

<b>In your opinion, which of the following factors provides the biggest challenge for first-year students when it comes to academics? (Please select all that apply)</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
College students have a heavier workload and more responsibilities, but also the freedom to decide for themselves when to get it done.	64.3%	196
College students are expected to do more writing.	36.1%	110
College students are expected to do more reading.	47.9%	146
College classes are larger in size, and it's more difficult for students to receive the individual attention from professors they often need.	23.9%	73
College classes are longer making it more difficult for students to stay focused in class.	7.5%	23
College tests are given less frequently and count for a larger percentage of one's grade.	32.8%	100
In college, professors have limited, specific office hours.	8.9%	27
College teaching and course culture is largely lecture-focused.	17.4%	53
During Freshman year, students have a limited choice of courses.	8.2%	25
College students have the option of whether or not to attend class.	41.3%	126
Lack of preparedness for college. (i.e. seeing college as the 13th grade)	77.4%	236
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>305</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

**When speaking with first-year students about how best to meet new friends and create a rich and successful social life, which of the following strategies do you recommend?**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Study with a group.	22.7%	68
Get involved in campus activities that interest you.	61.5%	184
Make an effort to get to know your roommate and the people in your dormitory .	7.4%	22
Join a sorority or fraternity.	1.3%	4
Become engaged in the community outside of your college campus.	5.7%	17
Utilize social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.	1.3%	4
<i>answered question</i>		<b>299</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>6</b>

In your experience, generally speaking, how do your first-year students balance social life and academics?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very well	9.1%	27
Okay but struggling	65.1%	194
Not well	25.8%	77
<i>answered question</i>		<b>298</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>7</b>

In your experience, what are the three greatest challenges facing first-year students?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Living on their own for the first time.	31.4%	92
Developing general life skills and facing new responsibilities.	38.9%	114
Developing time-management skills.	78.5%	230
Developing in-class skills, such as listening, note-taking, participating and working with other students.	48.5%	142
Taking courses with a difficulty level far above what they are used to.	29.7%	87
Preparing for and taking exams.	16.4%	48
Dealing with financial pressures, such as student loans or limited spending money.	12.6%	37
Honing social skills and developing relationships with new friends and classmates.	4.8%	14
Dealing with social pressures.	13.7%	40
Identifying and setting career goals.	8.9%	26
Maintaining health.	5.5%	16
Other (please specify)	4.4%	13
<i>answered question</i>		<b>293</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>12</b>

Other (please specify)	
1	Learning to be more self-sufficient in all sorts of ways
2	Learning to be responsible for their own learning and coursework.
3	Making decisions and taking responsibility for their actions without MOMMY!!!!!!
4	Learning to live with other people.
5	Being willing to seek help when they are not doing as well as they would like.
6	Having to balance work to pay tuition and study
7	Balancing the need to work to pay for college with going to class/studying
8	Actually all the above.
9	Understanding that if they do their work on time, being a turtle instead of a hare, will get them where they want to be.
10	It varies from class to class but first-year students are often overwhelmed. My class this year did everything right. They teamed up to study, they debated freely, they asked questions and for extra help. However, this class was unusual. They do need extra time and help with strategies to succeed. If they are away from their family, sometimes family problems follow them and make it difficult for them to concentrate.
11	developing reading skills and critical thinking skills.
12	Working too many hours along with taking too many courses.
13	Discipline and focus

<b>What strategies and skills do you feel are most needed for success in college and life?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Study and socialize with classmates.	37.4%	108
Limit yourself to socializing only on the weekends.	12.5%	36
Designate weekends for studying.	4.8%	14
Use a daily planner or calendar to prioritize and plan your day/week and carry out.	73.7%	213
Utilize alternate options that fit your schedule like taking online courses or weekend classes.	6.9%	20
Utilize instructors' office hours and review sessions.	58.5%	169
Utilize resources available on campus such as libraries, computer rooms, tutorial service, etc.	81.0%	234
Other (please specify)	9.7%	28
<i>answered question</i>		<b>289</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>16</b>

