

FOCUS Entrance Interview

Although you may not have experienced life as a new college student for long, we're interested in how you expect to spend your time, what challenges you think you'll face, and your general views of what you think college will be like. Please answer thoughtfully.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

Name _____

Student Number _____ Course/Section _____

Instructor _____

Gender _____ Age _____

1. Ethnic identification:

- Native American/American Indian Hispanic
 Caucasian African American
 Asian or Pacific Islander Prefer not to answer

2. Is English your first (native) language?

- yes no

3. Where are you living this term?

- in campus housing on my own
 with my immediate family other (please explain) _____
 with a relative other than my immediate family

4. Did your parents graduate from college?

- yes, both neither
 yes, father only not sure
 yes, mother only

5. How many credit hours are you taking this term?

- 6 or fewer 15–16
 7–11 17 or more
 12–14

6. Did you start college elsewhere before attending this school?

- yes no

7. In addition to going to college, do you expect to work for pay at a job (or jobs) this term?

- yes no

8. If so, how many hours per week do you expect to work?

- 1–10 31–40
 11–20 40+
 21–30

9. Which of the following describes why you are working for pay this term? (Mark all that apply.)

- to pay for college tuition to pay for child care
 to pay for basic expenses that I need (rent, housing, food, etc.) to pay for textbooks
 to pay for extra expenses that I want (clothes, entertainment, etc.) to save money for the future
 to buy a car to see how much I can make
 to support a family other (please explain) _____

18. How many total hours per week do you expect to spend outside of class studying for your college courses this term?

- 0–5 26–30
- 6–10 31–35
- 11–15 36–40
- 16–20 40+
- 21–25

19. Which of the following on-campus resources do you plan to use once or more this term? (Please check all that apply.)

- library
- campus learning centers (whatever is available on your campus, such as a Writing Center, Math Learning Center, etc.)
- computer labs
- the Student Success Center or New Student Center, if one is available
- the Counseling Center, if one is available
- professors' office hours for individual meetings/conferences/help
- student clubs or organizations
- none

20. For the following sets of opposite descriptive phrases, put a checkmark on the line between the two that best represent your response.

I expect my first term of college to:

- | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| challenge me academically | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | be easy |
| be very different from high school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | be a lot like high school |
| be exciting | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | be dull |
| be interesting | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | be uninteresting |
| motivate me to continue | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | discourage me |
| be fun | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | be boring |
| help me feel a part of this campus | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | make me feel alienated |

21. Please mark your *top three areas of concern* relating to your first term of college by placing 1, 2, and 3 next to the items you choose.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I might not fit in. | <input type="checkbox"/> My studies might interfere with my social life. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I might have difficulty making friends. | <input type="checkbox"/> My professors might not care about me as an individual. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I might not be academically successful. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might not finish my degree. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My performance might disappoint my family. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might miss the company of my friends. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My personal life might interfere with my studies. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might miss the company of my family. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My studies might interfere with my personal life. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might not manage my time well. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I might have financial difficulties. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might be bored in my classes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My job might interfere with my studies. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might feel intimidated by my professors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My studies might interfere with my job. | <input type="checkbox"/> I might feel overwhelmed by all I have to do. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My social life might interfere with my studies. | <input type="checkbox"/> other (please explain) _____ |

22. Broadly speaking, which area do you expect to major in?

- Arts & Sciences Nursing/Health Sciences
- Education Business
- Engineering other, please explain _____

23. How certain are you now of a chosen major? (1 = totally sure, 5 = totally unsure) ____

24. How certain are you now that you will complete your degree? (1 = totally sure, 5 = totally unsure) ____

25. How certain are you now that you will complete your degree at this school? (1 = totally sure, 5 = totally unsure) ____

26. How certain are you now of your intended career choice? (1 = totally sure, 5 = totally unsure) ____

27. How certain are you now about whether you'll obtain an advanced degree after you finish college? (1 = totally sure, 5 = totally unsure) ____

28. What do you expect your grade point average to be at the end of your first term of college?

- A+ B C
- A B- C-
- A- C+ D or lower
- B+

29. All college students develop expectations of what college will be like from various sources. How did you develop your expectations of what college might be like? (Mark your top three information sources with 1, 2, and 3.)

- TV and movies
- friends/siblings who have already gone to college
- discussions with teachers/counselors in high school
- information I received from colleges in the mail
- talks with my parents
- talks with my friends who are also now freshmen
- the Internet
- other (please explain) _____

30. How confident are you in yourself in each of the following areas? (1 = very confident, 5 = not at all confident)

- overall academic ability
- mathematical skills
- leadership ability
- reading skills
- public speaking skills
- study skills
- technology skills
- physical well being
- writing skills
- social skills
- emotional well being
- teamwork skills

31. Why did you take the course for which you are using this textbook? (Mark your top three reasons with 1, 2, and 3.)

- It was required.
- It sounded interesting.
- I thought it would help make my transition to college easier.
- I thought it would help me learn about the campus.
- I thought it would help me make friends.
- I thought it would help me academically.
- My parent(s) or other family member(s) thought it was a good idea.
- My advisor recommended it.
- A high school teacher/counselor recommended it.
- The information I received in campus mailings convinced me.
- The materials I received at freshman orientation convinced me.
- A friend/sibling who'd taken this course recommended it.
- other (please explain) _____

32. What is the most important reason you decided to attend this school? (Check one)

- Recommendation of friend(s) who attended here
- Reasonable cost
- Reputation of the school
- Location of the school
- Availability of academic programs I'm interested in
- Financial aid I was offered
- Recommendation of high school teachers/counselors
- Campus website
- other (please explain) _____

33. Was this school your first choice among the colleges you considered? yes no

34. Why did you decide to go to college? (Check all that apply)

- because I want to build a better life for myself.
- because I want to build a better life for my family.
- because I want to be very well off financially in the future.
- because I need a college education to achieve my dreams.
- because my friends were going to college.
- because my family encouraged me to go.
- because it was expected of me.
- because I was recruited for athletics.
- because I want to continue learning.
- because the career I am pursuing requires a degree.
- because I was unsure of what I might do instead.
- other (please explain) _____

35. Looking ahead, how satisfied do you expect to be with your decision to attend this school?

- very satisfied somewhat dissatisfied
- satisfied very dissatisfied
- not sure

36. What are you most looking forward to in college? _____

37. How would you describe the best outcomes you hope for at the end of this term? Why are they important to you? _____

38. Do you expect to achieve these outcomes? Why or why not? _____