

# GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT 2013-14





## **Planning the assessment (2012-13):**



During the school year 2012-2013, the GE assessment was planned during multiple meetings: all-faculty-invited GE events, Teaching and Learning Committee meetings, and many GE committee meetings.



## Research question:

How will students do on a course-embedded assessment that measures GE SLO 1 (writing/reading), GE SLO 3 (critical thinking), and GE SLO 4 (ethics) **relative to number of GE units taken?** Do experienced LMC students perform better than newcomers? In what ways do students' abilities develop over many courses?



# Collecting student work to assess (Fall 2013):

- ▶ We collected over 300 student papers from GE courses in journalism, biology, philosophy, and political science.
  - ▶ Each student handed in a 2-page paper based on a short article about an ethical issue.
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# Crafting the sample:

- ▶ Using the student ID numbers of all the students who did the assessment, the district research office made us a weighted random sample of 90 students with varying numbers of GE units successfully completed:
  - ▶ 30 students with a low number of GE units (0-9)
  - ▶ 30 students with a medium number of GE units (12-18)
  - ▶ 30 students with a high number of GE units (21+)



# **GE paper-scoring flex (January 2014):**





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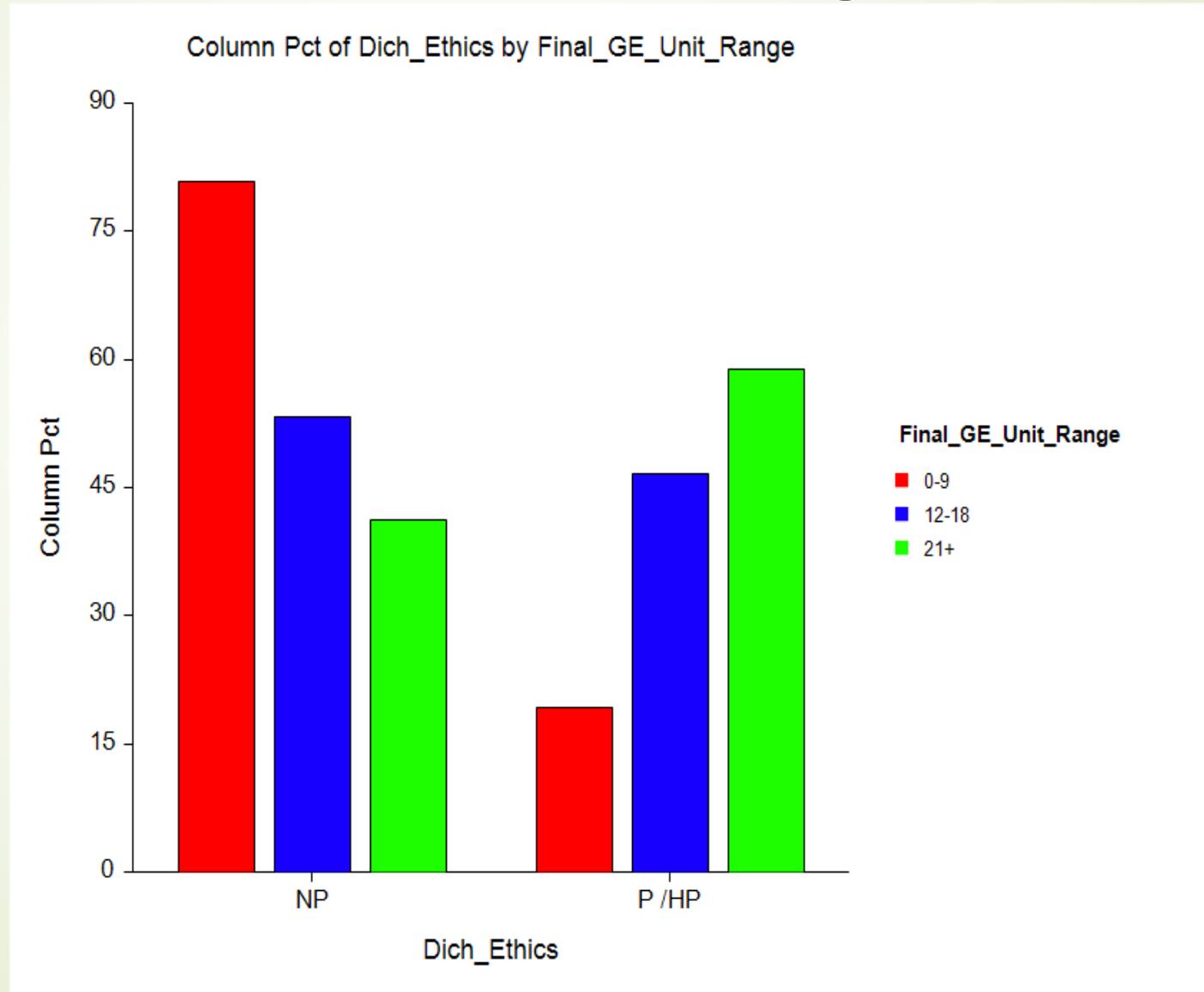
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  - ▶ Norming: we examined sample student papers together.
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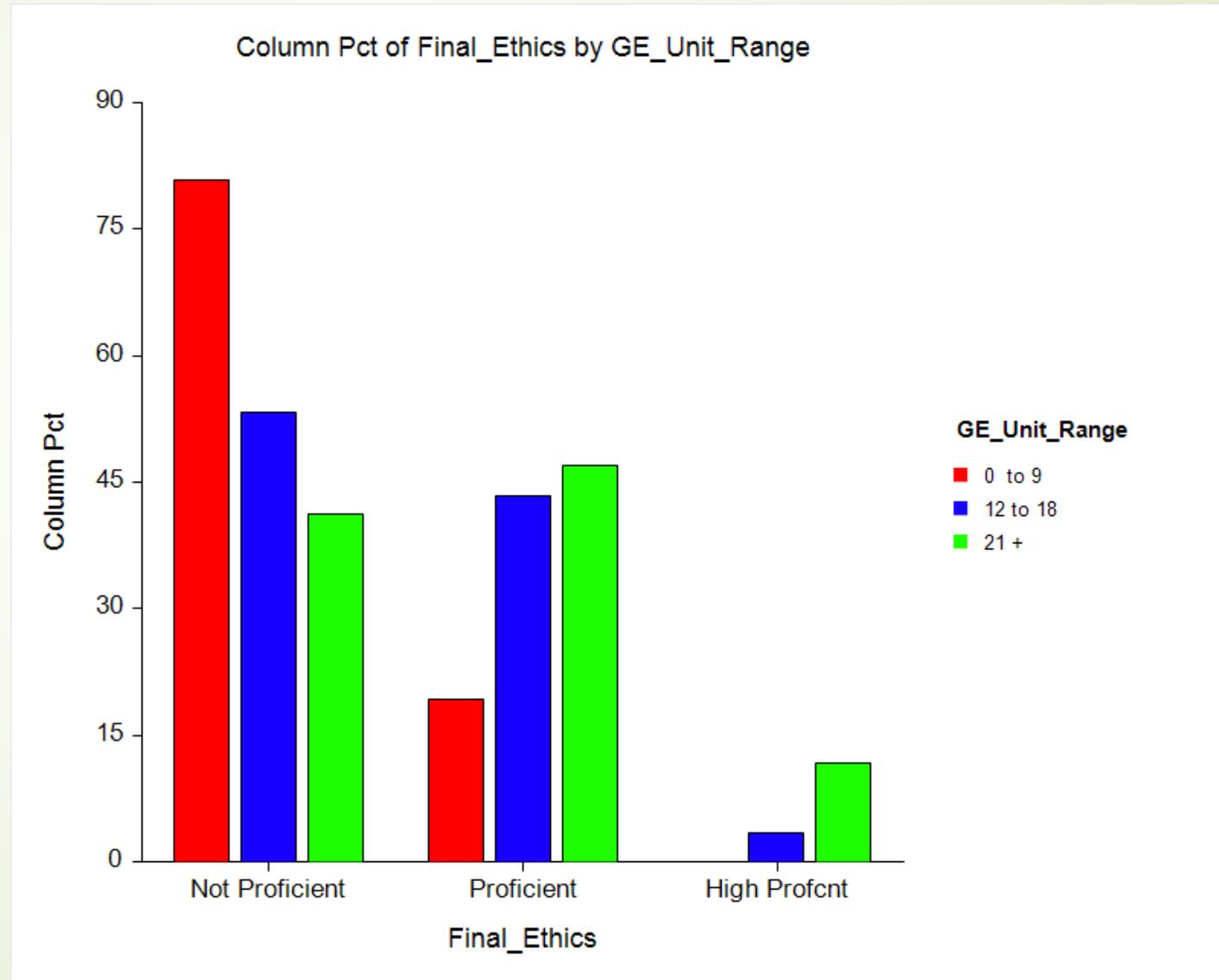
# GE paper-scoring flex (January 2014):

