## Reference Groups for Comparative Ratings

The system accumulates ratings from each class for each question appearing on a questionnaire, in order to provide comparative data on ensuing reports. By default, the comparative data are derived from the reference group consisting of all classes to which the particular question has been administered. Alternatively, you may request that the reference group be restricted to classes having sizes similar to yours. The system automatically groups classes according to size as follows:

- 1 15 students
- 16 35 students
- 36 100 students
- 100+ students.

Rating data are also grouped and accumulated according to values of three other variables: Faculty, Department, and Course Level. You may request any combination of these variables, including Class Size, to be used in defining the reference group for extraction of comparative ratings. Course Level has five (5) values:

100-level

200-level

300-level

400-level

Grad-level

Grad-level is assumed to be any course in the 500 or 600 series. The first five (5) of these levels can thus be determined by examining the course number when this is provided at the time the questionnaires are generated.

The reference data selection should be specified at the time that the questionnaires are generated. The system allows for up to three reports with different reference data sets. The IDQ systems will display the options as follow:

