

## 2007 Spring Check-In Survey Report

### All surveys

#### All surveys:

Number of surveys = 500

Number of completed surveys = 164

Percent of surveys completed = 32.80 %

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:

#### 1. Do you live in a:

Residence Hall	136	83.44 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
Live with relatives	5	3.07 %	
House/apartment near campus	5	3.07 %	
House/apartment far from campus (driving required)	8	4.91 %	
At home with spouse/partner/children	9	5.52 %	

#### 2. If you travel to campus, how far do you commute?

0 - 5 miles	3	11.54 %	Number of responses = 26 ( 5.20 %)
6 - 10 miles	8	30.77 %	
11 - 15 miles	8	30.77 %	
16 - 25 miles	5	19.23 %	
over 25 miles	2	7.69 %	

#### 3. Do you consider yourself a commuter student?

Yes	24	92.31 %	Number of responses = 26 ( 5.20 %)
No	2	7.69 %	
Not sure	0	0.00 %	

#### 4. Why did you choose not to live on-campus in a University Residence Hall or Apartment

Display report [here](#).

#### 5. In what college are you currently enrolled?

Carlson School of Management	13	7.98 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences	6	3.68 %	
College of Biological Sciences	13	7.98 %	
College of Design	3	1.84 %	
College of Education and Human Development	9	5.52 %	
College of Liberal Arts	97	59.51 %	
Institute of Technology	22	13.50 %	

#### 6. Please rate your satisfaction on each of the aspects of campus life listed below:

##### a. Overall college experience

Very satisfied	(4)	51	31.10 %	Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %)
Satisfied	(3)	107	65.24 %	
Dissatisfied	(2)	5	3.05 %	
Very dissatisfied	(1)	1	0.61 %	
				Mean = 3.27
				Median = 3.21
				StdDev = 0.54

##### b. Amount of contact with faculty

Very Satisfied	(4)	12	7.32 %	Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %)
Satisfied	(3)	117	71.34 %	
Dissatisfied	(2)	35	21.34 %	
Very Dissatisfied	(1)	0	0.00 %	
				Mean = 2.86
				Median = 2.90
				StdDev = 0.52

**c. Opportunities for community service**

Very Satisfied	(4)	12	7.32 %
Satisfied	(3)	117	71.34 %
Dissatisfied	(2)	34	20.73 %
Very Dissatisfied	(1)	1	0.61 %

Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %)

Mean = 2.85  
 Median = 2.90  
 StdDev = 0.53

**d. Overall quality of instruction**

Very Satisfied	(4)	28	17.07 %
Satisfied	(3)	121	73.78 %
Dissatisfied	(2)	15	9.15 %
Very Dissatisfied	(1)	0	0.00 %

Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %)

Mean = 3.08  
 Median = 3.05  
 StdDev = 0.51

**e. Overall sense of community among students**

Very Satisfied	(4)	34	20.86 %
Satisfied	(3)	101	61.96 %
Dissatisfied	(2)	27	16.56 %
Very Dissatisfied	(1)	1	0.61 %

Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)

Mean = 3.03  
 Median = 3.03  
 StdDev = 0.63

**7. Please select all of the activities with which you have been involved during the course of your first year here at the University of Minnesota:**

Convocation	95	60.13 %
New Student Weekend	30	18.99 %
KICK IT! activities	32	20.25 %
Living/Learning community	36	22.78 %
Freshman seminar	64	40.51 %
Commuter Connections	13	8.23 %
Participated in student organizations	64	40.51 %
Held a job on campus	45	28.48 %
Participated in the recreational/intramural/club sports or exercise programs on campus	55	34.81 %
Attended an artistic performance or concert on campus	71	44.94 %
Honors programs	33	20.89 %
Undergraduate research	10	6.33 %
Mentoring programs	5	3.16 %
Student Excellence in Academics & Multiculturalism (SEAM)	11	6.96 %
Leadership programs (e.g. LeaderQuest)	3	1.90 %
Attended intercollegiate sports events	78	49.37 %
Participated in intramural sports	28	17.72 %
Participated in college-sponsored activities (e.g. CLA, IT, CSOM)	34	21.52 %
Lived in a residence hall (and participated in its activities)	121	76.58 %
Attended concerts/activities sponsored by the Student Union	73	46.20 %
Belonged to a fraternity/sorority	9	5.70 %

Number of responses = 158 ( 31.60 %)

**8. Since entering this university, how successful have you felt at:****a. Understanding what your professors expect of you academically**

Very successful	(4)	37	22.56 %
Successful	(3)	114	69.51 %
Unsuccessful	(2)	13	7.93 %
Very unsuccessful	(1)	0	0.00 %

Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %)

Mean = 3.15  
 Median = 3.11  
 StdDev = 0.53

**b. Developing effective study skills**

Very successful	(4)	27	16.56 %
Successful	(3)	109	66.87 %
Unsuccessful	(2)	27	16.56 %
Very unsuccessful	(1)	0	0.00 %

Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)

Mean = 3.00  
 Median = 3.00  
 StdDev = 0.58

**c. Adjusting to the academic demands of the college**

Very successful	(4)	36	22.09 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %) Mean = 3.13 Median = 3.09 StdDev = 0.54
Successful	(3)	112	68.71 %	
Unsuccessful	(2)	15	9.20 %	
Very unsuccessful	(1)	0	0.00 %	