- ▶ 12 LMC faculty met and scored the 90 papers. Faculty were from biology, physical sciences, art & humanities, political science, journalism, English, math, plus one dean.
- ▶ Norming: we examined sample student papers together.
- ▶ Using a rubric, each student paper was scored as high proficient (HP), proficient (P), or not proficient (NP) in ethical thinking, critical thinking, writing, and reading.
  - ▶ Proficient = meets our expectations for a student at or near completion of the AA/AS degree.
  - ▶ Two faculty had to agree on each score for each student, so most papers were scored by three readers.

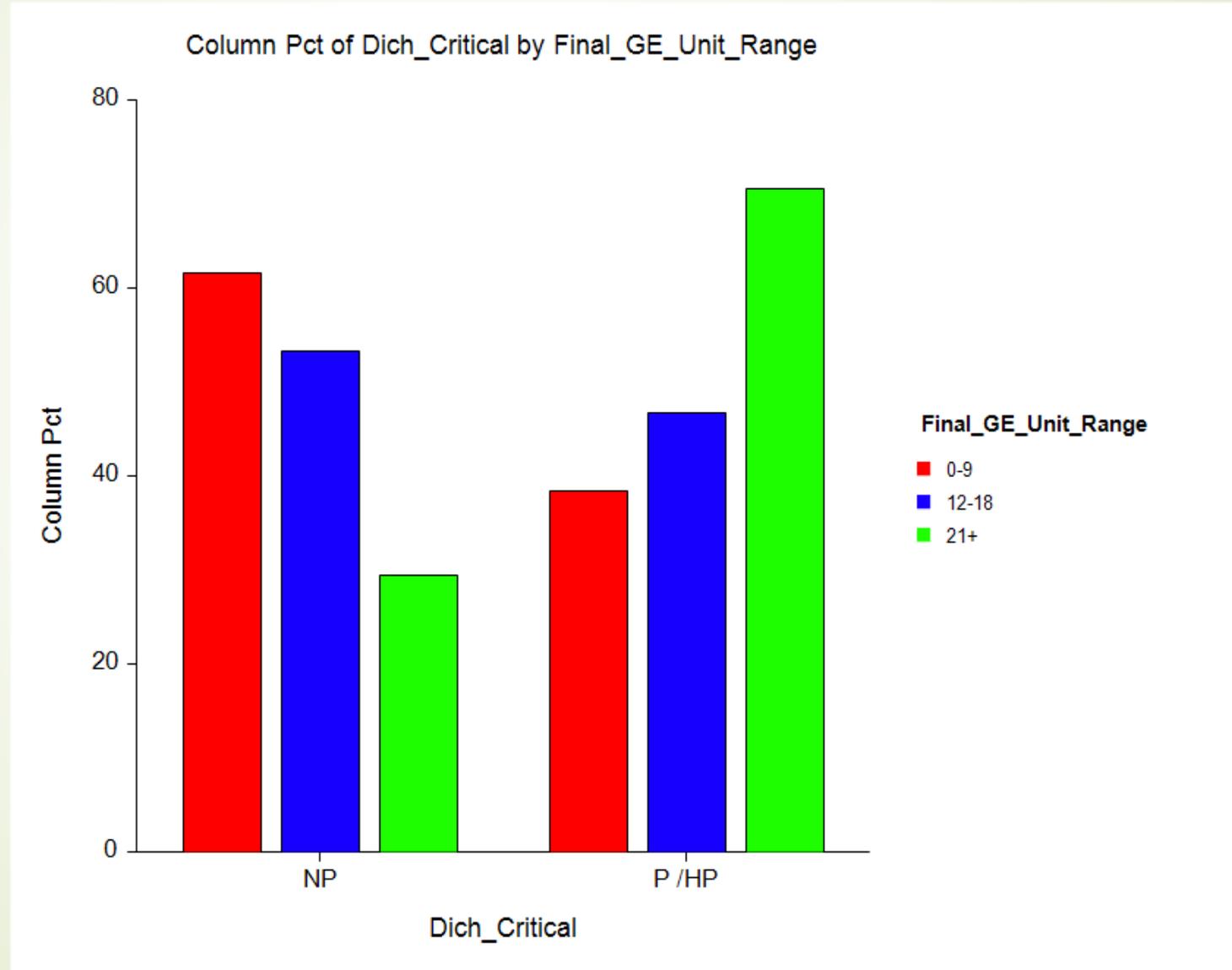
# Results for ethical thinking:



