



Office of Institutional Research

2009 Spring Check-In Survey Report

All surveys

All surveys:

Number of surveys = 500

Number of completed surveys = 123

Percent of surveys completed = 24.60 %

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:

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

Do what is required and don't fall behind, that's how you stick around.

Make friends in your classes, and try to take classes with friends...it helps to have people to study with.

Nobody can truly prepare you for college. Everybody has a different experience. There may be people telling you how hard and difficult it will be, but if it was as bad as others make it out to be, nobody would survive it. College is here to challenge you, but it's the challenge you have to face and conquer to do what you want.

Make friends naturally. Don't force yourself upon people or feel that you need to change who you are in order to make friends. The first friends I made here started changing behavior when we hung out with certain people and that became extremely annoying so now I barely exchange more than a "hello" with those people. I was able to make new friends who are comfortable with themselves and aren't constantly putting on a show. And college is an adjustment but if you take a relaxed approach a.k.a. don't stress out over every little thing everything becomes so much easier and more enjoyable.

Make sure to read and listen in class, that's really all it takes to do well.

Get involved in some sort of student group or organization if you're worried about meeting new people, and don't worry about how big the campus seems at first, you'll understand it fast.

Go to class.

don't give up

You may want to take a lot of advice from Welcome Week and follow the rules, but ultimately you are an independent adult now, and you can make what ever decisions are best for you.

Be open to everything. Don't judge a book by its cover and get to know people before you judge them.

Always make sure you study 3-4 hours per week outside class for each credit you take. I learnt it the hard way and I dont want you to do the same. If you are in the Honors Program, it is extremely essential that you put in that additional effort.

good luck!

Meet up with a student who knows the campus well to give you a tour and tell you all of the helpful things that Welcome Week doesn't teach you...like how to catch a bus and use the Campus Connector, or how Flexdine works.

Get involved!!

College may not be what you are expecting, but that's sometimes the best part.

study, and get help if you need it

Work hard to get your GPA high right away, so if you make mistakes later they don't hurt you as bad

Always keep an open mind.

Get to know as many people as you can early on.

Go to class and pay attention! If you don't understand something, visit a professor or TA during office hours. They really want to help you learn the material.

Be ready for a big transition. Although you maybe think you are going to have a lot more time because you are probably taking half the amount of classes you do in high school it doesn't really turn out that way. Especially if you are involved with things on campus which is a good idea your schedule can get busy really fast.

Welcome week is kind of rough because there is so much going on, but in the end you won't regret doing activities because you'll have made so many friends and your sense of community becomes stronger.

Get involved--join student activities/groups to find which one feels best. I joined several groups and am now a member of only a few because I found out which ones I liked best and wanted to remain with

Study hard and reach out during the first week or so.

Have fun. Skip as much of Welcome Week as you can.

Don't over-do your classes first semester. And even though everyone tells you this, studying everything a little bit every day helps a lot.

Get to know a variety of people quickly, so you have people to talk to or get advice from.

Make sure that you save time for yourself and for your social life. Take advantage of the weekends and bring warm clothes.

Don't come to the U if you want an academic university right from the beginning.

Do not get behind! Set aside your social life slightly in the beginning just to catch up with yourself, once you are on track after the first week or two, THEN integrate your social life back in.

Remember what you're here for. When you're out having fun at all hours of the night and saying that your homework can wait, remember what you're at the university for.

Live it up! College life is all about different experiences, not just academics. You find friends in the most unlikely of places, and those are usually the ones you love the most.

Keep your goals in mind, think logically, and assess your progress periodically.

Don't let Welcome Week overwhelm you. Look outside of your normal comfort zone in classes to make friends. Don't let dorm life take over your sense of socialization/sanity.

Use your time as wisely as you can because stress can build up very easily when you get behind. Also, go out of your way to make new friends. It's exciting starting new bonds with a completely different group of people and your friends are the people that keep you sane and help you get through things.

Study, get involved

take it seriously, not a game

Just go with the flow, and take things one step at a time. Take time to breath, and get involved in either a group, sport, or a job! It helps with time management and well as creates last friendships with people you may have never came into contact with.

to know how to manage their time. And to not put homework aside because it is just going to add on more homework piled up.

Work hard. But still make time to enjoy your first year.

Study hard, but don't let it take over your life.

Get involved.

find good friends, and try and make some kind of connection with your professors.

Set good study skills immediately, because it will make the rest of the semester and school year much easier. Plus, you'll have more time to do the things that you want.

work hard

To try to get involved right away. Try to introduce yourself to as many people as possible.

ATTEND CLASS!!!!

Don't be afraid to seek help from faculty or even your friends with schoolwork.

Time management !

Get involved and figure out how to be a better person.

Make time for school studies and fun activities, its important to have a balance

Make friends ASAP or you'll be alone.

Study! And gain staudy skills. Go to class even when you think it is pointless or sleep would be more beneficial.

Avoid the Honors Program, as it turns college into an obstacle course through which you will find yourself struggling for the next 4 years of your life. Avoid Rick Peifer, a biology "professor" whose lectures are useless, whose grading scale is ridiculous, and whose temper is directed towards the wrong students. Practice your ability to refuse Mormons, survey-givers, and the poor. Taking fewer than 15 credits is not acceptable; if you're taking fewer than 15 credits, you're not trying at all. When someone tells you not to do something, it likely means you should do it - for example, my adviser tried to convince me not to take 21 credits this semester, but I did it anyway and it's working out alright. Avoid living in places named "Middlebrook Hall" unless your idea of fun is an overdose of vegetarian meals, people wearing crazy hats, people stealing forks from UDS to make hat racks to store their crazy hats, and 2 A.M. scream-fests in the staircases that keep you from sleeping (speaking of which, the U should provide each student with a pair of Bose Headphones at the least if it isn't going to enforce quiet hours). Vote Republican, and be proud of it, because it's a dog-eat-dog world of liberal politics on this campus, and we good guys have to look out for each other. Don't buy a Mac - those sleep mode lights are blinding. Play plenty of Halo 3 every day, it's a great way to meet the people you plan on rooming with through all of college. ResNet sucks hardcore, so consider that before living on campus. Take CSci 1901, because it will change your life in a good way. Introducing people to Settlers of Catan seems good in theory, because you're addicting them to a good game, but it's a bad idea because they won't want to play anything else you've got (poor Citadels, Puerto Rico, and Power Grid). When you need a good laugh, use a text-to-speech program for a couple of minutes. Shave, or you'll end up looking like David. University churches haven't heard of the separation of church and state, so expect politic and rhetoric, or go to an off-campus church. Expect terrible food selection on the weekends from UDS. Come up with chants for Jermaine Davis, it makes that whole Welcome Week thing worth it. Take Racquetball with Matt Johnson. The end.

go out of your way to meet new people, in UDS, in class, on the street, in coffman, the greek system, your job, study groups, the library, etc. meeting new people and networking can brighten everyone's lives. Networking also adds so many options in our lives and brings so much happiness. the ability to call up numerous friends and types of friends is a great feeling to have and to know that they can help you in the rough times and be there with you during the best of times is one of the best feelings in the world.

This may well be the most difficult transition but most rewarding one so far in your life.

Meet as many people as you can and manage your time well.

Have fun. Don't take classes that require a lot of reading. And don't take four classes on Fridays!

NA

don't slack, ever

Try new things...don't be afraid!

Join a fraternity/sorority and a living learning community

Just learn as you go. You can't prepare for everything. If you make a mistake, take that with you and you will be better for it.

Study hard and stay focused

N/A
