

In your experience, what are the most difficult challenges facing first-year students? (Please select all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Developing time-management skills to balance academic and social life.	65.9%	164
Developing time-management skills to balance work and study.	81.9%	204
Developing time-management skills to balance study and family responsibilities.	59.4%	148
Developing in-class skills, such as listening, note-taking, participating and working with other students.	72.7%	181
Taking courses with a difficulty level far above what they are used to.	47.8%	119
Preparing for and taking exams.	61.0%	152
Dealing with financial pressures, such as financial aid, student loans or limited spending money.	41.4%	103
Honing social skills and developing relationships with new friends and classmates.	12.9%	32
Dealing with social pressures.	11.2%	28
Identifying and setting career goals.	41.4%	103
Maintaining health.	15.3%	38
Other (please specify)	12.4%	31
<i>answered question</i>		249
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Other (please specify)	
1	Understanding the importance of Professionalization.
2	Dealing with stress
3	Motivation; having enough motivation to succeed, Managing stress
4	Paying attention and turning off the damned cell phones, ipods, CD players, and other electronic incivilities.
5	To understand critical thinking, developing skills and knowledge relating to CT and the application of CT to academic and life issues
6	Coming in with reading, writing, and mathematical skills far below college level.
7	Developing study skills specifically for mathematics.
8	Child care issues
9	learning to read and write
10	being prepared to (or be interested in) succeeding at college
11	Developing the motivation to actually be a college student and not just pretend to be one.
12	Developing self-discipline when it comes to assignments and class attendance
13	Understanding their academic responsibilities as a student
14	Acting in a responsible manner and being accountable for their actions.
15	Planning ahead to have enough money to attend school without a job or having time to study and work to maintain a frugal living style.
16	Inadequate academic background

17	Developing sense of ownership for life and future
18	Identifying the processes necessary to be successful during registration for classes.
19	Accessing resources ... knowing when they are in academic difficulty and finding on campus assistance.
20	Students need to take responsibility for their academic/career success: buy the book, come to class, study, take advantage of tutoring resources, and assume responsibility for their actions.
21	Taking responsibility for their education
22	Willingness to work outside of class.
23	Often, their K-12 preparation has left them wholly unprepared for the rigors of college life -- this is not true of all; but it is true of many.
24	all of the above are issues that face community college students
25	self-esteem issues
26	Having the self discipline to keep up with homework on a regular basis.
27	Developing a sense of responsibility toward education, and a sense of ownership
28	ESL students are challenged not just to read and write English, but in the Health Sciences they must be able to communicate to consumers...eg. a student need to give a patient being discharged from the hospital discharge teaching. If the patient cannot understand the student there are many many consequences, the least of which may be student success!
29	Becoming independent learners, particularly as regards outside work like regular review, reworking notes, making study cards, and other study skills other than doing graded homework.
30	Treating College like high school
31	maintaining good physical and mental health becomes more difficult when students have difficulty with time management. Because of employment responsibilities and school pressure they are not getting enough sleep. Some students who are working many hours per week are taking too many classes.

When speaking with first-year students about key factors for developing successful study habits, which of the following strategies do you recommend most?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Attend class regularly.	43.8%	105
Discover how you learn and retain information best.	8.3%	20
Hone note-taking skills to get the most out of every class and lecture.	3.3%	8
Study with a group.	4.6%	11
Find a place where you can concentrate and study without distraction.	2.5%	6
Learn how to use the campus library to supplement your courses' required texts and readings.	0.0%	0
Learn how to use technology tools to supplement your courses' required texts and readings.	0.8%	2
Create a workable schedule for studying on a daily and/or weekly basis to keep up with the coursework.	15.4%	37
Combat procrastination and avoid cramming and pulling 'all-nighters' the night before an exam or final.	6.3%	15
Work with a teaching assistant or instructor during review sessions or office hours.	1.7%	4
Seek alternate options that fit your schedule like taking online courses or weekend courses.	1.3%	3
Go to instructors' office hours	5.0%	12
Other (please specify)	7.1%	17
<i>answered question</i>		240
<i>skipped question</i>		9