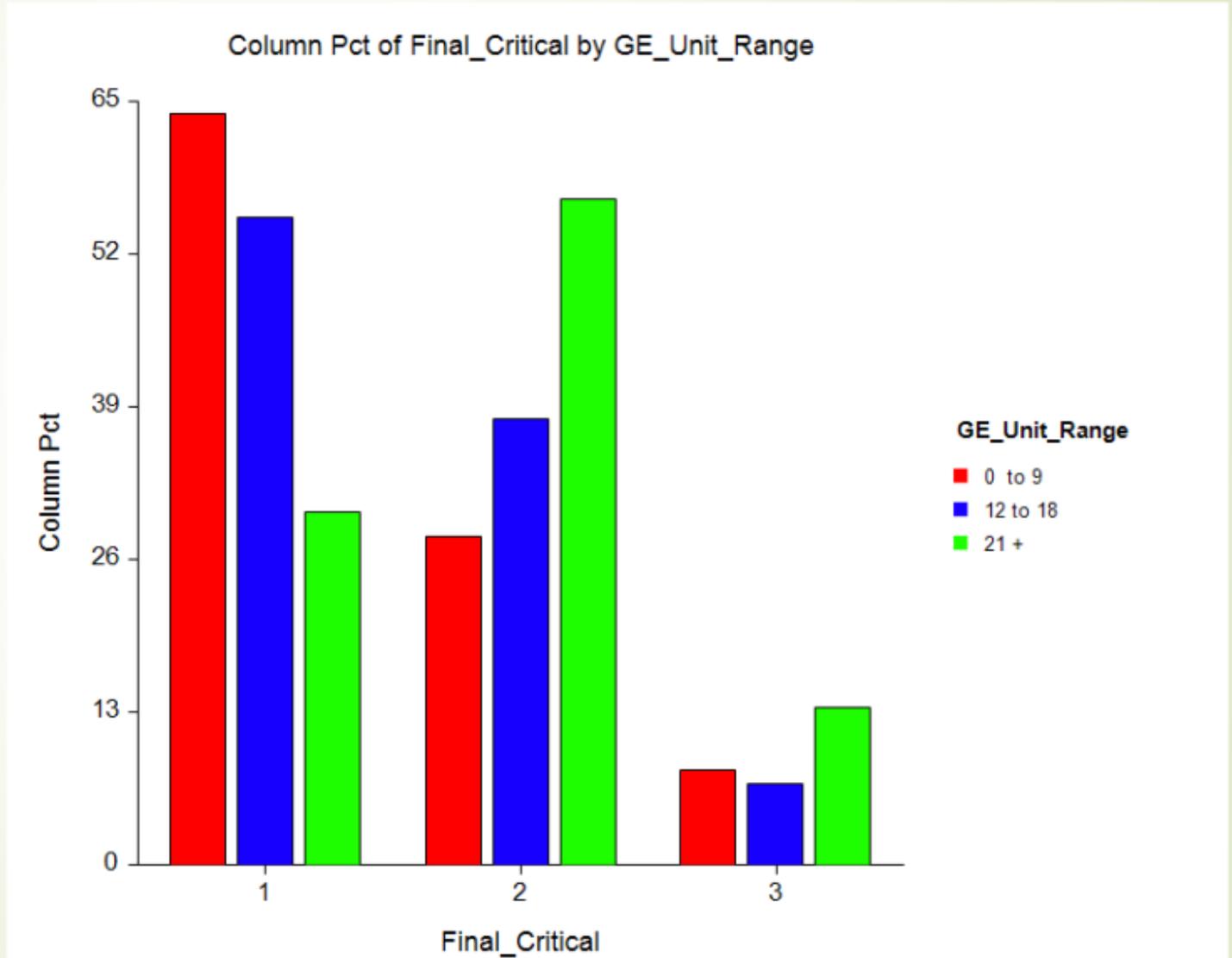
# Results for ethical thinking (with HP shown):



