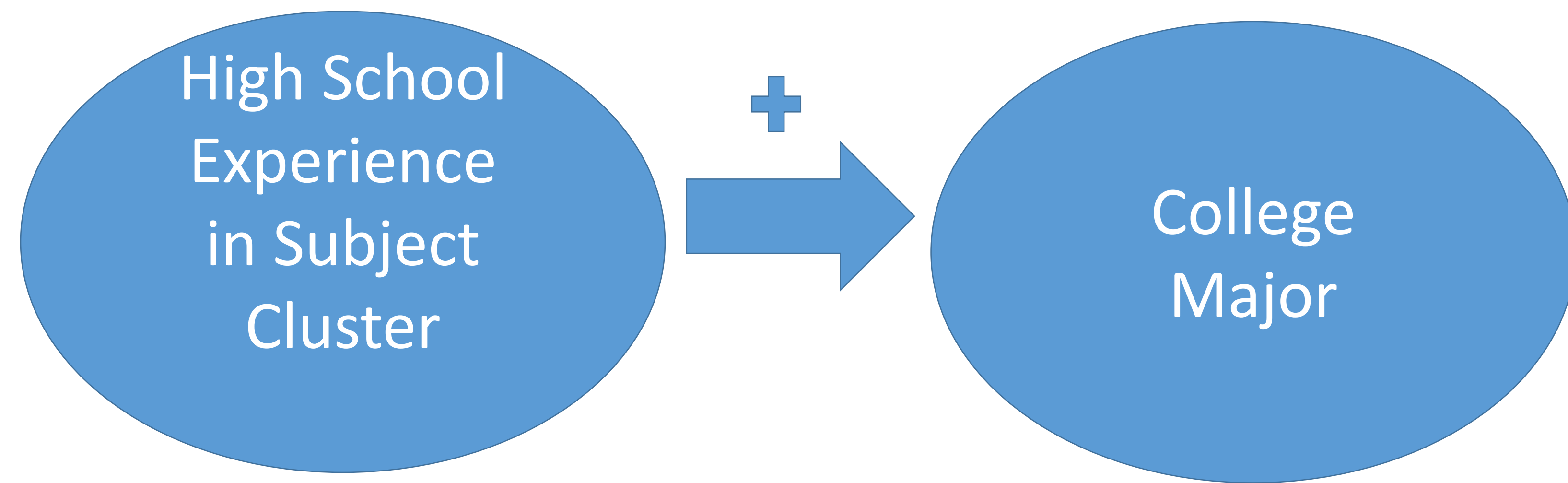


High School Experience & College Major Choice

By: Stefan Maletic

Conceptual Model



Hypothesis

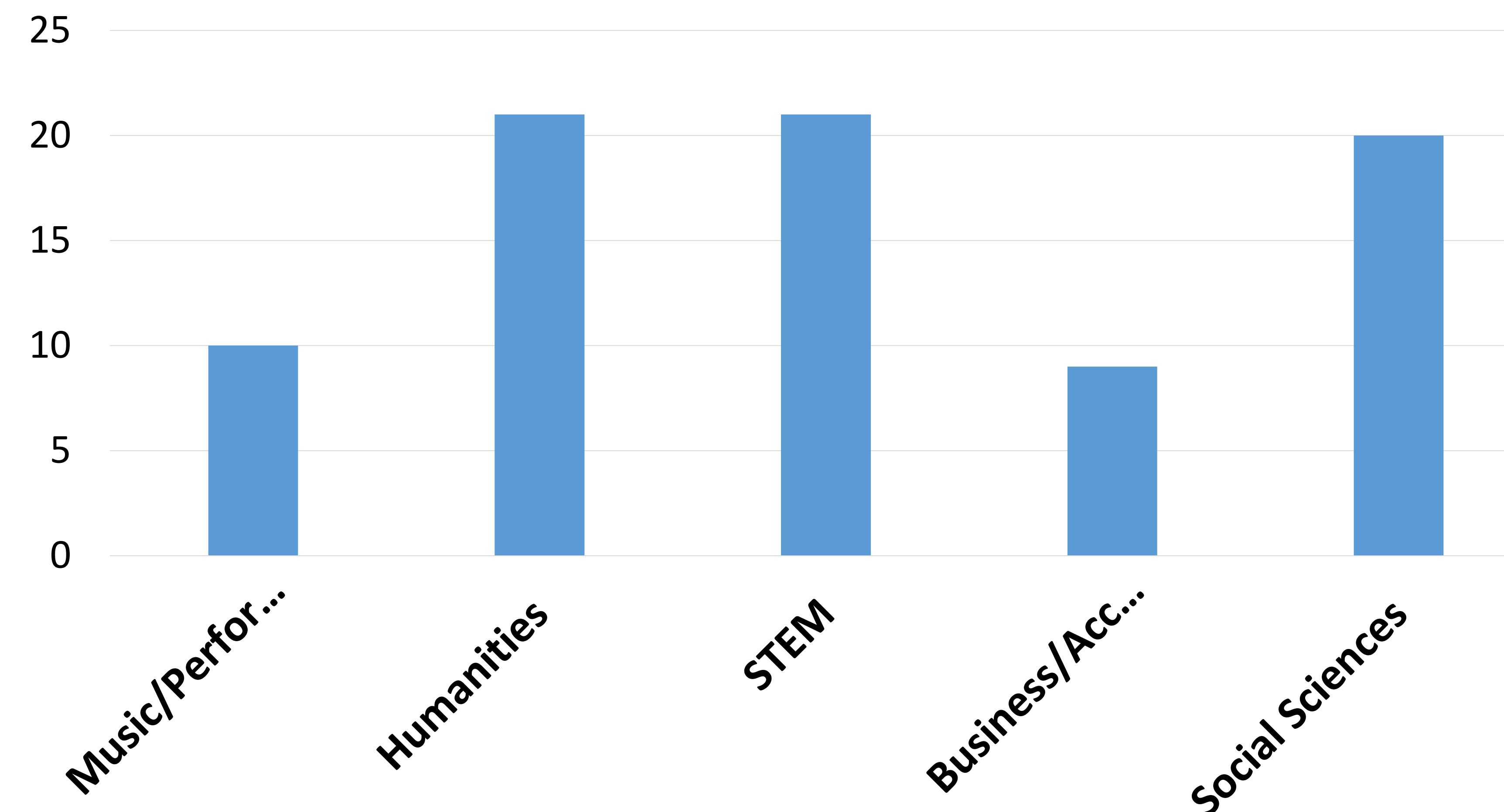
Positive experiences within high school subject clusters are associated with a greater likelihood of choosing a major within a similar subject cluster.