Other (please specify)	
1	Do the homework all of it ALL the time take good notes Care about your courses
2	Spend more time studying out of class
3	Do your assigned homework on time
4	This item only allows one answer - more than one applies
5	review class notes on a regular schedule beginning within 24 hours of taking them
6	Learning what they need to do in their particular situation to do well at college work.
7	ALL OF THE ABOVE!!!
8	Doing homework
9	Stay connected with your counselor and/or advisor to answer any questions or concerns you may have.
10	A good number of the above are things and suggestions I discuss with first-year students.
11	I urge them to make a connection between what they are doing now (in college) and how that WILL influence them in the coming years.
12	I think this survey should have allowed for several answers to this question! I stress, every semester, at least five of the above, esp #1,3,4,7,9,10 and 12!!
13	all of the above
14	Be an active learner

15	Begin each study period with 5 minutes of review, reviewing your study cards or problem log. End each homework session by adding two questions to your problem log (cards). Review your log or
16	most of the above, and making sure they do spend the time on studying
17	Create a workable schedule for studying; Hone note-taking skills.

When speaking with first-year students about how best to meet new people and network, which of the following strategies do you recommend most?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Study with a group.	28.8%	69
Get involved in campus activities that interest you.	37.9%	91
Utilize social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.	0.0%	0
Not much discussion on this kind of topic.	31.7%	76
Other (please specify)	1.7%	4
<i>answered question</i>		240
<i>skipped question</i>		9

Other (please specify)	
1	This depends on the student. There is no one formula that fits everyone.
2	Doing homework regularly. Evaluate their own lab report
3	Take an interpersonal communication course and/or a PR course! (preferably AND a PR course!)
4	students seem to have more difficulty with time management.

In your experience, generally speaking, how do your first-year students balance social life and academics?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very well	4.6%	11
Okay, but they still struggle	64.7%	154
Not well at all	30.7%	73
<i>answered question</i>		238
<i>skipped question</i>		11

In your opinion, which of following would you recommend in order to have a balanced academic and social life?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Study and socialize with classmates	10.2%	24
Limit yourself to socializing only on the weekends	7.2%	17
Designate weekends for studying	0.4%	1
Use a daily planner or calendar to prioritize and plan your day/week and carry out	62.3%	147
Develop an agreement with your family about study hours	4.2%	10
Develop an agreement with your boss or employer about study schedule, and gain support at work	8.1%	19
Other (please specify)	7.6%	18
<i>answered question</i>		236
<i>skipped question</i>		13

Other (please specify)	
1	All of the above
2	After the first exam, see if enough time is devoted to studying, and adjust accordingly.
3	All of the above, except "limit socializing in general!"
4	I find that students don't understand how to put academic interest ahead of social issues. For example, do you really need to be home because your wife is pregnant and having morning sickness? I believe that identifying priorities is the main issue.
5	Associate with friends who can enhance your economic well-being and discard the others
6	Decide what is most important to you and then follow it.
7	use the daily planner and develop an agreement with your family and boss about study time, schedule for work and family time.
8	have no opinion
9	commit to succeeding in almost all of the above
10	prioritize responsibilities
11	First determine how much time and effort they are going to have to spend at college work and then establish priorities in other areas.
12	Study a small amount each day, no matter what
13	Do all what fits best for the student, but most importantly: follow through.
14	Using a daily planner and developing agreements with family, friends and work are both critical
15	There are many different preferences for organizing one's balance of study and socializing.
16	Prioritize: school comes before socializing.
17	Choose activities carefully
18	Because this screen is not allowing me to select more than one option, I would say the agreements with family and employers are critical.

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

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Increased significantly	3.4%	8
Declined	71.6%	169
Not Sure	25.0%	59
<i>answered question</i>		236
<i>skipped question</i>		13

What contributes most to the increased success of college students?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
More interactive tools available to students	12.5%	1
Improved educational development of educators	0.0%	0
Improved curriculum	12.5%	1
More alternative courses available to students	12.5%	1
Increased course schedule flexibility for students	50.0%	4
Other (please specify)	12.5%	1
<i>answered question</i>		8
<i>skipped question</i>		241

Other (please specify)	
1	College LAL and faculty investment in assisting students with getting over fundamental weaknesses in preparation for College level instiction.