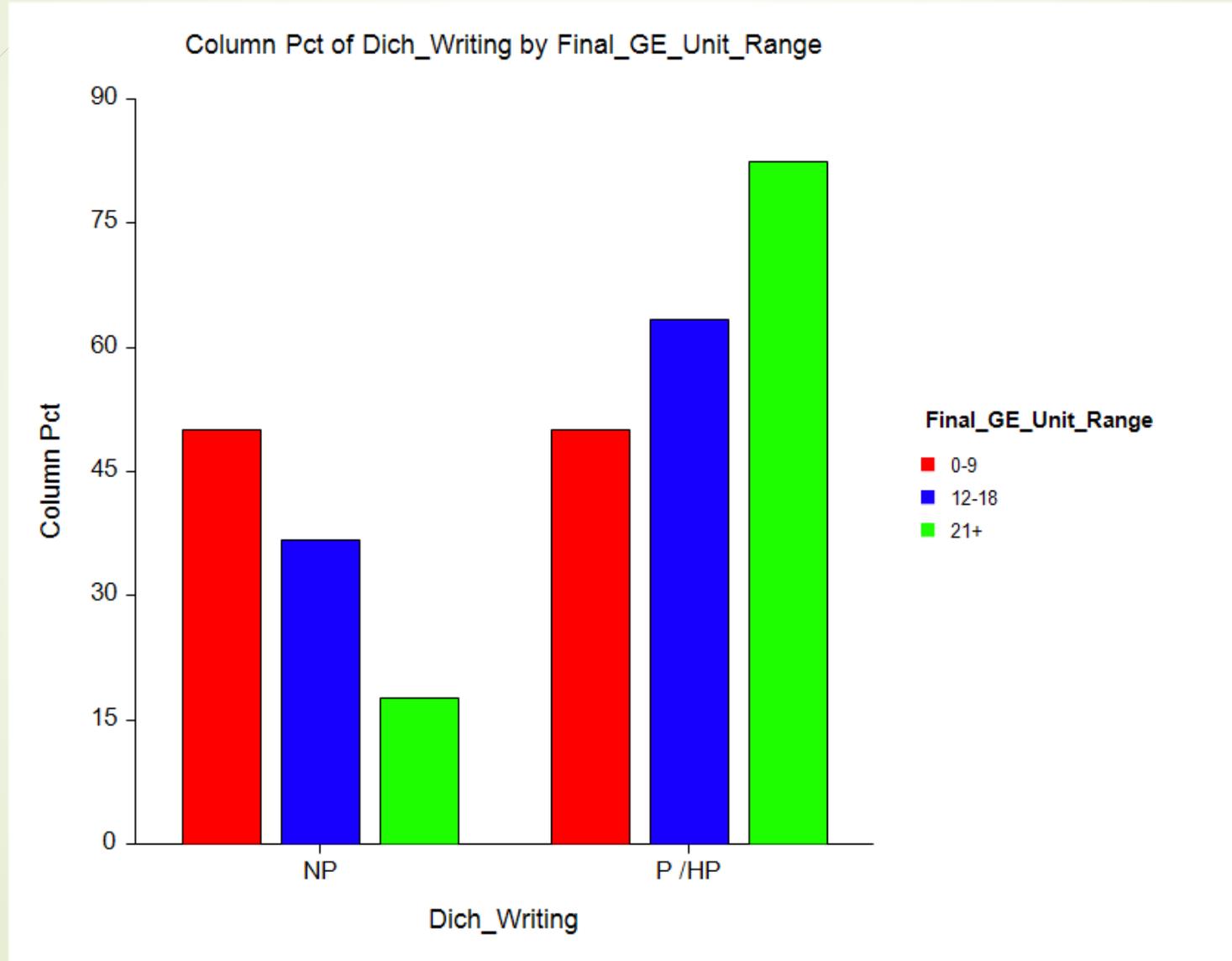
# Results for critical thinking:



