Student Comments Report
By Class Year

Sample University

Prepared by:
ModernThink
4519 Weldin Road | Wilmington, DE 19803
Phone: 888.684.4658 | Fax: 888.684.4659
www.modernthink.com
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About the Student Comments…

The Student Comments Report provides additional insight into the experience of your student body. When your students completed the ModernThink Student Experience Survey, they were asked 6 open-ended questions:

1 What have been the best parts of your student experience?
2 If you could change three things at this institution, what would they be and why?
3 Please feel free to comment on any topics relevant to your student experience that have not been raised in this survey.
4 All in all, if you had it to do all over again, would you enroll at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.
5 Have you witnessed bias/harassment/discrimination based on race/ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or sexual orientation at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.
6 Have you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

Responses to these questions are detailed in this report. To encourage honest, candid feedback and protect the anonymity of individual respondents we advised students not to include any self-identifying information. Additionally, comments have been suppressed for class years with fewer than five respondents. We have presented the comments exactly as they were provided to us. Comments have been segmented based on self-selected Class Year.

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If you have any questions or would like to speak to a ModernThink consultant about these comments, please call us at 888.684.4658 or e-mail us at helpdesk@modernthink.com.
Class of 2015

Question 1: What have been the best parts of your student experience?

Gaining confidence in myself as a student, a person with a disability, and a woman who, at one point, did not believe in myself.

Going to school, learning as much as I can. Being in a classroom again.

How most of the teachers are willing to give you a little more help if you need it.

I have so enjoyed the classroom environment and the learning experiences that I have had thus far.

I like the diversity of the school and the small class sizes give better access to the professors.

Question 2: If you could change three things at this institution, what would they be and why?

1. classroom setup, some of the classrooms are very large and student in the back cannot see through the people in front of them.
2. returning student orientation, I returned after 9 years and was very frustrated throughout the entire process...some of my personal documents were even lost in one of the offices.
3. on campus transportation or shuttle- mostly just in the winter and inclement weather and only for going from one side of campus to another, not just a building or two away.

By far the enrollment process, I applied last year but didn't actually enroll because I was unsure of what steps to take to enroll. Second, the reasoning behind why certain credits do not transfer, and the school accepting certain aspects of trade school training as credits. I have my associates, but because it is from a trade school, I begin as a first semester freshman. This is slightly discouraging.
Days able to attend classes. I'm an adult working full time, and need some flexibility.

Ease of access to information on the website. It's very difficult to understand and get info on things that I want to find.
Better integration of the campus and college.
Better alerts. I never know what's going on on campus. I usually see signs and things when it's too late to attend events.

How poorly the financial aid office functions, the inconvenient parking, i.e. cost and poorly functioning pay machines, more masters degree options offered...

**Question 3: Please feel free to comment on any topics relevant to your student experience that have not been raised in this survey.**

Good school for education, School needs more of a college lifestyle

I did not know that there was a First Year Success Program

I really wanted to be a part of the FYS program but I also needed to take a fast start math class which due to the times of both programs I could not make it work in addition to my job schedule. I think it would have been great to have some additional skills and time to work on my studies, which are included in the first year success.

I wish I had participated in the first year success program. I could use some ADHD assistance.

The First Year Success Program would have been nice to be apart of since this is my first year. To receive assistance on navigating your way through the first year would have been awesome.

I would love to have peer counseling for any and all aspects of college life. To be able to pick the mind of a Senior or Junior who understands the system would be so helpful.

**Question 4: All in all, if you had to do it all over again, would you enroll at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**
although I have had some frustrations I like the school's proximity to the city and the diversity of both the staff and students

I have experienced a great time and would do it again if time provided

I like the campus and the small class sizes. Also they are very helpful with selecting classes and other important things.

I love it here, and I have sent many people through my own enthusiasm. It's contagious.

It is just the right place for me.

Question 5: Have you witnessed bias/harassment/discrimination based on race/ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or sexual orientation at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

Age discrimination.

I am not a lesbian, but I am often mistaken for one, simply because I have short hair. I am often called a boy, a lesbian, butch, a transvestite, based on my looks. People make snide comments right to my face. A girl, from school, coming home on the train, spent the entire train ride explaining to her friends that girls should not have boy hair cuts and that something must seriously be wrong with them for having them. Her friend was sitting right next to me, and she next to him. She had no concern for what she was saying, rather she was saying it because I was there. That's just one example, a PG one. Why does a girl have to wear skirts and have long hair? Why, now that my hair is short, am I suddenly a different gender? But people get bullied everyday, and it's for who they are, not just because they fit into a minority category. You do not have to be gay to be bullied to death; you can simply just be you.

