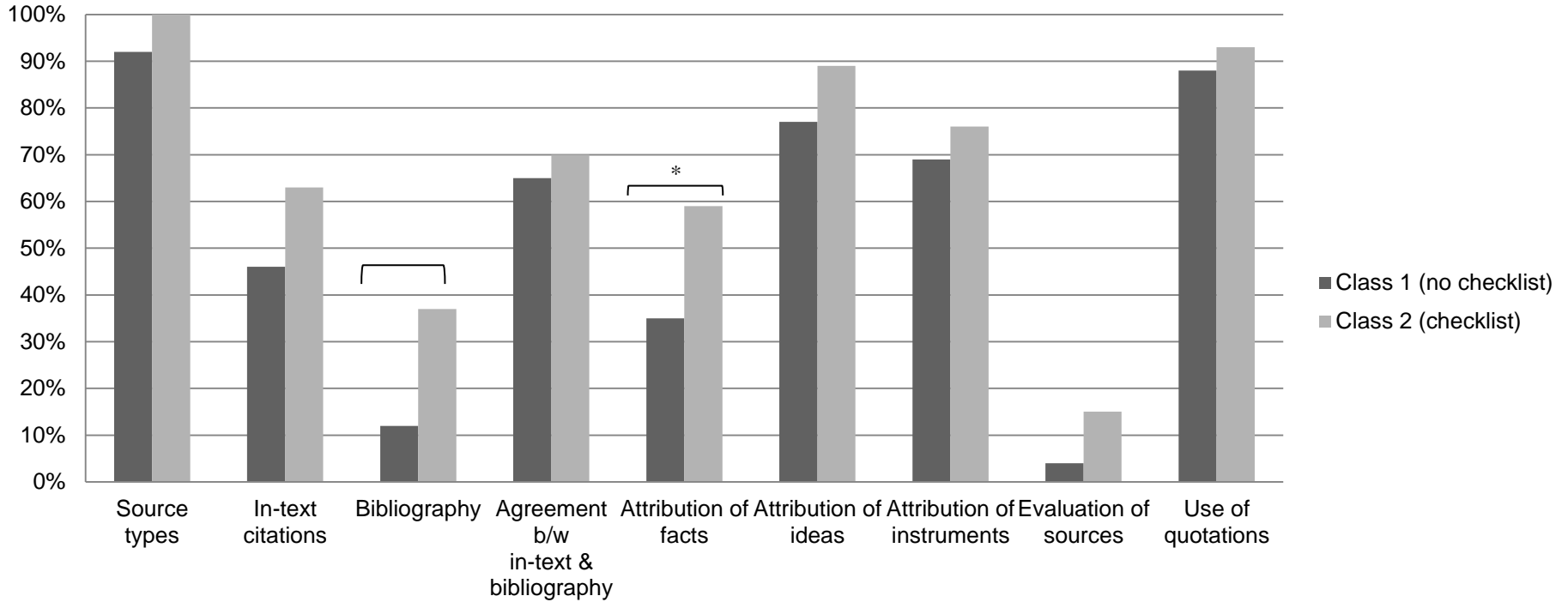
Methods

1. Senior seminar course in the social sciences
2. Two classes (no checklist, n=24 checklist, n=27)
3. Rubric for rating papers
4. Blind rating