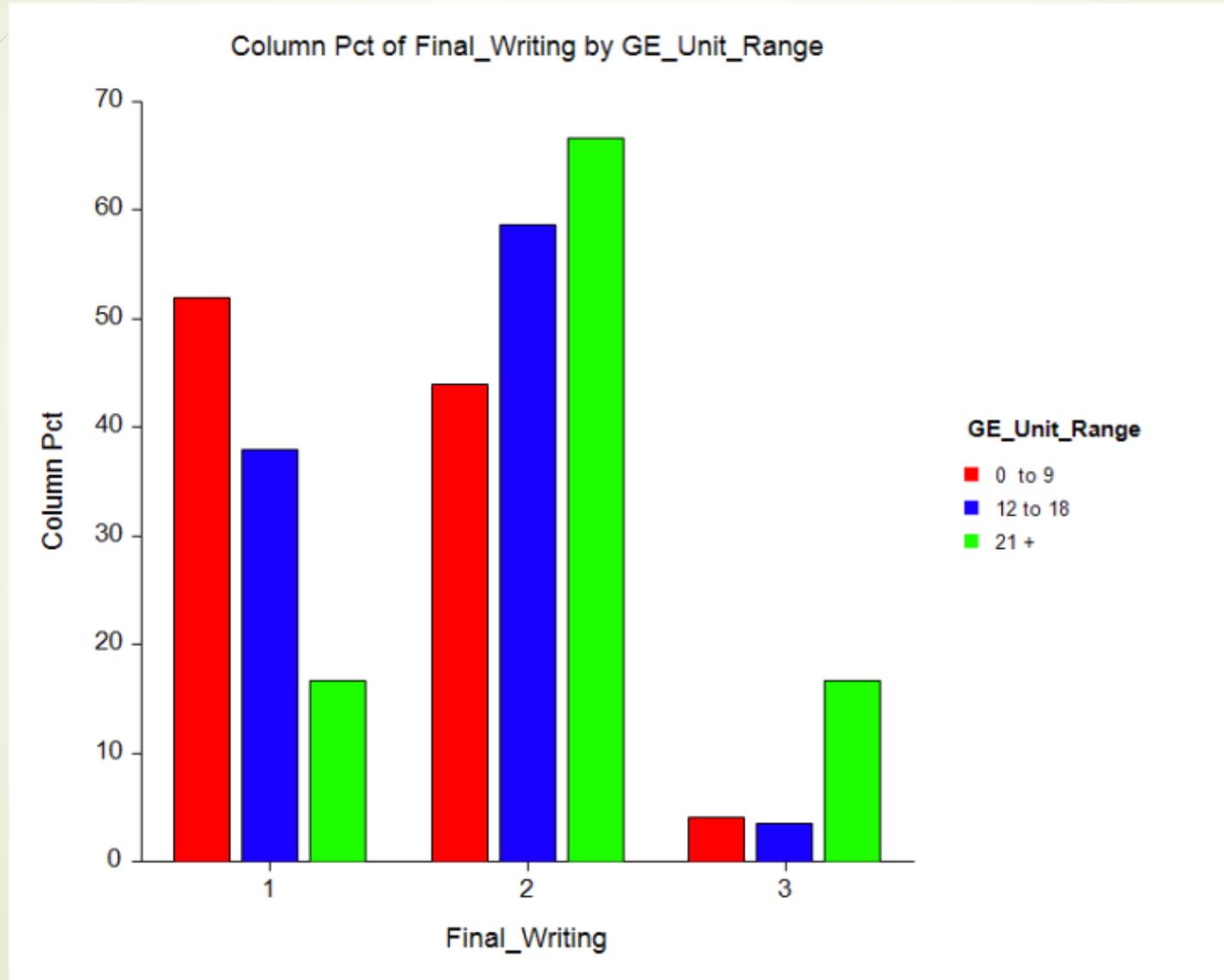
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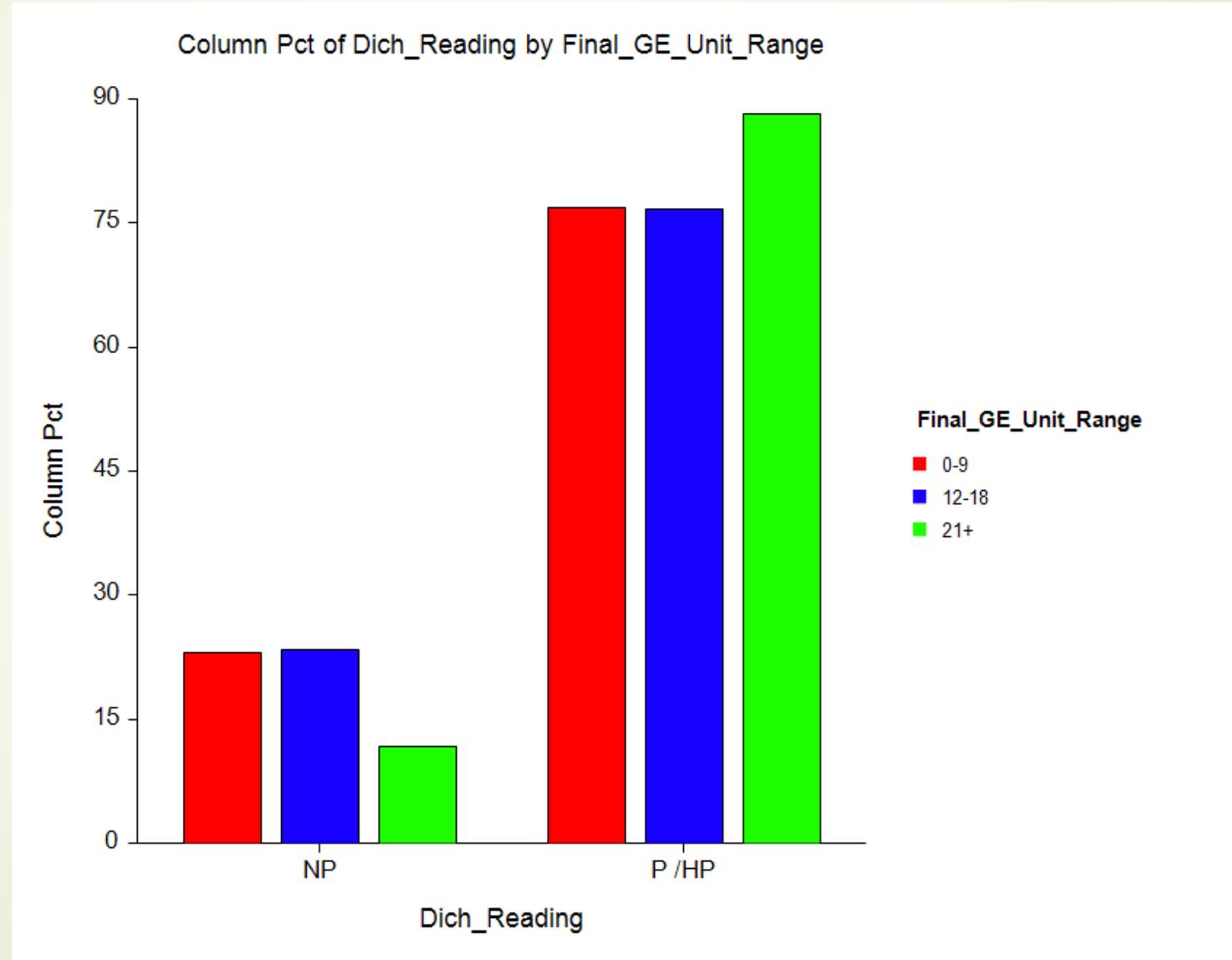
# Results for writing:



