

2008 Fall Check-In Survey Report

All surveys

All surveys:

Number of surveys = 500

Number of completed surveys = 218

Percent of surveys completed = 43.60 %

Number of people who have asked to be removed from survey pool = 0

Number of bad email addresses = 0

Number of inactive UofM email addresses = 0

Number of inactive UofM email addresses where survey was completed = 0

Full Report:

17. What words of advice can you give to incoming first-year students?

Have fun. Study hard.

Just be yourself.

Complaining isn't cool. Be a leader by being positive, respecting your Welcome Week leaders and the activities even if they seem stupid or ineffective. That way, you can be part of the real cool Welcome Week group and establish a good reputation and friendships.

Just get involved. Meet new people, since it's the easiest way to feel part of the community. Although the campus seems huge, you'll find that it isn't difficult to get involved, and the diverse student body practically ensures that you'll be able to meet people like you, but as well as meeting people from all around the world. Don't be shy- say hello to someone, get to know them.

Go to study groups and advisors as often as needed.

Keep up with your studying and reading. Make friends. Leave your door open in the dorms; that's how you meet people.

Start to develop good study habits as soon as possible

Research your classes before you take them.

Know what types of things you might want to get into before you arrive because its a little hectic to do it when you are here and everything is coming at you from every organization.

Open your door when you are inside and go to events in the halls to meet people, especially at the start of the year. Join groups or a sport, even if it's just a club sport. Something where you can meet others.

Be yourself! Get involved! Be active! Minnesota is an awesome school with amazing people. You wont ever have to worry about not finding where you fit in. There is something for everybody.

It's all very intimidating at first, but you get the hang of everything eventually. Don't be afraid to ask questions whenever you have them... Ask advisors, ask CAs, ask Welcome Week leaders.

Get enough sleep do you don't fall asleep in class. Get to know the people in your dorm. One way to do this is by leaving your door open when you're in your room.

Be open minded, participate in required events as if they were optional, and fill out online surveys with enthusiasm.

Try hard & you'll do fine in the end.

To realize that college is not anything like highschool or PSEO programs at community college.

Get involved but not in too many things where it over powers your classes.

Participate in welcome week, because you actually do meet a lot of the people you will be friends with during that time.

Be friendly to everyone, everyone's in the same boat as you and just as willing to make friends

Keep a positive attitude and take your classes seriously!

Take it seriously, but stay in touch. Try not to spend all your time hanging out with friends and partying, but don't hole up in your room and work all the time either. Get some work done every day and then hang out.

Make sure you establish good study skills fast because if you don't you will never succeed in college.

Get ready to study.

Make sure you don't think this is going to be just like high school. It's not. You'll make friends and have fun, but you're going to need to work harder now.

Don't stress, If you make something a big deal, it becomes a big deal.

do well in college

study twice as long as your classes are. They're serious when they tell you that. Study in groups if you need social time, just study. You pay a lot of money to go to these classes--put the effort in that it requires.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. Everyone is really nice and understanding.

College is 100x different than high school, work hard and know your stuff!

Make sure to access/use campus resources that relate to your needs. Ask questions. Get involved with student groups, volunteering or working in order to make new friends.

take the time to get to know the people in your classes and especially on your floor.

STUDY

Take the "hard" classes in high school. Find what you love and do it.

Get ready.

stick with it, don't get discouraged, everything will get better.

It is a lot of fun! You will adjust even if you don't think you will.

Get all of your books and everything ready BEFORE welcome week or at least a week or two before school starts. The first week of school is really hectic and it's better to be prepared than flustered when getting to class. You don't have to join a student group right away at the start of the first few weeks. Everyone is adjusting and finding out what they want to be involved in and student groups will always be looking out for new members. Focus on academics first because if that's not going well, chances are, it will affect your social life, too.

Bring warm clothes at the beginning of the year.

If you did well in high school academically, keep up the good work. If not, you have a clean slate and this is your time to finally shine. Get involved. Be open to meeting people - even if they don't end up being your best friends, who knows, there's a chance they might be.

If your schedule is overwhelming be sure to talk to an advisor and adjust it so that you can enjoy your first semester to some extent. Also be sure to keep reminders to sign up for the various meetings with advisors, professors, etc.

have fun and study hard. its worth it

Don't get too worked up about things, it'll come in time as long as you apply yourself.

Don't let time slip away and don't procrastinate.

Don't hold back.

Get started with homework immediately!

Don't have any expectations. The ones you do have will most likely be shattered. Don't anticipate anything, just let college happen.

make friends, do your homework, and go to class!

You are going to have to explore opportunities yourself, because the U does a piss-poor job at it.

Don't be scared about meeting new people. It is not like after the first week everyone has found their friends and you are left there. I met some of my best friends several weeks into school, just by stopping by their room and saying hey.

College sucks, but society expects us to do it, so suck it up and try not to kill yourself.

Don't fall behind in your school work. Stay positive, set goals, and ask questions. God is also here to help when you need him.

Make sure you are introducing yourself to EVERYONE during your first weeks here.

Study first, socialize second.

College is a lot more work than highschool, but is tons more fun!

participate. make friends. get out there and don't be afraid to meet new people. no one knows who you were before this it is your chance to make a whole new identity for yourself and surround yourself with those you care about.