**d. Managing your time effectively**

Very successful	(4)	23	14.02 %	Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %) Mean = 2.91 Median = 2.94 StdDev = 0.62
Successful	(3)	105	64.02 %	
Unsuccessful	(2)	34	20.73 %	
Very unsuccessful	(1)	2	1.22 %	

**e. Getting to know faculty**

Very successful	(4)	8	4.94 %	Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %) Mean = 2.63 Median = 2.69 StdDev = 0.62
Successful	(3)	90	55.56 %	
Unsuccessful	(2)	60	37.04 %	
Very unsuccessful	(1)	4	2.47 %	

**f. Developing close friendships with other students**

Very successful	(4)	45	27.44 %	Number of responses = 164 ( 32.80 %) Mean = 3.05 Median = 3.08 StdDev = 0.74
Successful	(3)	88	53.66 %	
Unsuccessful	(2)	26	15.85 %	
Very unsuccessful	(1)	5	3.05 %	

**g. Feeling a part of the University community**

Very successful	(4)	32	19.63 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %) Mean = 3.02 Median = 3.02 StdDev = 0.62
Successful	(3)	103	63.19 %	
Unsuccessful	(2)	27	16.56 %	
Very unsuccessful	(1)	1	0.61 %	

**9. What can the University do to help you feel more successful?**

Display report [here](#).

**10. Since entering the University of Minnesota, how much time have you spent during a typical week doing the following activities?**

**a. Attending classes/discussion**

None	1	0.61 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
Less than 1 hour	0	0.00 %	
1-10	12	7.36 %	
11-20	104	63.80 %	
21-30	42	25.77 %	
31-40	4	2.45 %	

**b. Preparing for class (studying, homework, rehearsing)**

None	0	0.00 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
Less than 1 hour	2	1.23 %	
1-10	67	41.10 %	
11-20	67	41.10 %	
21-30	18	11.04 %	
31-40	9	5.52 %	

**c. Socializing with friends**

None	0	0.00 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
Less than 1 hour	9	5.52 %	
1-10	74	45.40 %	
11-20	49	30.06 %	
21-30	22	13.50 %	
31-40	9	5.52 %	

**d. Exercising or playing sports**

None	9	5.56 %	Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)
Less than 1 hour	35	21.60 %	
1-10	101	62.35 %	
11-20	13	8.02 %	
21-30	3	1.85 %	
31-40	1	0.62 %	

**e. Working for pay on campus**

None	123	75.46 %
Less than 1 hour	1	0.61 %
1-10	28	17.18 %
11-20	11	6.75 %
21-30	0	0.00 %
31-40	0	0.00 %

Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)

**f. Working for pay off campus**

None	124	77.50 %
Less than 1 hour	3	1.88 %
1-10	12	7.50 %
11-20	14	8.75 %
21-30	4	2.50 %
31-40	3	1.88 %

Number of responses = 160 ( 32.00 %)

**g. Participating in student groups and organizations**

None	61	37.42 %
Less than 1 hour	32	19.63 %
1-10	63	38.65 %
11-20	5	3.07 %
21-30	1	0.61 %
31-40	1	0.61 %

Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)

**11. Since entering college, how often have you interacted with the following people?****a. Faculty during office hours**

Daily	1	0.62 %
2-3 times per week	3	1.85 %
Once a week	9	5.56 %
1-2 times per month	42	25.93 %
1-2 times per semester	66	40.74 %
Never	41	25.31 %

Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)

**b. Faculty outside of class**

Daily	1	0.62 %
2-3 times per week	3	1.85 %
Once a week	8	4.94 %
1-2 times per month	17	10.49 %
1-2 times per semester	56	34.57 %
Never	77	47.53 %

Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)

**c. Academic advisors**

Daily	0	0.00 %
2-3 times per week	2	1.23 %
Once a week	1	0.62 %
1-2 times per month	13	8.02 %
1-2 times per semester	134	82.72 %
Never	12	7.41 %

Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)

**d. Other college personnel**

Daily	4	2.48 %
2-3 times per week	5	3.11 %
Once a week	11	6.83 %
1-2 times per month	20	12.42 %
1-2 times per semester	68	42.24 %
Never	53	32.92 %

Number of responses = 161 ( 32.20 %)

**12. Looking back at your first year, what is your main concern/anxiety?**

Making friends and meeting other people	32	19.63 %
Relationship with others (friends or family members)	3	1.84 %
Academic coursework (doing well in class, workload)	51	31.29 %
Living situation (i.e., Residence hall life, roommate problems)	11	6.75 %
Deciding on a major/career path	19	11.66 %

Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)

Health (Nutritious eating, physical fitness, healthy lifestyle, adequate sleep)	3	1.84 %
Financial concerns (paying tuitions, budgeting)	20	12.27 %
Developing skills related to note-taking, studying, time-management, or stress management	8	4.91 %
Registration for spring semester courses	2	1.23 %
Homesickness	5	3.07 %
Finding places to study	3	1.84 %
Finding a job (while in school)	4	2.45 %
Obtaining tutoring assistance	0	0.00 %
Other	2	1.23 %

**13. My fall semester academic workload was:**

More demanding than I expected	54	33.13 %	Number of responses = 163 ( 32.60 %)
About what I expected	87	53.37 %	
Less demanding than I expected	22	13.50 %	