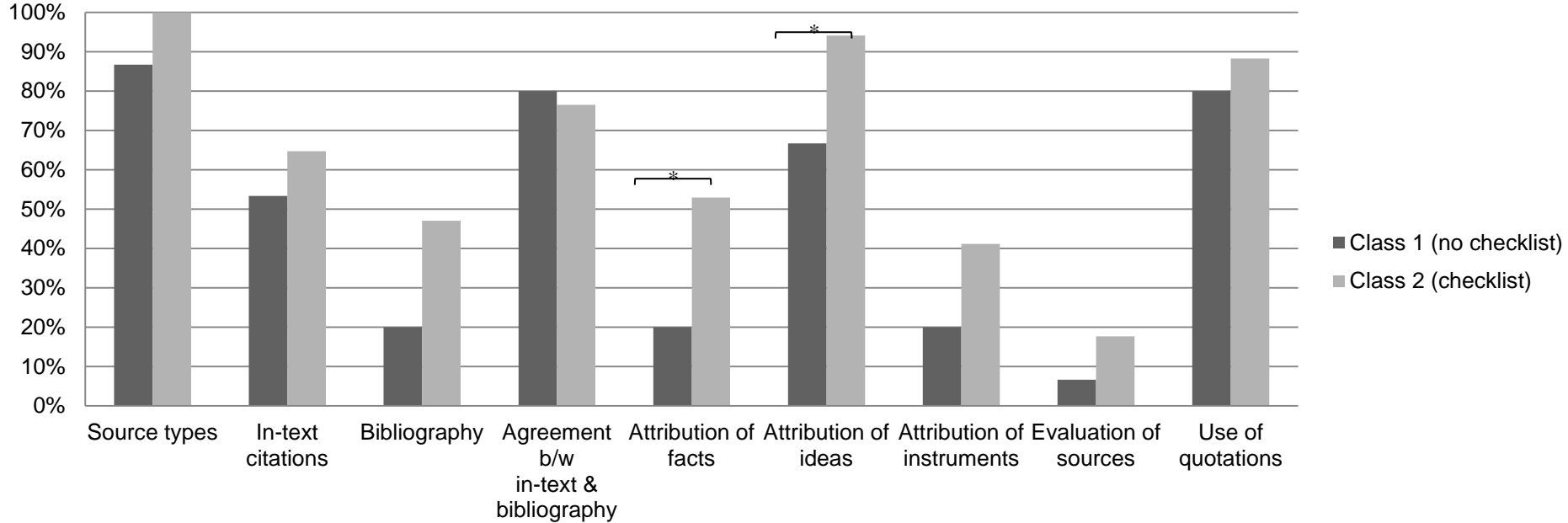
Percentage of students with developing or proficient performance



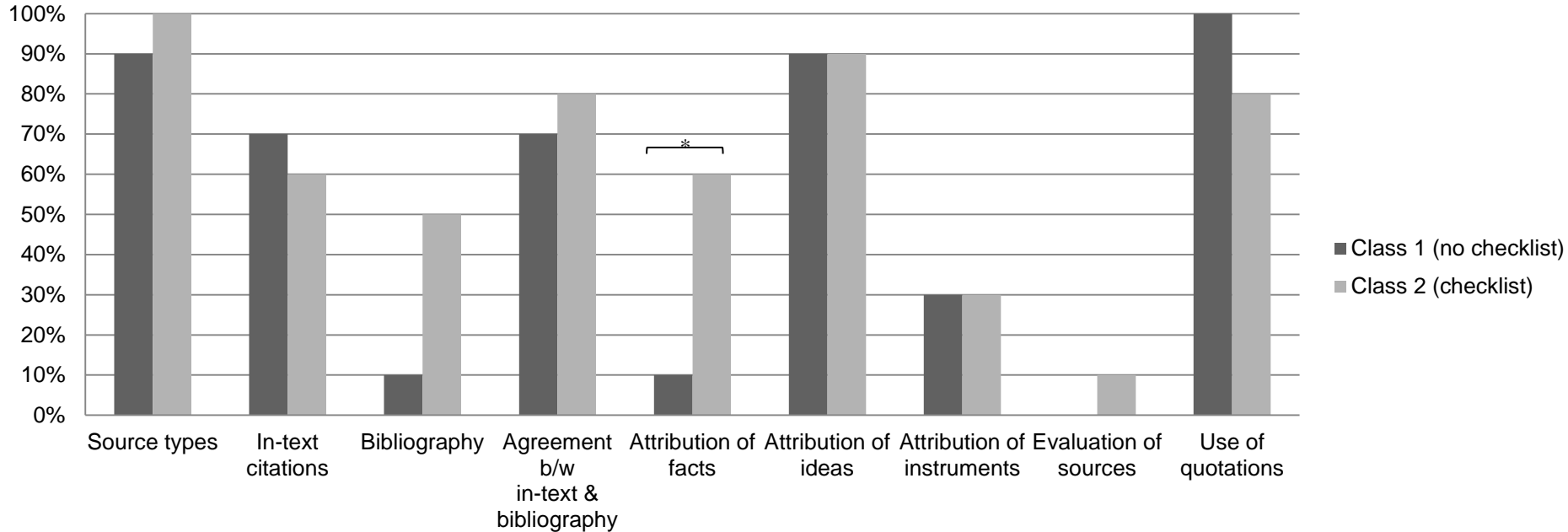
Percentage of students with developing or proficient performance