<b>Other (please specify)</b>	
<b>1</b>	Getting and staying engaged in class (and life).
<b>2</b>	Students need to consider higher education as a job. Many students think college is similar to high school and fail to prepare themselves for the job market.
<b>3</b>	Learning self-discipline and how to prioritize when facing multiple tasks / responsibilities
<b>4</b>	find subjects you love and pour yourself into them.
<b>5</b>	Ask questions of instructors, students, friends
<b>6</b>	Concentrate on class requirements and not become overly involved in campus life. (choose a few important outside activities and be consistent in your daily activities).
<b>7</b>	Take responsibility for the outcomes of your actions.
<b>8</b>	Be responsible for your assignments (meeting deadlines, reading and following directions, etc.).
<b>9</b>	Treat college like a 9 to 5 job if you are taking a full schedule. Arrive early and use the campus facilities to study and get your academic work done. Freshman are always confused by the fact that they don't spend so much time in the classroom and mistakenly believe that they have a lot of free time for socialization when, in fact, they are expected to do a lot of learning outside the classroom.
<b>10</b>	When high school study skill do not get you the results you want, recognize that you need to change your study skills and do something about it.
<b>11</b>	DO YOUR HOMEWORK.
<b>12</b>	Devoting sufficient time to homework by limiting time devoted to social/electronic activities.
<b>13</b>	Discernment in social situations / relationships. Give value to your learning--learn how to study and do so.
<b>14</b>	Eat and sleep on a fairly regular schedule in order to promote health and well-being.
<b>15</b>	Take advantage of opportunities that arise, such as guest speakers,
<b>16</b>	Put God first and he will help you do the rest
<b>17</b>	newspapers, refereed journals, texts beyond class assigned books
<b>18</b>	Commit to the responsibility of an academic enterprise and make studies the priority

19	Getting organized in general. Students need to have a balanced schedule that includes time for studying, for curiosity and for amusement.
20	Take excellent class notes and organize materials associated with courses; develop a financial budget; establish priorities -- consider what your goals are month by month
21	balancing work study, classes, and social life
22	Take the classes seriously -- buy your books right away and do your homework on time. Pay attention in class -- this is not a competition between you and the Prof to see how much you can get away with.
23	Challenge yourself. Ask questions. Seek answers.
24	When students study together for tests or discuss strategies for papers, that helps a good deal. What I find most difficult at first is getting students to voice their opinion in class. I do not lecture. I want to know what they think and I encourage debate so when they feel at ease with classmates, they participate more freely. A good class is a delicate balance of discussion, of helpful information from the instructor, of gaining confidence in expressing a point of view. I know a class is at ease when they openly but politely disagree with each other and throw out questions. It makes class interesting and lively so I do encourage students getting to know each other and interested in each other so that the learning extends beyond the classroom. This semester students asked to take quizzes in teams of two. The request surprised me but I thought it was a good idea and, interestingly, quiz scores went up during the semester and they were more prepared for the final, for writing better essays. But this happened spontaneously because students trusted that they would do better with a partner. I plan to continue it the second semester of the class.
25	reading and critical thinking skills
26	Learn to set reasonable and attainable goals, such as fewer work hours and courses.
27	Mastery of Basic math skills for college level courses
28	Learn how to form peer study groups with classmates and others in a course.

**In your opinion, how has the preparedness of your first-year students changed over the last 10 years?**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Increased significantly	4.5%	13
Declined	63.9%	184
Not Sure	31.6%	91
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>288</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>17</b>

<b>What contributes most to the increased success of college students?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
More interactive tools available to students	8.3%	1
Improved educational development of educators	16.7%	2
Improved curriculum	16.7%	2
More alternative courses available to students	8.3%	1
Increased course schedule flexibility for students	8.3%	1
Other (please specify)	41.7%	5
<i>answered question</i>		<b>12</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>293</b>

<b>Other (please specify)</b>	
<b>1</b>	Excellent writing and communication skills.
<b>2</b>	Better high school preparation.
<b>3</b>	The population of our students has changed, ie. their backgrounds
<b>4</b>	greater maturity
<b>5</b>	higher standards for admission

What most impedes the success of college students?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Social influences (i.e. alcohol, drugs, etc)	10.9%	20
More difficult course loads	3.8%	7
Inability to balance social and academic pressures	58.2%	107
Financial Pressures	7.6%	14
Other (please specify)	19.6%	36
<i>answered question</i>		184
<i>skipped question</i>		121