I have been blessed to no see or hear any of that type of discrimination.
I haven't seen any on the campus.

The campus is full cultures that seem to interact well with each other.

**Question 6: Have you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

I have witnessed dishonesty from the students. The teacher may leave the key to the test out and then leave the room. The students figure it out and some look at the key. I have taken the initiative to turn the key over. We aren't in high school anymore, my grades are based on MY merit, not answers to a test that if I studied I would know. It really bothers me that teachers will trust some students so much that they leave the key out. It's too tempting for some.

I haven't witnessed any dishonesty.

No, I hate to say it but if it was happening right next to me I wouldn't notice because I am too focused on my own test.

The professor caught someone cheating on a test, she simply took the test away from him and dismissed him from the classroom.

when a first year student was getting answers from the phone because he supposibly needed help on the test.
Class of 2014

Question 1: What have been the best parts of your student experience?

Affordability and financial aid.

Being able to take classes that interest me, having a UNIQUE college campus, taking the light rail...

Being downtown but close to home. Small class sizes.

First Year Success Program
Talking with Behavioral Science Major

I feel like I have learned a lot, which is the most important thing. I think one of the things that makes the school great is classroom size. Smaller classes create more individual help and an overall better learning experience.

Question 2: If you could change three things at this institution, what would they be and why?

1) I would have a mid semester check in with the students on how each class is going. In one of my classes we had a faculty member come in and ask us questions about our class, what we liked, what we didn't, and what we would change. I think it would be productive to have this in every class. 2) I would have more academic advisors during registration time so that there can be more time for personalized needs. 3) I would have the requirements of general studies more clearly explained during orientation and make it clear cut that they change with what major you choose.

1. Availability of teachers when help is needed.
2. Availability of workshops (ex. scholarships, etc.) at times that are NOT during classes. Everytime I have an opportunity to do these, I never can because it is literally always during my classes. It's very frustrating.
3. More options for a nursing program. It's a difficult process to transfer to other schools for a
nursing degree. I don't want to do an accelerated program. I think its a waste of time considering I can go elsewhere to get me degree in 4 years instead of 6 or 8 with Metro.

1. That the process for financial aid was better organized for students and better communication between students and financial aid department.
2. An extra 5 minutes between classes, especially when one class is on one side of the campus and the next class is on the complete other side.
3. More correspondence courses available.

Amount charged for parking, more financial aid information on the website

Financial Aid because you never get a clear response and they will never help you in a way that is needed. Labs I dont feel there are enough student labs or they are not big enough. Tuition is to expensive

**Question 3: Please feel free to comment on any topics relevant to your student experience that have not been raised in this survey.**

All in all it has been a wonderful experience, I love the diversitity of the school.

I was never invited to participate in the First Year Success Program until it was too late.

I’ve stated above what I’d like to see different in the college. I, like many others, have to pay for my own schooling and I'd honestly like to get my money’s worth. I will most likeley be trasferring to another school after Fall 2011. Hopefully I can see a change in the nursing program so I can stay.

My first was very hard and I was givin the wrong information on several occassions. The advisors set up my first semester of classes. I was assigned a third level class, sed 3010, to start. That is crazy! I was set up to fail.

Rid of the terrible teachers, and this school would be two times better than it is. And lower the price of parking for God's sake.
Question 4: All in all, if you had to do it all over again, would you enroll at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

I always recommend this college to friends and family. I would come here for multiple degrees.

I am not challenged enough academically. I dislike the commuter campus a lot more than I thought I would. Again I don't feel like a priority.

I enjoy that the school is downtown and that there is class sharing between institutions. Also, public transportation to the school is great.

I like the individuality of this college. It is not all about football and parties. Although, it would be nice to feel more unified with the other students like bigger universities. It is kind of a double edged sword I guess.

I really enjoy the atmosphere and the teachers and staff are all very helpful.

Question 5: Have you witnessed bias/harassment/discrimination based on race/ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or sexual orientation at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

Everyone is very tolerant of one anothers lifestyles and beliefs.

I have not witnessed any discrimination on campus.

Nothing witnessed.

