

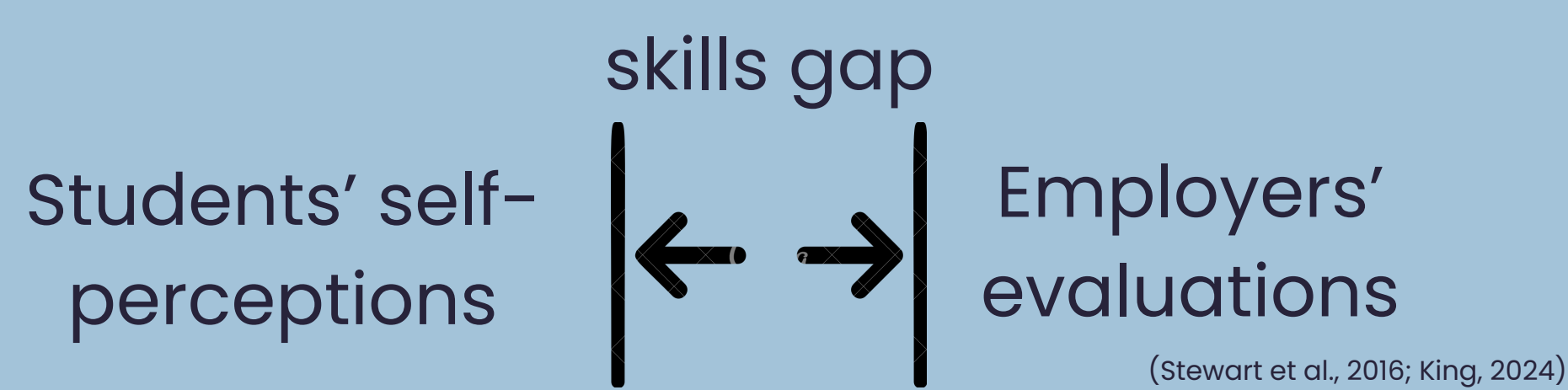
EXAMINING CRITICAL THINKING, TEAMWORK, AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN COLLEGE STUDENTS' JOB READINESS

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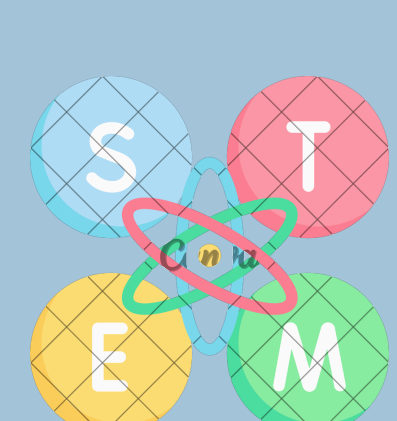
INTRODUCTION



Employers increasingly value interpersonal skills such as **communication, emotional intelligence, and teamwork** (Syafira & Umam, 2024)



STEM majors emphasize **critical thinking and problem-solving**



Teamwork remains **universally important** across disciplines (Parrilla et al., 2024).

NON-STEM highlight **communication**

RESULTS



Critical Thinking:
STEM: Mean rank = 175.65
NON-STEM: Mean rank = 182.81
 $z = -0.61, p = 0.54$

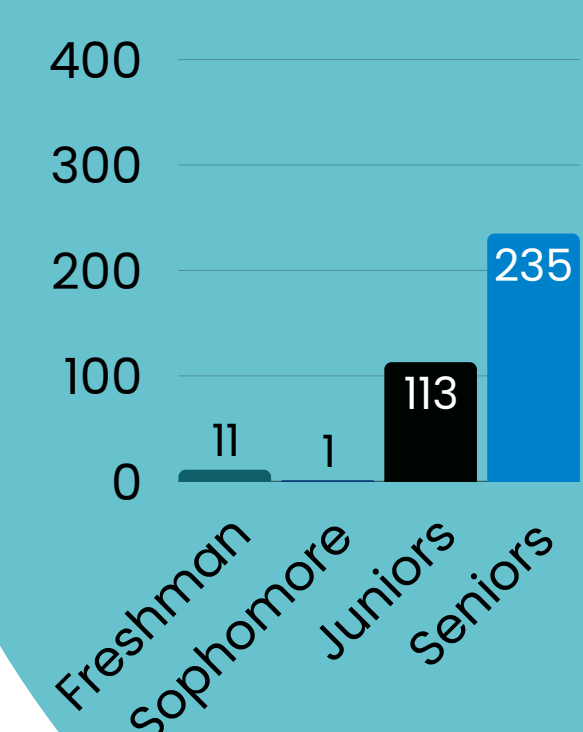
Teamwork:
STEM: Mean rank = 173.66
NON-STEM: Mean rank = 183.75
 $z = -0.87, p = 0.34$



Communication:
STEM: Mean rank = 152.94
NON-STEM: Mean rank = 193.60
 $z = -3.48, p < 0.001$

METHODOLOGY

360 Undergraduates students



- 1 STEM majors completed the survey via Qualtrics
- 2 Non-STEM completed the survey via SONA

Survey Instrument

- Assessed Critical thinking, Teamwork, Communication
- Evaluated using a Likert-Type Scale & Mann-Whitney U Test

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

This study combined **Bloom's Taxonomy & Keng's (2024) Framework**

Bloom's Taxonomy to assess **critical thinking skills.** (Zaidi et al., 2018; Amelink et al., 2024)

Keng's (2024) framework identifies **critical thinking, teamwork, and communication** as core interpersonal constructs directly linked to **job readiness.**



PURPOSE

To **examine** essential interpersonal skills critical thinking, teamwork, and communication **in relation to job readiness**

To **determine whether differences exist** between STEM and NON-STEM undergraduate students.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1 **No significant differences** between STEM and NON-STEM majors in **critical thinking or teamwork** skills.
- 2 Communication skills showed a **statistically significant difference**, with NON-STEM majors scoring higher than STEM majors. (Adams & Missingham, 2006; Livingston, 2021).
- 3 As AI becomes more integrated in the workplace, **critical thinking and communication** are increasingly vital. (Kyriazi, 2019).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Workshops for STEM majors: build **practical interpersonal skills** when electives aren't possible
Future research: add **qualitative insights** into why STEM students score lower in **critical thinking & interpersonal skills**

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