Other (please specify)	
1	lack of preparedness
2	All of the above have importance now a days with all students.
3	Lacking in preparation in high school, especially knowing how to read a text and study.
4	Lack of preparedness
5	Not prepared academically for college
6	Immaturity.
7	Poor preparation and distorted expectations (professors available 24/7, deadlines don't matter, copying and pasting is OK, etc.)
8	Not prepared.
9	Poor study habits in HS where classes are too easy. This is especially true in writing and math.
10	lack of preparedness
11	Not prepared academically nor able to respond to need to be self directed.
12	lack of preparation from high school academics; poor study skills; financial pressures (many students have to work while taking a full load of classes)
13	Lack of preparation and study skills/dedication
14	In their first year, not having the study skills and willingness to ask for help that is needed to succeed in college environment.
15	lack of motivation
16	Inability to balance work and school
17	Time spent on internet and video games; poor management of time and effort to achieve academic goals
18	Family and social supports
19	The inability to put education as the top priority in one's life is the issue that impedes the success of most college students.
20	balancing home, work, children
21	mom and dad hovering
22	Lack of preparedness for college level work and poor math skills (no functional knowledge of algebra)
23	The lack of preparedness for college--learning skills and mind set.
24	Too little creativity and responsibility in secondary school curriculum
25	Underpreparedness and lack of responsibility

26	They think college should be easier than it is.
27	not prepared for college level work
28	Many students have are unclear about how much responsibility they have for their own success or failure. They tend to be unrealistic as to how much the institution is able to adapt to their particular circumstances.
29	Inadequate preparation in the public schools
30	Low expectations in high school
31	Poor preparation of basic writing and critical reading skills in high school and grade school.
32	Inflated expectations about their abilities and likely performance
33	#1 is unpreparedness for college because students can not read or done math at level and unable to focus for more than 10 minutes. Although many do have social influences.
34	Attitudes towards required course. For example I am force to take such and such course. Failure to see the long term significance of the course to their career goals
35	They have been taught by "no child left behind" that: if it isn't on the test- I don'y need to pay attention to it.
36	Difficulty learning and accepting college culture.

Do you think first-year students feel pressure from on-campus peers to socialize?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	65.0%	186
No	9.8%	28
Uncertain	25.2%	72
<i>answered question</i>		286
<i>skipped question</i>		19

Do you think first-year students feel pressure from on-campus peers to drink alcoholic beverages?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	62.2%	178
No	9.1%	26
Uncertain	28.7%	82
<i>answered question</i>		286
<i>skipped question</i>		19

What is your gender?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Female	54.9%	156
Male	45.1%	128
<i>answered question</i>		<b>284</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>21</b>

<b>Are you a college instructor?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Yes, full professor.	25.9%	74
Yes, associate professor.	23.1%	66
Yes, assistant professor.	24.5%	70
Yes, adjunct/part-time instructor.	17.1%	49
Yes, chairperson of my department.	4.9%	14
No, but spent many years as a college instructor before moving into an administrative capacity.	2.1%	6
No.	2.4%	7
<i>answered question</i>		<b>286</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>19</b>

<b>What is your area of expertise?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
English/Literature	8.8%	24
Foreign Language	7.7%	21
Economics/Business	14.7%	40
Sociology/Psychology/Anthropology	9.2%	25
Mathematics/Statistics	2.6%	7
History/Political Science	7.7%	21
Engineering (Computer, Electrical, Mechanical, etc.)	1.8%	5
Education	2.9%	8
Life Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, etc.)	16.9%	46
Other Sciences (Physics, Astronomy, etc)	5.5%	15
Architecture/Design	0.0%	0
Medical	3.7%	10
Liberal Arts	6.6%	18
Other	11.8%	32
<i>answered question</i>		<b>272</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>33</b>

For how many years have you been a college instructor in this area or subject?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than a year	1.1%	3
1 - 5 years	9.5%	26
6-10 years	24.5%	67
11 - 15 years	16.8%	46
16 - 20 years	15.4%	42
21+ years	32.6%	89
<i>answered question</i>		<b>273</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>32</b>

**At what sort of institution do you teach?**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Private college or university	29.4%	84
Public/state college or university	56.6%	162
Part-time or professional/continuing education college	0.0%	0
Religiously affiliated private college or university	13.6%	39
Business college	0.0%	0
Other	0.3%	1
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>286</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>19</b>