**14. My first semester Grade Point Average was:**

Higher than I expected	28	17.28 %	Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)
About what I expected	80	49.38 %	
Lower than I expected	54	33.33 %	

**15. Did you seek academic assistance during the fall semester?**

Yes, more than once per week	13	8.02 %	Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)
Yes, less than once per week	14	8.64 %	
A couple times a month	28	17.28 %	
A couple times a semester	63	38.89 %	
Not at all	44	27.16 %	

**16. I met with a University employee for advice or counseling during the fall semester:**

Academic adviser	126	82.89 %	Number of responses = 152 ( 30.40 %)
Professional counselor	3	1.97 %	
Career counselor	13	8.55 %	
Employment counselor	2	1.32 %	
A faculty member	53	34.87 %	
A professional staff member	9	5.92 %	
Tutor	21	13.82 %	
My supervisor	11	7.24 %	
A peer	75	49.34 %	
Other	5	3.29 %	

**Other (please specify)**

Display report [here](#).

**17. Do you plan to return to the University of Minnesota next year?**

Yes	152	93.83 %	Number of responses = 162 ( 32.40 %)
No	1	0.62 %	
Not sure	9	5.56 %	

**If no, why not?**

Display report [here](#).

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

Display report [here](#).

**19. Additional comments:**

Display report [here](#).

Mail comments to J. Scott Murdoch at: [j-murd@umn.edu](mailto:j-murd@umn.edu).

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#### 4. Why did you choose not to live on-campus in a University Residence Hall or Apartment

Less Expensive, already live in Minneapolis

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Because it is very expensive and I can not afford it.

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Because my parents think that I will be better off live in home.

---

I have more space, and I missed the application deadline and was told to look into apartments. They are about the same price and much nicer.

---

I'm trying to save as much money as possible to cope with rising tuition and other obligatory costs.

---

Save the little extra money for lunch and other expenses.

---

Because it saves money

---

it almost twice as expensive

---

I choose not to live on-campus because I figure it'll cost alot. Now I really want to look into living in apartment or dorm now, I want to experience everything there is possible about the college life and living on my own.

---

I wanted to stay at home and save money and living at home works best with my personal schedule especially when it comes to work.

---

To save money.

---

Lack of money.

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Because of family circumstances, my part-time job, and activities that require me to commute outside the campus.

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I like it at home and it's expensive, so why not just stay at home, plus I also have a car.

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Money, family, so I can focus on studies

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Costs and my parents live close to the campus.

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To much money and would require me to drive 20 miles back to the area where I live now to continue working at my job.

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I live very close to campus, and my house is also close proximity to my job.

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My room mate and I wasn't getting along very well and the R.A. didn't want to switch my room-mate.

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Cause

---

I never submitted paperwork for on-campus housing, so I went off-campus and found a great deal set up through University Village.

---

Because it was too expensive

---

It was too expensive.

---

I was trying to save money by not living in the dorms. I also had a commitment to help out the speech program at my former high school as an assistant coach.

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Because I am already renting and, I want to continue to live with my boyfriend.

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Mail comments to J. Scott Murdoch at: [j-murd@umn.edu](mailto:j-murd@umn.edu).

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#### 9. What can the University do to help you feel more successful?

The U should try to make students feel like individuals, not just a number.

Professors should do more than just lecture and tell us to read the book, and then test us. I don't feel like I learn.

The University does a lot to help students feel successful. Some ways the University accomplishes this is by making students lay out a schedule at the beginning of the school year as an academic guide. As for more ways to make me feel successful, I don't think the University has anything else to do. Kudos!

Multicultural programs should focus more on immigrant students.

No suggestions

Nothing, they do about all they can.

My BIO lab and BIO Lec don't collaborate so they are not aware that they assigned 75 or so pages or reading for the first week.

Offer more Honors classes for students who have full-time day jobs and can only attend school in the morning (8-9 am) and evening (after 4 pm).

more personal communication with advisors

=D

An overall good job is being done

YOu are doing everything you can, at a certain point its up to the individual.

My first semester at the University was wonderful, don't get me wrong, it was very hard at first, but I adapted as a new person would adapt to a new world--a new level--per say. After being here a semester, I still don't feel that I am completely aware of ANY effective study techniques. I've been to review sessions (so many of which are not structured, and help little) and study groups are really just big group-homework sessions. I haven't developed any study skills that have really helped me feel prepared for a test, other than simply reading and assigning myself problems from texts (in math or science classes). I suppose the univeristy could help out with this by offering a greater number of STRUCTURED review sessions, that involve professors, or professionals of the subject of study. I emphasize the word STRUCTURED because I fear that whomever is reading this will take it as "oh, more review sessions, check." No, this means the professors (or whomever is leading a given review session) needs to have a specific agenda for the session. I've heard (and witnessed) time and time again that review sessions were a huge waste of time, simply because no one knew the right questions to ask, the professor (TA) went unused, and everyone really just did homework or left. Please also note that I mentioned the use of professionals in the subject to help study for it. This opinion of mine is drawing from personal experience. I work in two labs (one dealing with VR2332 (PRSS Virus), PCV1 and 2 (pig circle viruses), and SIV/HIV), the grad students, and lab supervisors that I work with are unbelievably knowledgeable in their line of work, and in many of the subjects that I'm currently enrolled in. It has happened more than once that I've asked these people questions related to class subjects, rather than my professor. Why is this? Surprisingly not because it's hard to see my professors, oh no, it's simply because the majority of my current professors teach by the book. You ask them a question, the answer wasn't posed in the book, it's wrong or unanswerable. I remember my Calc II professor telling me that he really only reads two chapters ahead of the class and teaches based on that (is it any surprise that that was my lowest grade last semester?). My absolute best teacher I've had so far is my current chemistry (honors) professor. He is a research scientist, a professional that is teaching a class, not a teacher. He is so knowledgeable, I feel comfortable asking him anything and never worry about "stumping" him. Although this has it's down sides. He may be more focused on his research and lack time for the class itself. Anyway, I just seek a happy medium. Possibly more knowlegeable teachers (TAs speaking broken "english", no

