

The original goal of my summer research project was to study how administrators and students understand Diversity Trainings, what is the importance of trainings to the two different groups, and what factors go into the development of and participation in Diversity trainings. As well as seeing if there is a relationship between Student participation in Diversity trainings and their understanding of race.

Methodologically, I wanted to combine a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods to have a robust understanding of the content and impact of Diversity trainings on Bowdoin's campus. Overall, most of my time was spent navigating Bowdoin's Institutional Review Board and working on the operationalization of my variables to ensure that my research answers the questions that I am asking.

First, I planned to interview Bowdoin administrators involved in the creation and implementation of Bowdoin's Diversity trainings. However, this was derailed due to individuals not wanting to be interviewed due to the inherent lack of anonymity associated with the study only taking place at Bowdoin. Then, I looked into expanding the study size to include other small colleges, but the institutional barriers around getting IRB approval from both Bowdoin and every other institution I would want to study led me to shift the focus of the research to student perspectives.

For student perspectives, I have created a survey that I plan to send out to all Bowdoin students near the end of August/early September, pending final IRB approval. This summer, I also reviewed previous interview data of Bowdoin's Class of 2023 about their perspectives on Diversity at Bowdoin. I also plan to conduct new interviews of students, and conduct a focus group discussion about diversity with current students.