# Results for writing (with HP shown):

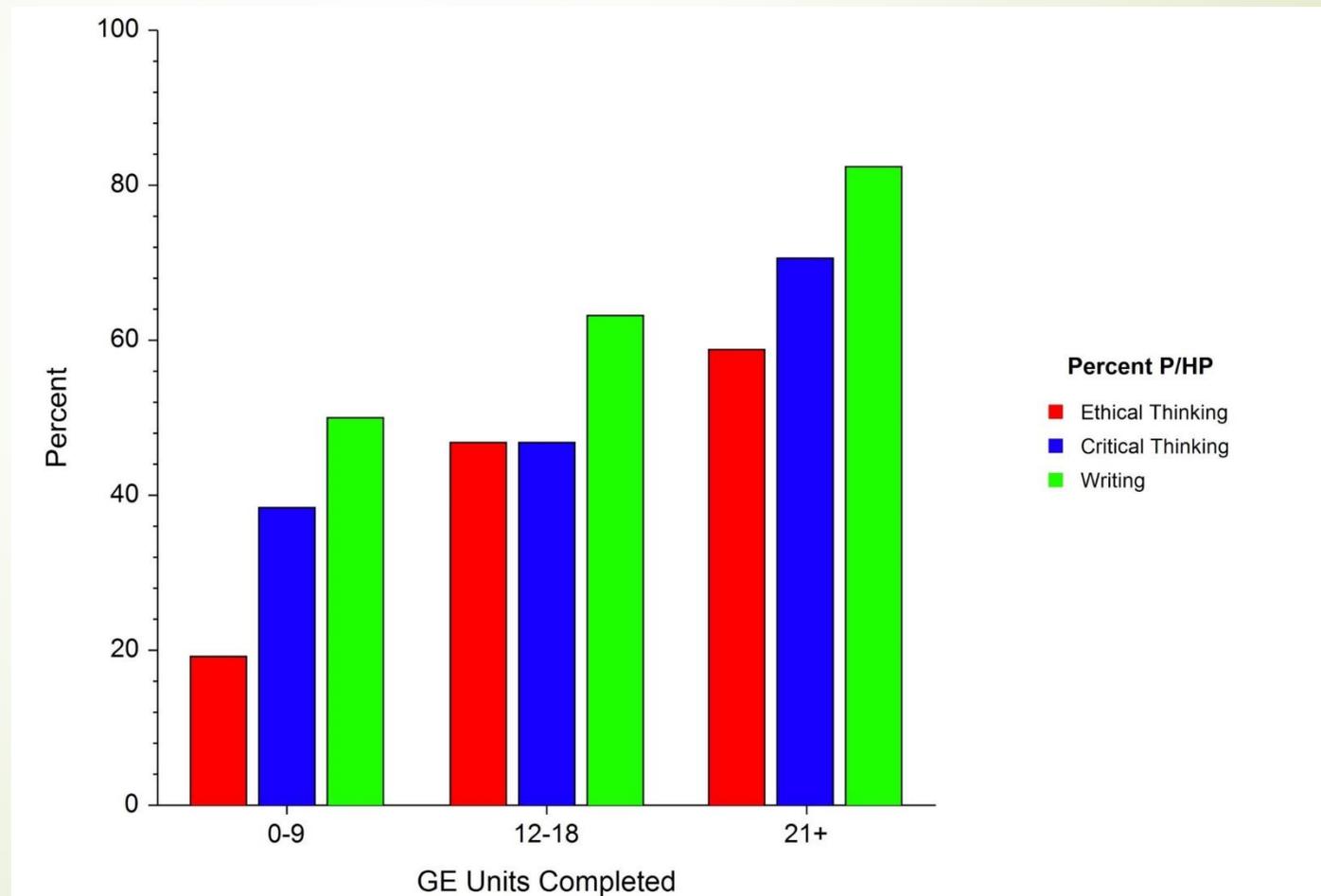


# Results for reading:



## Major finding: GE works! (or appears to)

The data strongly suggest that as students pass more GE courses, their proficiency in ethical thinking, critical thinking, and writing increases.