matter how knowledgeable, are almost never useful when learning or studying for a subject), and the occasional professional brought in to help out with (lead) structured review sessions.

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Offer more opportunities to be a volunteer, and offer more research opportunities.

---

enforce quiet hours in residence halls

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n/a

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The libraries are too stark white and silent and Coffman is busy, busy, busy... What about a study area that combines the quiet of the library (silent and group study areas- no phones), with the softer lighting, comfortable seating and smaller 'nooks' of Coffman?

---

have a time management classes for student living in the residence halls.

---

Be more selective in picking TA's.

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I think the University is doing a fine job at making me feel successful- now it's up to me to take advantage of that. I would, however, feel more financially confident about attending the U if tuition was lowered.

---

I'd say it's doing a pretty good job as is, so keep it up!

---

At the beginning of my first semester, I was overwhelmed with everything that the University had to offer. Coming from a small town, it was a lot to take in. Perhaps you could transition all of the organizations and activities a little slower for next year's students.

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I overall feel pretty successful in my first year. More communication with my academic advisor about activities, job/volunteer opportunities, and classes would be very helpful.

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With the number of people that attend, it's probably pretty hard to do too much.

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I wish it were easier to talk with the professors. Some do not have office hours and that makes it more difficult to meet with them.

---

What the University could do to help me feel more successful is feel me in on classes or programs that I could take to help me improve my chances of going into a major that I want to do or just basically giving me advices on what I should do or plan for the future.

---

Have better food in the lunch room.

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Get the campus connector to run on time and not be packed every single time.

---

The University has done plenty, I just need to take more advantage of the different opportunities.

---

I'm not sure because I feel that it's up to the individual/student. The University can do all it wants but will the student follow the advice? When it comes to the professors, maybe if they looked a little less intimidating?

---

More smaller class size... which i think is impossible since the campus is so big with lots of students...

---

Promote more school spirit... Football games & Homecoming should be a bigger deal.

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Care. The counselors don't care about students, they don't respond to your emails (even when it's VERY important.) There should be more theatre/music programs that allow more students to participate because with all the auditions and programs for 10 kids only really limits who gets to participate. Just care a little. We're not all used to being tossed about with 60,000 other kids like herded cattle.

---

Some of the Offices could be more helpful toward Student Organizations, and not just continuously referring them to other offices, which will in turn do the same.

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Nothing much, it all depends on me, whether I want to get involved or not, everything is there, I just don't have time to be involved. I'm always commuting! Only I can make myself more successful!

---

more student-teacher contact

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placed freshmen together in dorms, rather than putting them in a primarily sophomore dorm.

---

No idea, it seems to be coming along nicely.

---

Not sure

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Make pioneer's study room unlocked in the basement. Despite many complaints, the room was never unlocked and it hurts learning and studying ability.

---

I think that the University needs to focus on treating each student as an individual with needs of their own and should try harder to make new students feel like they are part of a college community rather than this huge university.

---

Sponsor more activities between the residence halls.

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I don't know that the university could do much more to make me feel successful. I do feel that the university could do more to give students information about opportunities that are available on campus.

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More fun activities on the weekends!!!

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Possibly set up more time to get to know the professors and other faculty members through certain activities.

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I feel pretty good..

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Maybe offer more opportunities for community service.

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Nothing, really.

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Promoting more campus wide and intraresidence hall activities would help. As well, providing more (or at least advertising more) volunteer opportunities.

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no comment

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I think the student advisors and counselors could do a better job of directing first year students as to what kind of classes they should take. It's hard when you are a freshman and have no idea what you want to do with your college career, so a little more guidance would be nice.

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More contact with advisors

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Nothing, it is something that i need to change for myself.

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More on time management

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Implement courses or small workshops on effective study habits and how to achieve them.

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nothing

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I think it would feel more success full if I knew more about the study resources available to me (tutors, study areas).

---

I feel successful now.

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Allow final exams to be more easily moved. I could not move finals that were back-to-back unless I had three finals on the same day with in 24 hours.

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Offer more tutors with more flexible schedules.

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hire better teachers who aren't 75

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Present more volunteering activities.

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Meh. Nothing more really

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Encourage students to do better, and provide more outlets for students to receive help.

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Have a wider range of student groups...I haven't been able to find one that fits me, so I haven't really been able to meet many people here.

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Being able to have more time to speak with the professors on a one to one bases.