What most impedes the success of college students?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Financial influences (i.e. financial aid, grant, student loan, etc)	5.3%	9
More difficult course loads	5.3%	9
Inability to balance work and academic pressures	49.7%	84
Inability to balance family and academic pressures	12.4%	21
Other (please specify)	27.2%	46
<i>answered question</i>		169
<i>skipped question</i>		80

Other (please specify)	
1	A combination of all four of these items.
2	Poor preparation - basic literacy seems much lower than 20 years ago. There is less shared knowledge on which to base instruction, as people come from many different linguistic groups and cultures.
3	All
4	Utterly ineffectual high schools and our socialist society's institutionalized irresponsibility.
5	Don't have study skills needed for college level work
6	Inadequate preparation at the high school level
7	Many students want to succeed in the classroom without any effort. They want something for nothing- this just doesn't work!
8	Poor preparation in high school to read and write.
9	A sense of entitlement which leads to an unwillingness to work
10	Near complete lack of college level readiness.
11	They do not realize that they must work to get a college education. They expect the work to be done for them.
12	Self-discipline and time management in general.
13	unprepared for college level courses due to social promotion
14	Higher expectation with less support
15	Too many non-academic distractions and a lack of commitment to their studies.
16	not ready for college
17	Lack Basic Skills
18	very weak basic skills
19	Inability to balance academic pressures and social life
20	Not having a substantial, realistic understanding of the motivation it is going to take to do well in college.
21	They were babied all through HS
22	Attending class
23	inability to understand the demands of a college course. (They think it is a continuation of high school)
24	self-discipline
25	Lack of understanding about what needs to be done to pass college level classes (attendance, behavior, study skills, commitment, etc.)

26	combination of the last two listed above
27	Distractions that can include work, social choices, family, or finances.
28	Students are used to with spoon fed, and like to blame on others for their failure. They don't know how to take responsibility for their own actions.
29	Lack of commitment
30	All of the above.
31	Not having the total commitment to succeed
32	Students just do not study. They do not buy a book. They do not attend class. They do not accept responsibility.
33	An unwillingness to put the time into the homework and study that is necessary. Also, lack of preparedness in basic skills coming into the course.
34	poor preparation and planning plus insufficient study skills
35	motivation and goal setting
36	lack of preparedness at the high school level for a college level science course
37	Spend too much time working to earn money.
38	underprepared for college level work
39	They are not prepared in high school
40	Inadequate high school preparation.
41	Inability to persist at difficult assignments. They give up fast.
42	Inadequate knowledge base, study skills, motivation, sense of purpose and direction
43	Less motivation to excel in studies caused by grade erosion in high school & college.
44	Unprepared for college level courses. They have an overall attitude of "hurry-up, give me what I need to know and let me go"!
45	The erosion of their literacy and critical thinking skills, together with very demanding family and work responsibilities. I am deeply frustrated by the obstacles which prevent my students from succeeding.
46	Lack of overall preparedness for college courses

In your opinion, what contributes most to students' decision to attend a 2-year college?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Flexible course schedule	8.1%	19
Availability of financial support	17.4%	41
Location	36.9%	87
Availability of special programs	5.1%	12
Availability of remedial courses	6.8%	16
Other (please specify)	25.8%	61
<i>answered question</i>		236
<i>skipped question</i>		13

Other (please specify)	
1	Costs
2	cost
3	Smaller, more personal atmosphere of the institutional classroom environment.
4	low cost
5	Low tuition, near home, special programs, quality instruction
6	The 2-yr school is a place for those who have "messed up" in high school and didn't take the right courses or didn't do well enough for the state schools. Additionally, many immigrant parents
7	Low cost
8	Need an education to get a good paying job, Location and availability of Pell grants
9	One, two, and three
10	lower tuition, which does not necessarily include financial support availability.
11	cheaper than a 4-year school
12	cost
13	Low cost and small classes
14	It's cost is cheaper than 4-year institutions.
15	indecision about their future career goals
16	faster track for getting a degree and entering the work force
17	cost to attend, it is more economical to attend the 2 year college and transfer than attend for 4 years at a major university.
18	To stay on their parents' insurance policy or a promise of a car, vacation or something similar
19	difficulty of getting into four-year colleges (either academically or financially)
20	I believe a bit of all of the above. Location, cost and all to often remedial courses. In addition this school is an open admission school.
21	lower costs / shorter time to obtain degree
22	relatively low costs and accessiblity of colleges and classes
23	All of the above can apply. One not mentioned is to try the experience in order to determine if going to college is right for them.
24	Lower cost.