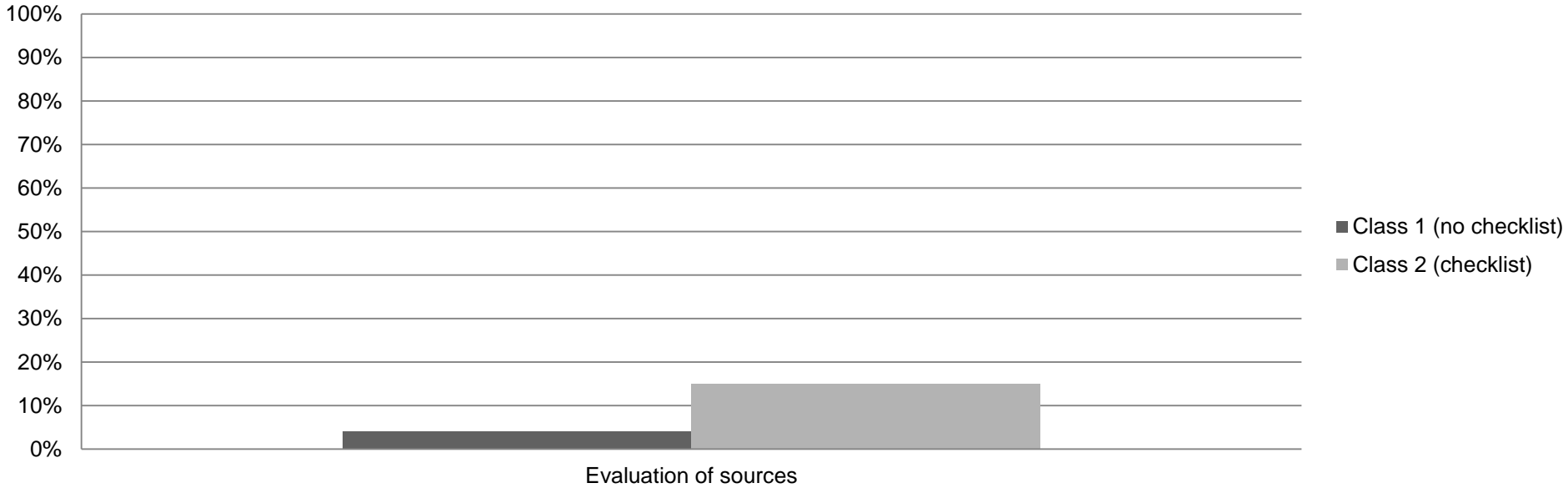
Percentage of students of color with developing or proficient performance



Percentage of bilingual students with developing or proficient performance



Percentage of students with developing or proficient performance



Have you evaluated your sources?

Pay particular attention to the (1) the authoritativeness, perspective, and potential bias of the author; (2) credibility or validity of the findings; (3) relevance and purpose of the source itself.

Takeaways

- > Make sure the expectations you set are written down, giving students a way to develop themselves.
- > There is teaching support on campus. Get an outsider perspective.
- > Assessment and development and refinement of tools are ongoing processes.

Resources

Information about this project, including checklists:

<http://guides.library.ucsc.edu/c.php?g=489730>

Acknowledgements

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