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I can't really think of anything off-hand. My time here, so far, has been amazing.

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The University has definitely done its share providing for students' needs. I have had amazing professors, save one, but the knowledge obtained made up for the bad teaching. The professors are very open and really make time for the students. They are also understanding in unique circumstances to allow you to receive all the knowledge offered. This has really been a great first year!

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I think there is a strong language barrier in many departments within the university. Diversity is important, but not being able to communicate and understand course material hinders my learning experience, grades, and overall college experience. I think many instructors need to be evaluated on their ability to effectively communicate with their students.

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highly consider lowering tuition

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I feel that the university has provided plenty of opportunities and it is a personal decision about how much one wants to become involved.

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Nothing. If it was really bothering me I would live in a dorm.

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Living closer to my classes (I was put in Bailey and I have no classes in St. Paul) and being housed in an area with the opportunity of more interaction with people.

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Nothing

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It would be nice if TA study sessions and tutor programs were more organized. Sometimes none of the tutors can not answer my questions or do the problems wrong. I feel like the U is trying to promote the tutor programs, but the help does not know how to do the problems.

---

The University can provide more help with choosing classes.

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Not a whole lot. I feel successful as is.

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Stop wasting our tuition money on new contracts for coaches before firing them. Also, it would be great if they would drop that crap about the Honors Program in 2008. Things are fine just the way they are.

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I don't think the University can do anything for my situation because I just would like to get to know my professors more, and that's up to me. I think the University is doing everything they can to help first-year students. It's great!

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Have the person who explains how majors work actually know what they're talking about. I still don't know if my major choice even exists.

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Emphasize connecting with professors and faculty more

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Nothing. Success comes from within.

---

Not much. I feel it's the students "job" to become successful.

---

They are doing an excellent job already.

---

morphine

---

Stop wasting my money on things like the \$2 million scholar walk, sports teams, and ridiculous dorm events.

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I think the University has done pretty well with making me successful. They could try to make more opportunities to meet people in your dorm and just meeting people in general (although they already have done a pretty good job at that).

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I've been very impressed at the recognition that the school gives to students who've done well academically.

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Keep doing what you are doing. The choices that made are the reasons that I feel out of place especially not knowing what was happening in the beginning of semester.

---

Get rid of students who seem like they don't want to be in school because they disrupt classes for the rest of us.

---

Make a bus route from the southern East bank to the northern East bank, i.e. from MCB building to the Mall area without having to go to the West bank to take a Campus Connector around and come from the north as opposed to the south.

---

have more tutors available at various locations and open longer because some people don't get off of work until later and they may need help with their homework too.

---

Mail comments to J. Scott Murdoch at: [j-murd@umn.edu](mailto:j-murd@umn.edu).

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# Orientation & First-Year Programs

## 2007 Spring Check-In Survey Report

### All surveys

**All surveys:**

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Number of completed surveys = 164

Percent of surveys completed = 32.80 %

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

**16. I met with a University employee for advice or counseling during the fall semester:**

**Other (please specify)**

community advisor

TA

Parents

Family

disability services specialist

Family

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#### 17. Do you plan to return to the University of Minnesota next year?

If no, why not?

I might want to go part time so I can work.

---

I don't get the chance to be involved and I'm bored.

---

I haven't really been enjoying my first year here because the U is so big and I am not happy with the location of my residence hall.

---

If I don't get into the Nursing School

---

I may want to choose a university that is closer to home such as UW-Madison.

---

I want to change my major and the UofM does not have what I want to go for.

---

Might be transferring closer to home

---

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

Don't procrastinate. Finals go a lot smoother if you have followed the material all through the semester.

---

Set up a study schedule to stay on top of things. Work now, play later.

---

Do the best you can your first semester but also remember that the first semester of college is itself a learning experience.

---

Have a good balance.

---

Don't be afraid about the size of the University. If you are used to attending small classes or having a one on one basis with your teacher, you can still have that experience here. Some classes are small and those that are big, the professors encourage you to meet them. Once you get the hang of getting around to classes, the University can seem small.

---

Be serious even if you are freshmen.

---

Be ready for a big adjustment. University life is a bigger change from high school life than you might expect.

---

Don't be shy. If you were shy in high school, you now have a chance to reinvent yourself and be as outgoing as you want.

---

Don't be shy.

---

Just relax and have fun. Enjoy it while it lasts

---

Get settled with friends, meet new people, go with the flow... Do your homework, figure out what classes you need to really pay attention to and do so...if you can get by well without going to classes, then don't. It's a waste of time. It'll help you focus on what you really need to do and balance your workload.

---

Go where your friends go, there aren't as many ppl "in the same boat" and excited to meet new people as they tell you.

---

Make sure to start off strong in your classes.

---

Plant as many roots in as many places as possible, many will shrivel up and die, but the few that were placed correctly will become firm foundations for the rest of your life. Try as many things as you can, you can never do too much, just keep having fun and do what you enjoy, but don't forget to take risks. Also, figure out a way to turn stress into positive energy (my method involved marching band and research).

---

Be sure to sort out your time, it will become a hassle to do all of your work on time with other distractions all over campus.

---

be yourself!

---

Read...everything

---

Plan time to study but also make time to hang out with friends and just have down time because both are very important!

---

Study hard, but not too hard...making friends is the most important and comforting aspect of college.

