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Is Science Lab Worth It?

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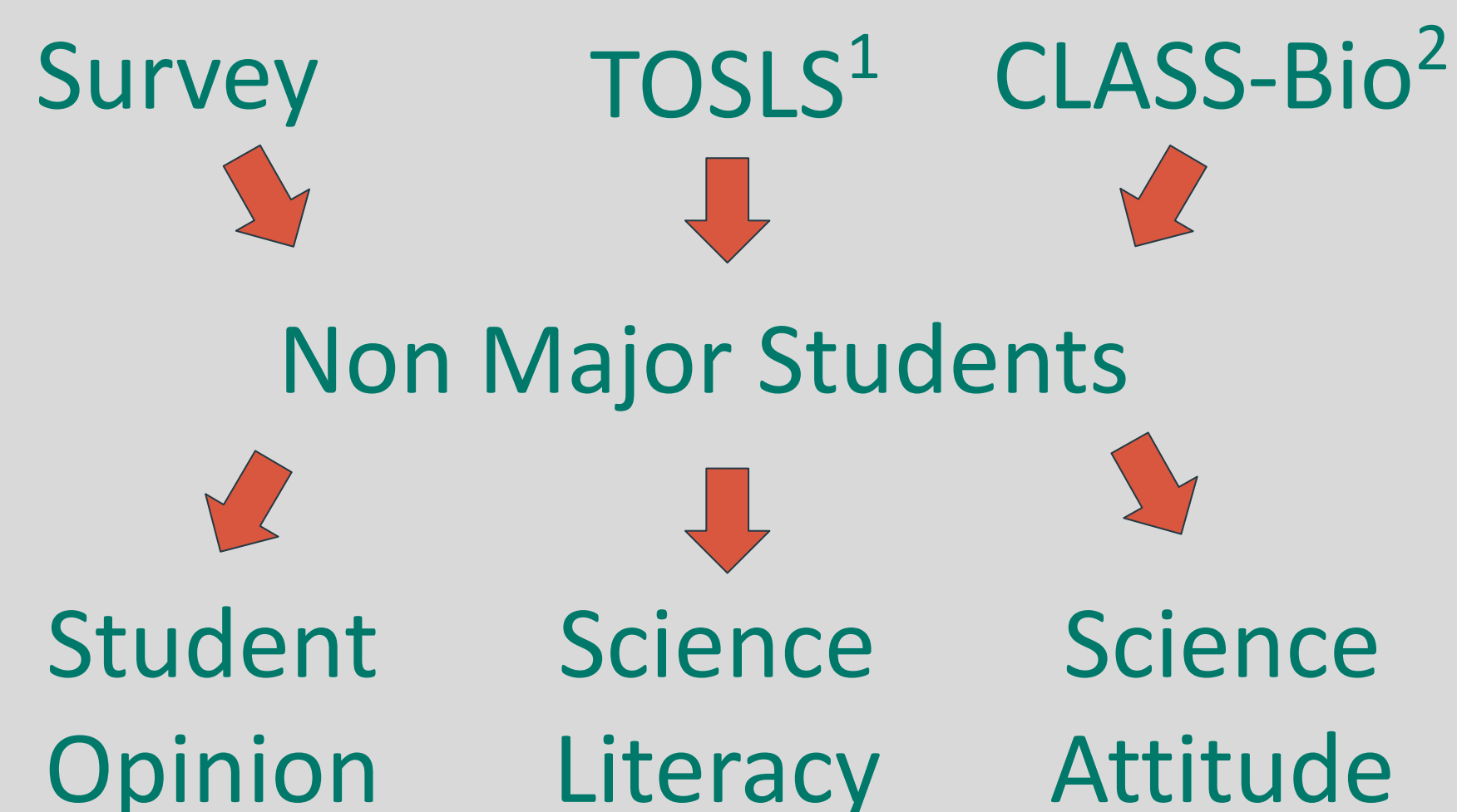
Introduction

Understanding student's attitudes and opinions towards science can help educators teach students more efficiently, understanding where students come from may help us guide them to where they want to go.