First-year students, take advantage of the fun that is given to you, however do what you gotta do before fun!

Join a sorority or fraternity.

Get ready to study hard and long, and get ready to get along with any kind of personality (roommate wise).

Just relax and don't let the anxiety get to your head

Make sure all your financial stuff is ready before the semester begins

I am a first year student but I would just say, get to know as many people as possible within the first few weeks

Develop talents before coming here, much is expected of you.

During Welcome Week, take advantage of meeting all new people and start to form friendships then, they will last throughout the year. Pay attention to the information you are being given, even if it seems like a lot to take in. The information can be very helpful down the road.

It is difficult, but don't get worked up over how hard it is supposed to be before you experience it for yourself!

Don't underestimate the workload. It's a lot. At the same time, take time for yourself and your friends, so you'll go crazy.

start studying right away even if to just practice. then later when it's stressful, you can still hang out with friends and not worry about how to study for an exam on top of the actual studying.

Get involved.

be ready, it'll be a challenge.

Get ready it's a big kick in the butt

Participate in stuff

Be outgoing. Make the effort to meet lots of new people.

Be ready to study.

be open to meeting new people

get involved and study and go to lectures

Talk to your TA's and Professors. they will listen.

Get out and meet people! Don't be shy; everybody is in the same boat.

Don't start the year late. Don't fall behind. It makes things much more difficult to play catch up rather than to move along with the class at a more smooth pace.

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go to office hours the first day to get what they expect from the students for study habits

Don't be scared. Everyone is in the same shoes as you are, so if you are social enough making friends is really easy. Also, academically school isn't that bad as long as you don't procrastinate.

make the best out of your college career, have fun but work hard!

get involved right away and dont slack off because it will come to haunt you later

Just get to know the University on your own terms. They can only do so much to make it a nice transition, it's up to you to make your own way.

Get involved

Make sure to keep looking ahead on the syllabus so you can plan out a schedule to study for the tests.

Meet lots of people, and don't get to overwhelmed with moving in, there is always tomorrow to unpack a little bit. :)

If things aren't going the way you hoped, just give it time - Before you know it, this place will feel like home.

Don't stress about the first mid-term and don't take Linguistics courses with Jean-Phillip, he's awful.

Try to make friends right away, if you wait it gets harder.

dont worry cause the campus seems big at first but it doesnt take long to learn your way around. dont room with someone you already know.

Aim to get into a living and learning community. I'm friends with half of my hallway through that. Keep in touch with some friends from orientation: sometimes you get lucky like I did and end up three doors down from them. Talk with your roommate about some guidelines right away. Although you have to meet with your CA to fully kick out all the details, having some of the major issues out of the way before that makes it easier to live together before any real problems can occur.

Get to know what your instructors want otherwise you'll end up with a bad letter on your paper and a confusing look on your face.

Keep an open mind and attend as many advents a possible.

Talk to everyone, you might have more in common then you think.

Everything will be fine. Just do your best, and with a little time management, college won't be that bad.

Just grit your teeth and get through welcome week, it is a "necessary evil," as some would say, but it's helpful if you have a good attitude.

dont procrastonate

It is not as scary as you may think. The transition goes very smoothly and a lot of people are in the same boat as you so you are definitely not alone.

Don't wait to apply for aid from the school, no matter how middle class your family is, and skip outside scholarships-- They aren't worth the time.

College life is the best time in any students career. This is the time which is unforgettable. Enjoy, socialize and have fun, but don't forget to study. That is the purpose why you are here. Try communicating with peers and faculty and try knowing them better. Hopefully your first- year would be awesome.

become involved

Don't procrastinate- do homework and papers before the night before it's due. Also, put yourself out there and meet people right away because everyone is in the same situation at that point.

Try to meet as many people as possible and don't forget to study.

Do your homework

Make sure you don't get sidetrack because that can easily happen. Also don't over stress yourself its only your first year.

A lot of people come into college thinking it is going to be really hard to make friends, but it is actually easy. First of all, leave your door open in your hall (when you're in the room, of course). Second, bring food of some sort and offer it to the people in your hall. I did this and had a lot of people from other floors come, people I otherwise would not have met. Lastly, talk to the people you sit by at class. Eventually, you will have met many new people. Remember: The people coming in are in the same boat at you; they are just as scared. And smile! You're in college now!

Go to all the meetings for organizations that you might be interested in because it will be harder to get involved if you wait.

I would say to enjoy your time at the U while still studying hard. although it is important to concentrate on school work during college, it is just as important to interact with your peers and join groups! dont be afraid to put yourself out there and meet new people!

Learn to manage your time.

Don't slack in your classes.

Don't be nervous and try to make new friends in the first few weeks.

Meet lots of new people

have fun and study

Be prepared!

be outgoing

there's not much to concern about since the university has prepared almost everything for you. what u need is to engage in it. also use the time effectively.

To stay relaxed

Get your homework done earlier

Do your work!

Do your research and your work. Look for a student group that fits your interests or something new - it's never a bad idea, and you'll meet awesome people you would never have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. Also, really work for those grades, because it'll pay off later when you need a scholarship!

Be prepared and active

Send technical questions/comments to J. Scott Murdoch at: j-murd@umn.edu.

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