---

Find a good study spot and physically write it into your class schedule when you can study- then stick to it.

---

Get out and meet people in your hall, these people will be your lifeline and will help you get through all the stress of the year.

---

Hit the books hard even starting the first week so that way you can stay ahead of everything the whole semester.

---

Manage your time wisely and take advantage of all of the free activities offered (great way to get to know people!)

---

Budget time to do homework, sleep and still have a social life. Find an activity outside of your group of friends and meet more people through that as well. Go to class.

---

get in, get going, and keep on keepin' on.

---

Don't be shy in the fall, every one is in the same place! Don't be afraid to put yourself out there and make friends with everyone around you.

---

Meeting people and making friends is so important the first semester, but try to take your classes seriously as well. Once you have a network of friends, it's easier to take your courses seriously. Get a good night's sleep at least 4 times a week and never take an 8 a.m. class on a Monday. Make sure you eat healthy and exercise- you can feel a drain on your energy if you don't. My personal advice - do as much as you can, be as much as you can be. You sure are paying enough for it!

---

Feeling homesick is normal. Do not give up and drop out if you are feeling homesick, and do not go home every weekend. Instead make a home here. Find a close family of friends, new places to hang out, new places to eat, and keep busy. Plan fun things to do so that you have something to look forward to.

---

Make sure you get into frontier or territorial because the environment is way more open and friendly there than anywhere else.

---

live in the dorms even though it is expensive

---

Don't let the U of M intimidate you. It seems so big and scary, but join a group you feel you might fit in with and that makes it 10x easier to meet more people!

---

My advice for incoming first-year students is to stay focus with their school work. It is not high school no more, the expectation is much way higher. Also to try and really be involved in school activities and not just go to school and than back home.

---

Don't forget to bring a towel...

---

Go to class and actually take notes. If you're going to come to class and sleep, it's better to just not have come at all. Also, study outside of school as much as possible.

---

Calm down and take the problems as they come. Nothing is too big to overcome.

---

Come prepared to be open minded to the new people you will meet and the new experiences and things you will learn.

---

Make sure to get involved because you'll get to meet a lot of people that feel the same way as you and it will make it less lonely if you're far away from your family.

---

have fun and get involved.

---

Think ahead when picking out your classes. What will benefit your future the most, but at the same time will not overwhelm you. Also, if you really want excellent grades, you really need to do all reading/problem assignments, even if they will not be graded.

---

Be sure to manage your time wisely, college isn't all about getting drunk and partying

---

Everyone is trying to make new friends and everyone is away from home, so you are not alone.

---

Plan out your first couple weeks carefully, as that is when you will make the most of your mistakes.

---

Don't come to a big school if you want to be invovled.

---

Get all your homework done and in on time, don't get behind, especially on your reading!

---

Don't be afraid to go out and meet people. You don't have your reputation preceding you like in high school, so it's up to you to make yourself known.

---

Get involved in a student group; it's a great way to meet people and will help you feel a part of a community; also a great excuse to get out and experience something of the University other than classes and dorm life.

---

Even the hardest classes in High School will not compare to the courses at the University.

---

Come in as a freshman with an open mind and work hard to keep it that way throughout the year. Budget your time and money carefully and you'll find that your experience overall is much more enjoyable. Be involved. Work hard but don't neglect your own needs to be active and social. Have fun; school is pretty sweet, I promise.

---

Get involved as much as possible!

---

Study hard, and do not procrastinate, I repeat do not do it! It will put a lot of work on you at one time and that can be very stressful, time your work load. Don't study too hard, have lunch with friends during finals week, lay back and make a few study buddies.

---

Go to class and don't procrastinate.

---

READ the assigned material

---

It will be fine! Relax!!

---

Find someplace other than your room to study, it gets too distracting.

---

make a go at it, don't freak out right away, let the college experience soak in. Be open to anything.

---

Read more than you have to, because you can never be over-prepared

---

Understand that at first it may seem overwhelming..the size of the school, meeting new people, dealing with homework and tuition..but after a while you get used to it. The load eventually becomes bearable. You just have to be patient.

---

Stay focused and determined on classes, but make sure you do not burn your self out on studying. Make sure to take time to make friends and do things for yourself.

---

Make sure you attend class and ask questions. Try not to get behind.

---

To be outgoing at the start of first semester even if its difficult for you because eventually it will pay off through making friendship that are crucial.

---

study

---

Study hard but don't forget to relax and enjoy your time at college.

---

Listen when others say that for every hour in class you need to spend 2 hours out side of class. At first I didn't take that advice and it really hurt me later in the semester.

---

Don't go in expecting the worst! But also, be realistic with yourself. Set goals that can be actually met. Also, don't stress too much about money, all of us students are broke, so you aren't the only one!

---

Stay up on studying while making a few hours time for personal time. Stay balance and you won't be too stressed.

---

Expect to work hard, expect to have fun, live in a learning community - its a blast! You don't realize how much stuff there is to do until you join activities along campus. Participate in Kick-It, its super easy, you learn stuff, and its the best way to get free stuff all semester long!! (I will miss it next year :)

---

Study, but have fun too. It's all a balancing act.

---

Study hard and have fun!

---

Don't stress out during those first hard weeks, you'll get through them just fine.