Collection Methods/Data

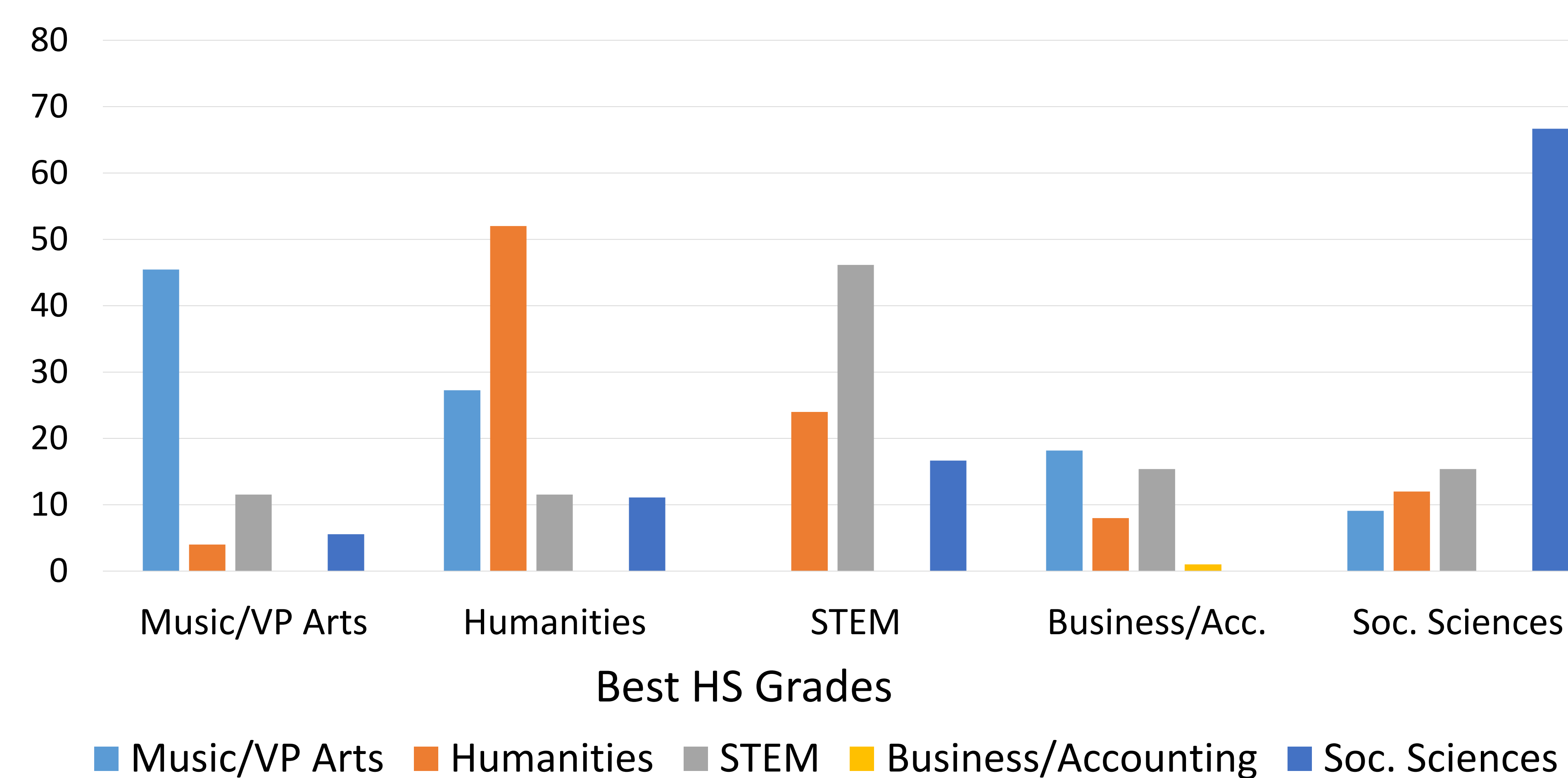
A 12 item survey administered to a random sample of Furman University students (N=95) via Qualtrics.