**However...**





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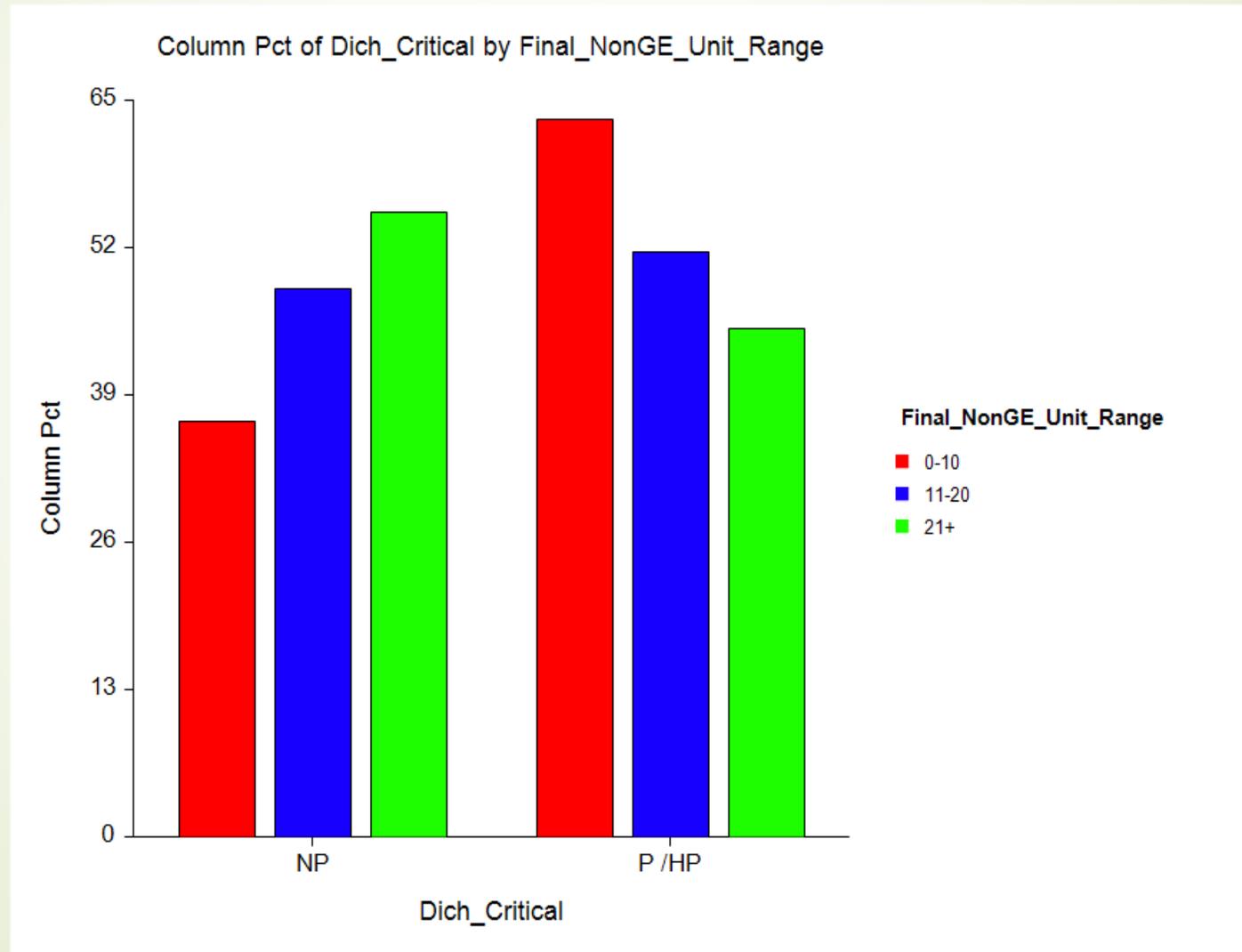
- At the at the 12-18 unit range, which is the GE requirement for a non-transfer associates degree (12 units GE + English and math), less than 50% of students are proficient in ethical and critical thinking, and only 63% are proficient in writing.



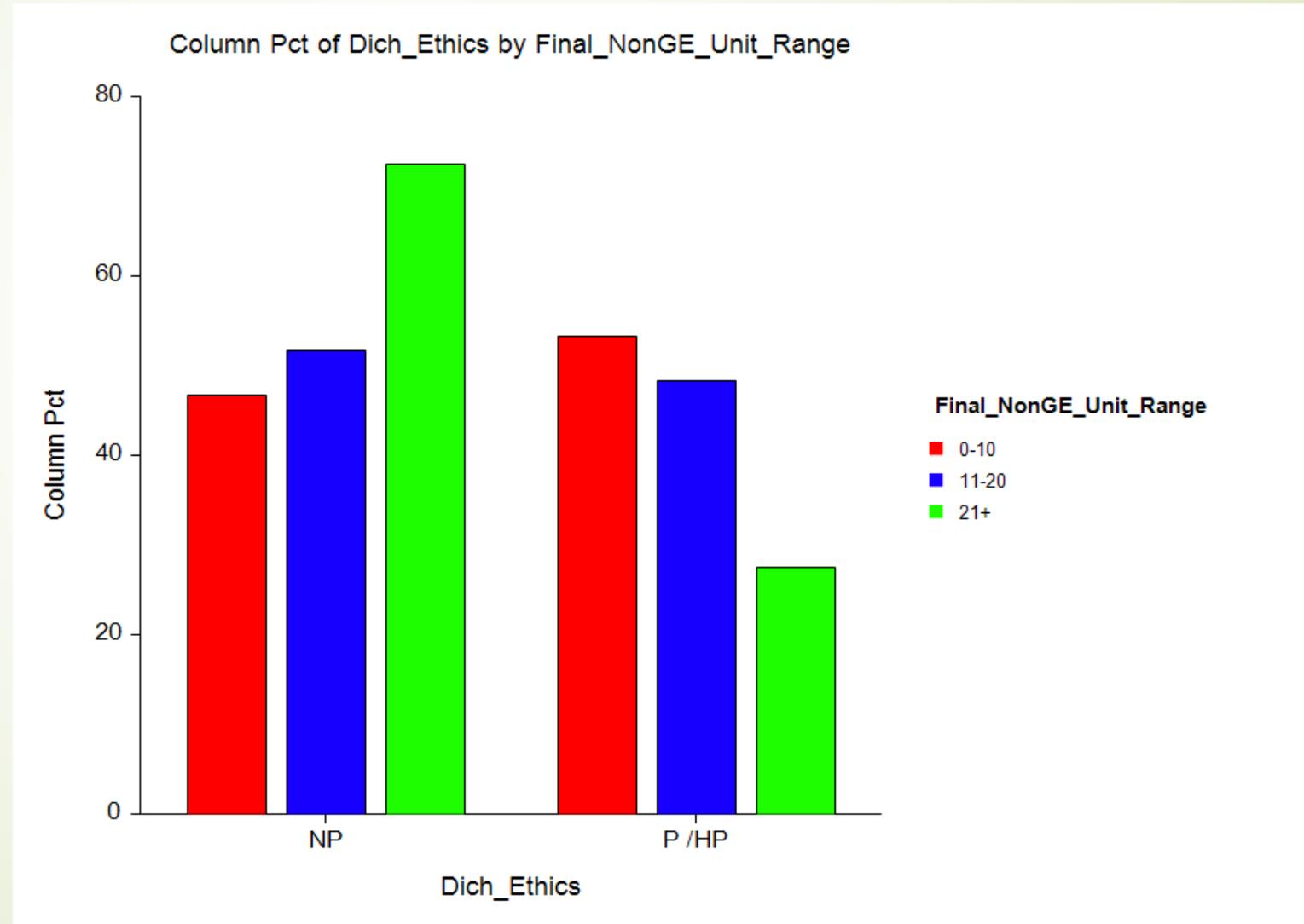
## However...