---

Do not underestimate the amount of studying you will have to do outside of class. Many students can skate by in high school doing almost nothing outside of class. This is not, by any means, the case in college.

---

Be proactive when trying to build relationships with people and make new friends. You will meet hordes of people but unless you make an effort, the majority of them will slip out of your regular contact. Also, try and avoid distractions when doing homework.

---

Don't always expect your first choice to fit. Explore before assuming what is best for you.

---

Make sure to balance your time between school work and socializing, they are equally important.

---

Figure out what you want to do

---

It is a big step but you must stay focused and you will eventually get used to it. Don't overload yourself the first semester because you are also adjusting to a new lifestyle.

---

The first few days are REALLY important for meeting people because that's when every one is feeling just as lost as you are and are looking for a friend. It's not like it's impossible to meet people after that, but that first week can spark lots of relationships/friendships.

---

Make sure you actually read your books, and study, but all take a break and make time for friends. Its a time to have fun not just studying, even though thats important to!!!

Good luck. Learn how to balance having fun and working hard, and know that there are times for both.

Go to class and if you dont understand something, as for help right away, dont get behind

Study.

do your work

Be prepared to put a lot of study effort into your classes. Although you are not given many assignments in order to keep up you need to study continuously.

Keep a freshly toasted pop-tart in your back pocket at all times. Would-be pickpockters, in an attempt to steal your wallet, will quickly rupture the pastry and burn themselves on the steaming hot jam inside.

Have college already paid for, or take out a loan. Working enough to live off and to pay for your entire years schooling is a pain.

Prepare to work your butt off. Don't be shocked if your hair starts falling out. Maintain a positive outlook and have fun!

Be care at managing your time and try your best.

Pray your teachers aren't senile

Attend classes and greet people with a smile-- you'd be surprised by how many friends you can make with just a smile.

Study; then do whatever else you've got to. Don't get behind on that part.

Don't worry about taking the maximum amount of credits. You have four years! Don't slack, but take it all in, and definitely make sure you get plugged in somewhere so you're a part of the community. Also, pace yourself, college isn't easy!

Hold your head up high, be yourself, and don't hesitate to talk to those around you.

First semester will be rough, so quickly settle in and get to your work.

Make sure you leave PLENTY of time to study and meet LOTS of friends right away

Learn time management!

Don't take yourself too seriously and don't panic if your grades/schoolwork isn't exactly what you expected. It will come with time. You've just made a huge life change, enjoy it!

You have your whole life to drink. You only have so many years of college life. Don't drink it away.

Even if you're had past college experience, a massive big ten school like this will still prove challegning.

Learn to manage your time well

Study, but don't get stuck in your room. Go out and experience campus life, go to concerts, be a member of a club. Be well rounded.

Time managment

Be sure to organize yourself, aned do all of the assigned readings etc..

Go to class.

n/a

Manage your time well and do not get behind in you classes.

Try to be as open as possible and don't rely on past friends and relations too heavily.

Be outgoing from the minute you get on campus, attend New Student Weekend, join some student group to help meet new people.

Get involved. I know that everyone says this but it helped me to fit in. You meet so many new people.

should do your best in freshmen year

Do what YOU want and don't be afraid to be yourself.

---

Have fun your first year!!!! Do your work and go to class, but make sure you set a little bit of time each week for yourself. Also get to know your professors they are more than willing to help you if you are willing to get help from them.

---

Make sure to keep on top of your work. Always get a good night's sleep. Don't stress out too much over your classes. After all, it is just school. Try not to party too hardy.

---

Get to know people by being social.

---

have fun

---

Don't sweat the small stuff--you're lucky to be here at all.

---

Expect a larger amount of work load than in high school. And be ready to be more responsible because the professors don't always tell you when things are due. You are responsible to know!

---

Don't take more than three classes the first semester, and don't ever take more than four in a semester. Make sure you have enough time to meet people because if you interact with others you will feel less homesick and less stressed out. Part of what can make your workload overwhelming is if you feel you're alone. If you study with others, or even just complain together, you won't feel so much like you are drowning in books. Enjoying college and feeling accepted are more important than straight A's. You should study and work hard, but don't torment yourself for your grades.

---

Balance your schedule with various activities (however, balance does not mean omit studying)

---

Don't expect anything. Take control of yourself.

---

Go to lecture - probably the best thing you can do, join student groups, and take advantage of the rec center because it is free.

---

Get to know your classmates and professors, it will make the transition easier. Also, join a group on campus; meets lots of new people.

---

Get ahead in coursework, and stay ahead.

---

Get out of the dorms at semester.

---

get involved and really look into student organizations and campus activities; really pace which homework you do when and keep good track of it because the load is much more than in high school, but the freedom to create your own schedule also gives you more control over how much time you have to do everything, so it will be pretty manageable

---

Study a lot! Make sure to have time for friends and family so that you don't get too stressed out. Try to get involved with something regarding the University. Make sure you love what you are doing!

---

Living in a Res. Hall was one of the best choices I could have made. It allowed me to meet new people easily, and it was close to campus, so I always had something I could do.

---

At first, give yourself more time than you need to get to classes, do homework, etc. Starting out with extra time to spare is better than starting behind. This way, later in the semester, when you've learned how much time you need for each class assignment/to get to class/etc, you'll feel like you have more extra time to do leisure activities/go out. Also, if you really need/want a job on campus, wait until a couple weeks into classes to get one because then you don't overload yourself right away.