Results

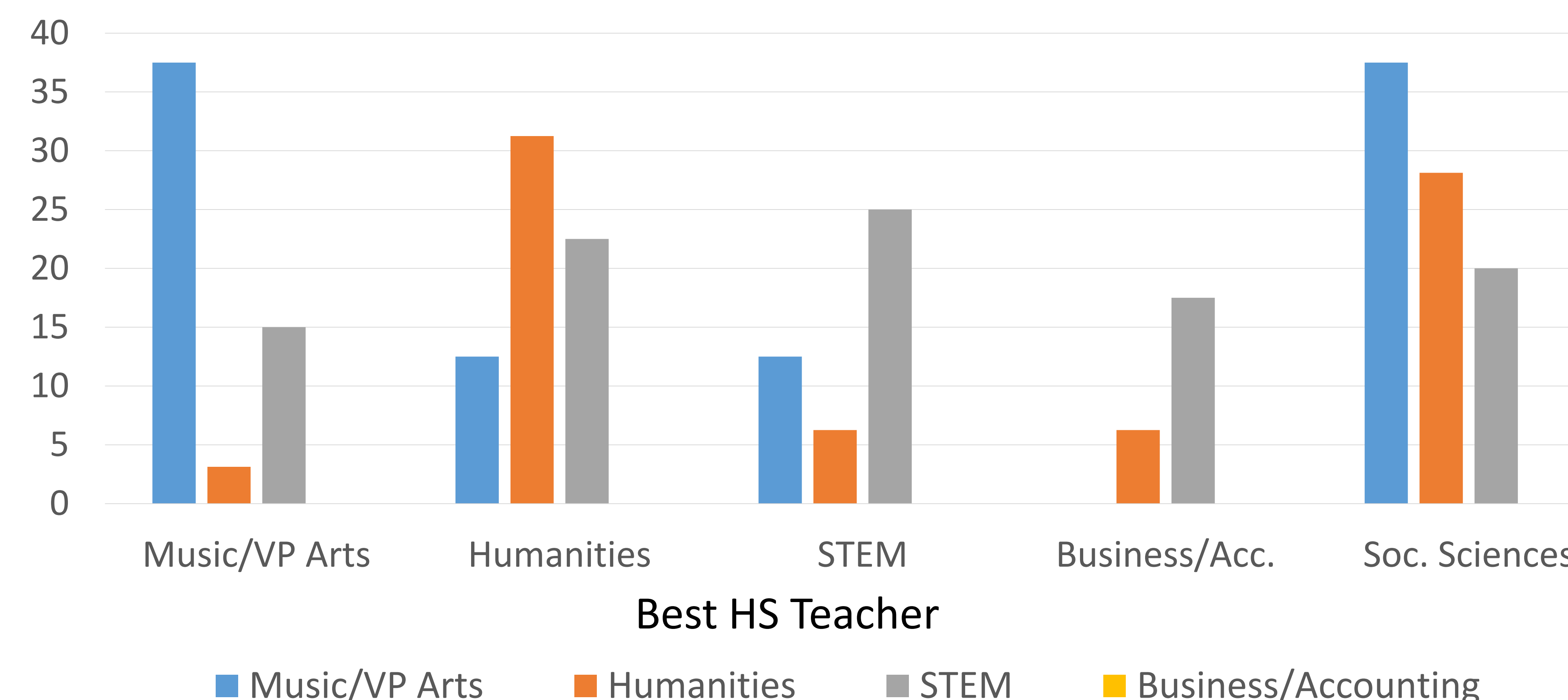
Distribution of Majors



College Major and Highest Grades in High School



College Major and Perceived Teacher Skill



Measures

Independent Variable: High school experience, measured by questions about teachers and grades in subject clusters

Dependent Variable: College major choice, measured by a question asking about subject clusters

Controls: Gender, household income, type of high school (public, magnet, charter, private)

Conclusions

- Those who reported having the best high school teachers in a given subject cluster predominantly majored in the same cluster, as compared to majors in other clusters
- Out of those surveyed, respondents with higher high school grades in a subject cluster chose a major in a similar subject cluster.
- In other words, in this sample, there is an observable, positive relationship between positive high school experiences in a subject cluster and choosing a major within the cluster.