We looked at three different surveys/test taken by the non-major students of Human Biology Lab:

- H_{1A} - There is a difference in opinion between pre and post lab.
- H_{2A} - There is a difference in science literacy between pre and post lab.
- H_{3A} - There is a difference attitude between pre and post lab.

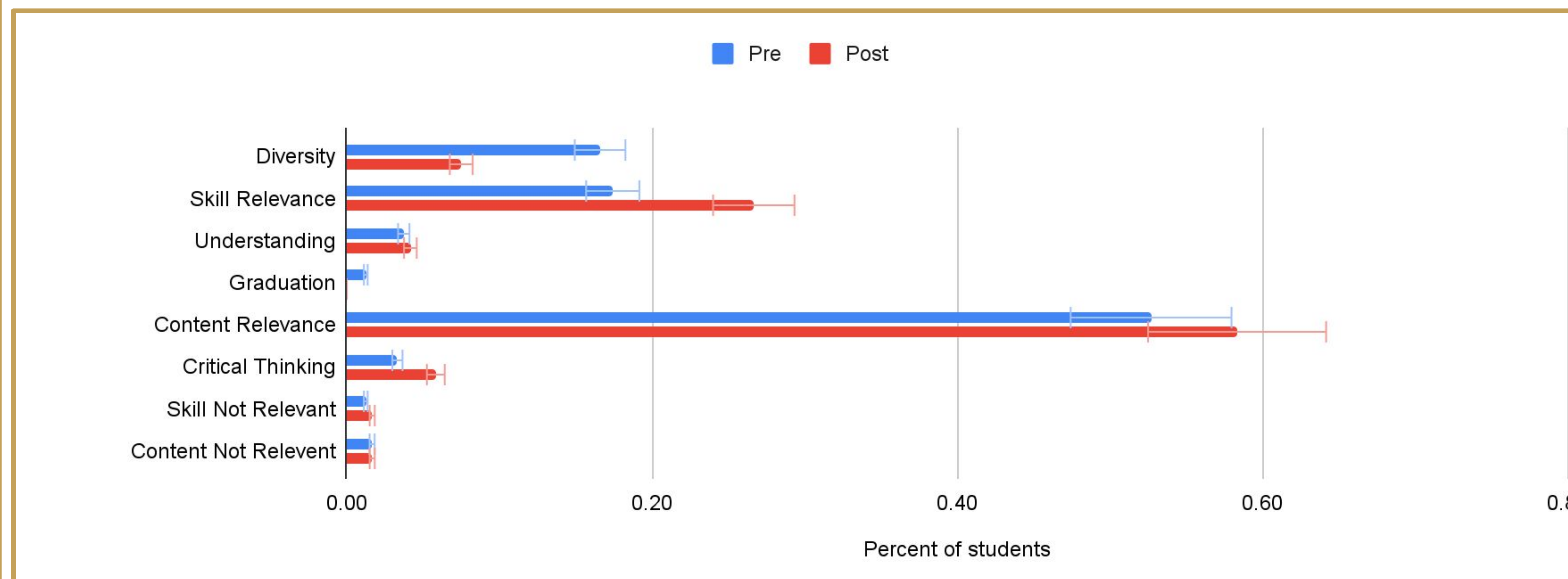
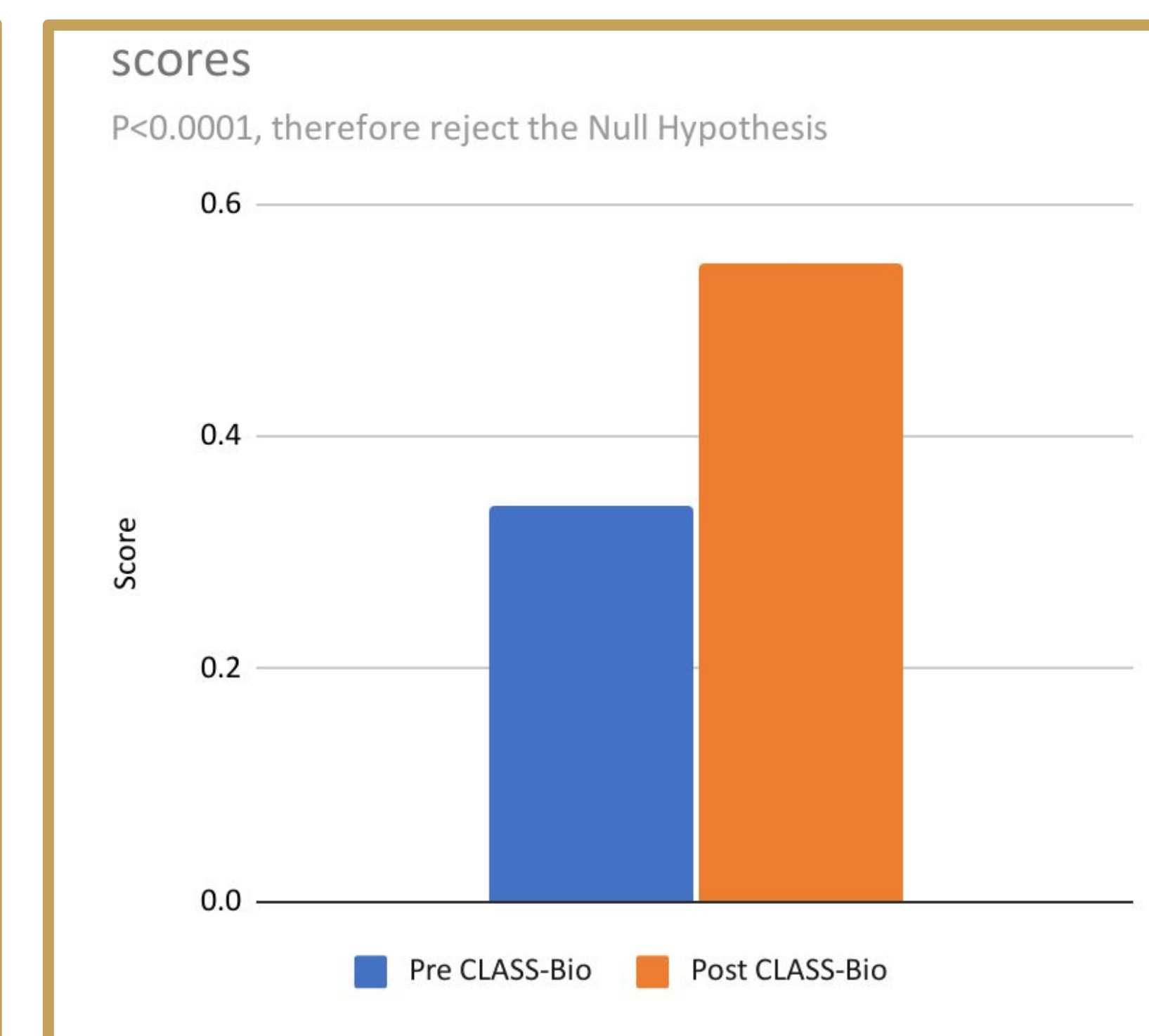
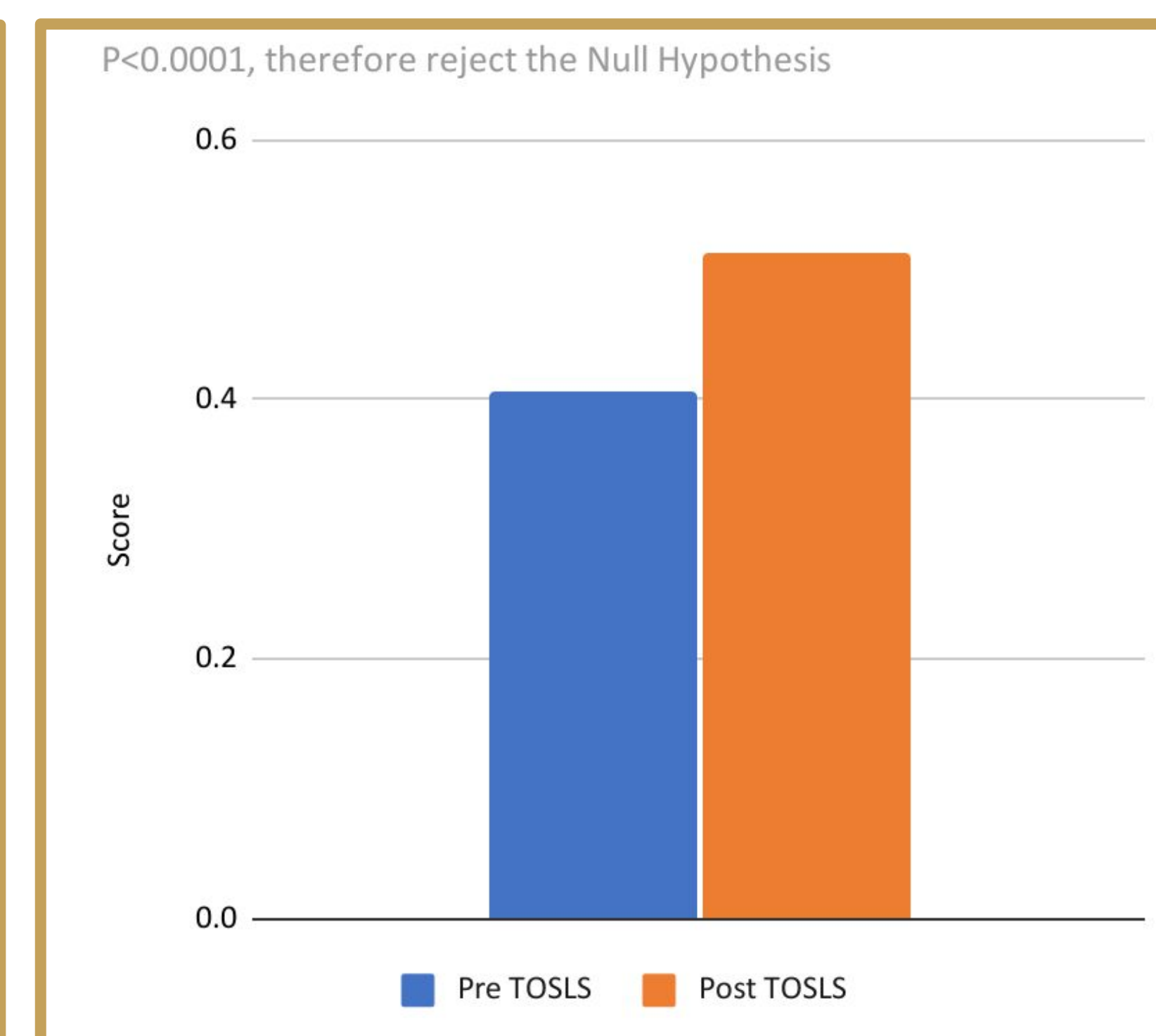
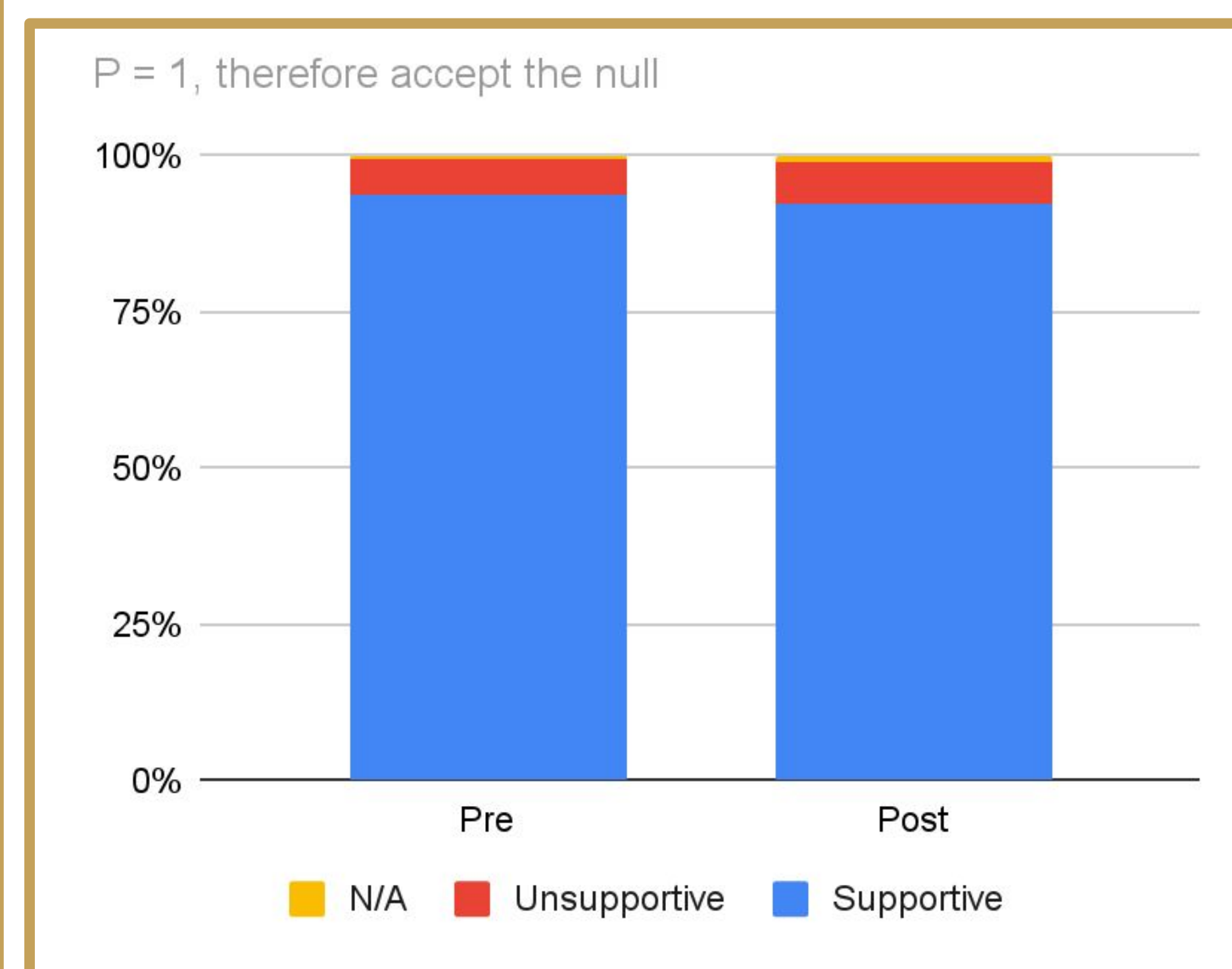
Methods



Conclusion

- There is no difference in student opinion before and after lab.
- There is a significant difference in science literacy and attitude.
- Students tend to maintain their overall opinion of the class.
- So, how can we help the students who still feel science is unimportant to their lives?
 - Relevance
 - Motivation

Results



A80	I believe a science lab can be considered general education because there are several topics that you learn that can be used in everyday life. I also believe it should be required for all students because it is general knowledge that people should know. For example, taking an ecology class can teach you how to make more environmentally sustainable choices.
A147	I would argue to the contrary. I highly doubt this is going to transform my skill sets and interests and result in a change of major. General education umbrella? Sure. But I still say some of the other things under that umbrella are required of all students.
B1	I think that it's beneficial for all students to take some sort of lab while in college. No matter how you view it, everyone can benefit from having a little bit of scientific knowledge.
B47	I don't believe a science lab should be required because if your interested in pursuing a degree that won't require you to do any science whatsoever, then why should students be required to take one.

References

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- ²Semsar, K., Knight, J. K., Birol, G., & Smith, M. K. (2011). The Colorado Learning Attitudes About Science Survey (class) for use in biology. *CBE—Life Sciences Education*, 10(3), 268–278. <https://doi.org/10.1187/cbe.10-10-0133>