- At the at the 12-18 unit range, which is the GE requirement for a non-transfer associates degree (12 units GE + English and math), less than 50% of students are proficient in ethical and critical thinking, and only 63% are proficient in writing.
  - **Are we satisfied with this result?**
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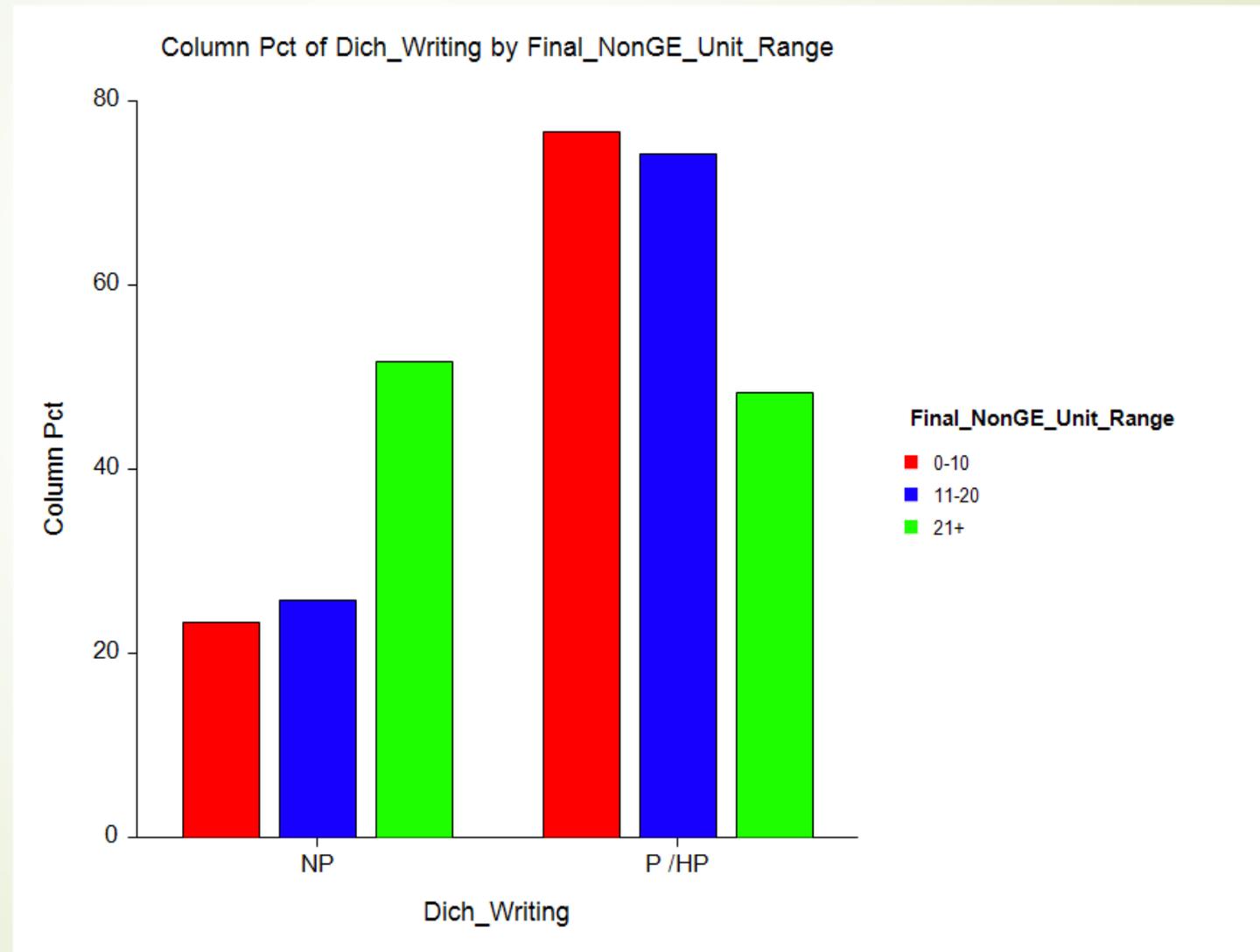
# Do *non-GE* courses have the same effect? Student performance and non-GE course completion: *critical thinking*



# Do *non-GE* courses have the same effect? Student performance and non-GE course completion: *ethical thinking*



# Do *non-GE* courses have the same effect? Student performance and non-GE course completion: *writing*



# Results for ethical thinking:

	<b>GE Unit Range</b>			
	<b>0-9</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>21+</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>NP</b>	21 <b>80.8</b>	16 <b>53.3</b>	14 <b>41.2</b>	51 <b>56.7</b>
<b>P /HP</b>	5 <b>19.2</b>	14 <b>46.7</b>	20 <b>58.8</b>	39 <b>43.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	26 100.0	30 100.0	34 100.0	90 100.0

# Results for critical thinking:

	GE Unit Range			
	0-9	12-18	21+	Total
<b>NP</b>	16	16	10	42
	61.5	53.3	29.4	46.7
<b>P /HP</b>	10	14	24	48
	<b>38.5</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>53.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	26	30	34	90
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

# Results for writing:

	GE Unit Range			
	0-9	12-18	21+	Total
<b>NP</b>	13	11	6	30
	50.0	36.7	17.6	33.3
<b>P /HP</b>	13	19	28	60
	<b>50.0</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>82.4</b>	<b>66.7</b>
<b>Total</b>	26	30	34	90
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0