25	Tuition costs are much lower than most 4-year schools
26	ALL OF THE ABOVE!!!
27	open enrollment
28	combination of location and costs less than universities
29	COST AND THE FACT THAT THEY ATTENDED A 4 YEAR UNIVERSITY AND FOUND OUT THAT THERE ARE NOT MANY "TEACHERS" AT 4 YEAR INSTITUTIONS
30	Parental pressures
31	inability to get into a 4 year college
32	Lower cost, smaller classes, open-door policy
33	affordable tuition
34	When they have success in first semester.
35	affordability and flexibility to work and family schedules
36	Financial considerations
37	The length of time it takes to get the degree.
38	They have not met the requirements to succeed in a 4-year setting.
39	tuition cost /per credit
40	Cost and location
41	One on one interaction with their professors and teaching done by instructors with master's degrees at a minimum in their fields instead of Teaching Assistants teaching courses
42	Low cost compared to four year colleges and universities.
43	location and cost
44	Cost
45	Ease of admissions and price.
46	Overall cost AND availability of specialized programs.
47	low cost of cc education compared with first two years of university and 4-yr colleges.
48	all of the above
49	It much more economical to take courses at a 2-year college than at a university.
50	I believe that all of these perhaps have equal impact on students' decisions to attend two-year schools.
51	All of the above contribute to a significant degree.
52	cost of college
53	Finances and getting ready for a 4 yr school
54	Lower cost.
55	Accessibility both by affordable tuition and by open enrollment.
56	Lower cost when compared to four-year schools
57	I really think that all of the above reasons are why many students decide to attend a two year college.
58	The overall cost is less by being near home. Many can continue to work part-time and come to school full-time.
59	Availability of financial support, more personal attention and small classes, availability of remedial courses
60	it is relatively inexpensive as compared to a 4-year college. Why pay high cost f a four-year when you can get basics for \$15 per credit at a Junior College?

In your experience, approximately what percentage of your students transfer to a 4-year college after they complete their program?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 25%	23.4%	55
25 – 49%	44.3%	104
50 – 74%	21.7%	51
75 – 99%	10.6%	25
100%	0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>		235
<i>skipped question</i>		14

What is your gender?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Male	42.2%	97
Female	57.8%	133
<i>answered question</i>		230
<i>skipped question</i>		19

Are you a college instructor?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, full professor.	43.4%	102
Yes, associate professor.	14.9%	35
Yes, assistant professor.	14.5%	34
Yes, adjunct/part-time instructor.	14.0%	33
Yes, chairperson of my department.	9.4%	22
No, but spent many years as a college instructor before moving into an administrative capacity.	1.7%	4
No.	2.1%	5
<i>answered question</i>		235
<i>skipped question</i>		14

What is your area of expertise?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
English/Literature	7.1%	16
Foreign Language	4.0%	9
Economics/Business	11.5%	26
Sociology/Psychology/Anthropology	10.2%	23
Mathematics/Statistics	9.3%	21
History/Political Science	3.1%	7
Engineering (Computer, Electrical, Mechanical, etc.)	2.7%	6
Education	1.3%	3
Life Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, etc.)	14.2%	32
Other Sciences (Physics, Astronomy, etc)	1.8%	4
Architecture/Design	0.4%	1
Medical	9.3%	21
Liberal Arts	4.0%	9
Other	21.2%	48
<i>answered question</i>		226
<i>skipped question</i>		23

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	0.0%	0
1 - 5 years	11.9%	27
6 - 10 years	22.1%	50
11 - 15 years	19.5%	44
16 - 20 years	16.8%	38
21+ years	29.6%	67
<i>answered question</i>		226
<i>skipped question</i>		23