---

Do not hesitate to get involved on campus but know your priorities and get those done first.

---

Developing life skills (being analytical, managing time effectively, finding social strengths and weaknesses, etc.) are as, if not more, important as doing well academically.

---

Schedule your class times and class locations to a manageable distance and time. Don't schedule a class on West bank and then one in St. Paul.

---

You should put in a 100% and don't start slacking until you know the semester is over then slack and relax.....its like a game don't stop till the games over.

---

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#### 19. Additional comments:

Good to have survey

---

I am completely against the honors program (at least at the undergraduate level). I will say this right now, I am not in the honors program, but please realise that this is not based on bias (for I DID take APs in highschool, which would be comparable). I was invited to take honors chemistry for spring semester this year (because I did well in the 1021 course). This was an amazing opportunity for a non-honors student like myself, so of course I took it. Immediately upon entering the class, there was a distinct air of elitism. Most of the "honors class" referred to people who were not in honors as "the other people" (upon hearing of my "acceleration" someone came up to me and told me that I was an "other person"). I keep hearing stories from these kids about their gen-classes, and how dumb the "regular" people are. I realize how hateful and ad hominem I sound, but there really isn't any other way of describing this division. The division of people (in some cases based on an essay, others scholarship, highschool leadership, etc.) between the "honors" group and the "regular" group creates a social divide within the university. This division makes these two groups of people (which contain no difference in intelligence or even work ethic) unable to stand eachother! Upon moving "up" I now feel slightly shunned by both sides! People I used to hang out and study with when I was a "regular" person don't tell me about their study sessions anymore, and people don't listen to me when I ask them questions in the "honors" group. Now I'm simply an "other person" in this nebulous social hiearchy within the university--but I'm also able to see the good and bad sides of both. The honors class has about 40-some people in it (as aposed to 300+ in my old gen-class), and I was offered entrance into the chemistry fraternity. I wonder if people in Chem 1021/2 were given that opportunity? Why is there this division? Why are so many things given to so few, and so little to the majority? This is no different than segregation. This is no different than the cliché: the rich get richer as the poor get poorer. I don't see what would be so hard about giving students a choice of whether or not to at least ENROLL in an honors course. If you haven't guessed yet, I'm applying for upperclassmen honors this year (I'll be a junior), but if I am not accepted, will I forever be streamlined and labeled as a "regular" person, only to live a "regular" life there after?

---

Good luck.

---

go gophers!

---

N/A

---

The recreation center should be bigger, it can't fit everyone who wants to workout.

---

Lower tuition!!! PLEASE!!! I don't want to leave college with \$20,000 of debt on my shoulders =(

---

Tution is TOO expensive!

---

I am pleased with mostly everything except for UDS. I think that it is overpriced and I wish they allowed you to choose a lower meal plan than 150 meals per semester. For the price I'm paying for UDS, I could eat at Applebees on Washington Street twice daily and have money left over(yes, I did the math).

---

It's best to get involved with groups of student interest right away as a first semester freshman so one can go through the introduction experience of the said group with all other newcomers, building a stronger bond.

---

Go to bed

---

please do not try to control MY education which I am paying for. I do not want to be forced to meet with advisors, I don't want you to have to approve my schedule, I don't want anyone limiting my education. If I am working my butt off to pay for MY education at the age of 19, and I am paying for it, Why the hell does anyone care what I do. If I want to screw up my education by taking a wrong course then it is my mistake to make, made on my dollar. I don't want the university holding my hand for every choice I make. This requirement to speak to an advisor Before I can register cost me a class I NEEDED to take

in order to graduate in two years with a major I math. I had 86 credits before I graduated from high school. I know what I'm doing so I don't need your help. Let me control my own life.

---

This school is really great at what it does and offer very challenging courses.

---

Have fun most of all! That's the important thing, along with getting education for a job.

---

Overall, my first semester was a good experience as far as the University goes. Most of my struggles came within myself and my shyness.

---

I don't think anything positive will be achieved by changing the reciprocity terms. Instead of trying to negotiate and create a new deal, why not try to dip into that "General Fund?" If not, you may run the risk of losing numerous students, and even more money.

---

Working and going to school is no easy task.

---

n/a

---

I am so glad that I chose to live in the Pre-Vet living and learning community. It's nice to have classes with the people who live in my hall so that we can help each other. We all share similar interests and get along well for the most part. I have made many good friends from my hall.

---

great survey!!

---

The food is awful. Apparently in the second semester you people stop trying to cook or something, because it's completely nauseating. You should be ashamed. It's called variety, people. And would it kill you to have bread and fruit that isn't completely stale? Also, eggplant is not a good meat substitute. Ever.

---

My roommate is annoying.

---

none.

---

none

---

Stop wasting my money on things listed above and new soap dispensers, things that say University of Minnesota, and sports scholarships. Stop using students as a captive market to meal plans, it is a waste of money and stop students from achieving independence on their dietary decisions.

---

I love the campus atmosphere! I feel safe walking around campus at almost any time of day, which is really nice, and the U does a good job of providing safety services for the students.

---

None.

---

Great school to be in.

---

Nothing further

---

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