This I have not seen in any of my classes. Everyone is treated as an equal.
Witnessed bias when students shared opinions counter to the instructor.

**Question 6: Have you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

A student called me up trying to ask me for questions on my Physics Exam, because he missed it and he wanted to do well on the make-up exam. I told him I didn't remember any of the questions since I didn't want to be blunt about it and face some anger off him later.

I have heard of many instances of students using online programs to buy their essays instead of doing the work.

I have not witnessed any cheating or dishonesty on campus.

I saw a student cheating on the final in my Mathematical Modes of Thought class. Fortunately, the professor had given us his cell phone number so after I finished my final I called him and left a voicemail stating what I saw. The student was still taking his final when the professor listened to his voicemail so he texted me for a better description of the student. The professor ended up catching the student in the act because of this.

I witnessed a student cheating on a test and informed the professor.
Class of 2013

Question 1: What have been the best parts of your student experience?

- Being exposed to diverse student body and course offerings
- Honors Program
- Student groups that help to make me feel included
- Counseling Center to help with balancing life and school
- Support and patience of faculty members
- Great location

Affordability
Location
Major (SIO) and opportunities around it in the Denver community

Distance learning and condensed schedules

Getting further into my concentration and building great relationships with my fellow students as well as teachers.

Having the opportunity to be in a diverse classroom setting being able to apply what I've learned with others.

Question 2: If you could change three things at this institution, what would they be and why?

- Departments should make favoritism a little less obvious
- Healthier dining options
- NON-SMOKING CAMPUS!!!

1 - More quiet study areas with access to electrical outlets - sometimes I need to plug in my computer or cell phone while studying
2 - Stronger WIFI signal in the library and in study areas - in this day and age, this is extremely important
3 - MORE STUDY AREAS
1) Remove the health insurance mandate. I had to cancel my own policy and pay a lot more for one which meets the stringent requirements of this institution.
2) Make it a policy that instructors must grade and return assignments. I wasted a lot of time in the Computer Science courses before wising up to the fact that those instructors don't grade material. You don't get feedback on what you have done.
3) Make the access faculty evaluations more user friendly. I am a math student and even I can't make heads or tales of what all the numbers assigned to individual instructors mean. The information is almost useless.

1) The involvement and recognition of significant achievement levels. There seems to be little involvement and / or recognition of superior achievement.
2) Online course need actual instruction. Many of the courses come with little or no instruction other than the course textbook. Feedback on assignments comes after tests so there is no chance to correct oneself going forward.
3) Recognition in courses that when group projects are assigned, not all members of the groups actually participate which leaves the work for other member to pick up. Grading usually appears to be 1 grade for all on group projects which is unfair to those that pick up the slack for lazy or uninvolved students.

1. Offer more Shakespeare courses
2. Offer more available times for upper-division classes
3. Free Parking!

Question 3: Please feel free to comment on any topics relevant to your student experience that have not been raised in this survey.

I absolutely love this college. I had a daughter and dropped out for two years. I went to the counseling center before I dropped out. Now, everytime I go to set up an appointment, they tell me "come back later". Why cant I schedule an appointment? I am on campus 4 days a week and there is no adequate time for me to talk with someone?
I am a junior and no one has contacted me about what I want to do with my degree. I have looked for job opportunities but I feel due to the attitude of the staff of EVERY office I go into I would be better off looking for a job on my own. I'm not paying upwards 60,000 dollars for a piece of paper.
I came as a transfer student, but I had poor academic habits and may have benefitted from the First Year Success Program, depending on what it entails.

I love the campus and the college. The Art department is great and very intimate. I feel very comfortable there and like I belong.

I thank you for chosing me to 'air' my resentments. Like I said, I am an older student and am amazed at the lack of 'whatever' some of the teachers have. I think you are definately creating something good by getting these surveys out. After I am done, I will thank my blessings that I had this opportunity to study, learn critical thinking, and receive my bachelor degree before I hit the dust!

I would love to see a cafeteria like/study area that has a strong WIFI signal, that would allow students to eat yet study in quiet, and that seats more than 25 people.

**Question 4: All in all, if you had to do it all over again, would you enrol at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

For the money I have spent thus far I don't believe that I have gotten the best education for it. I could'Ve went somewhere else and got a better/same education for a cheaper price.

Great college to attend. Professors are for the most part caring and helpful.

I came here for convenience and cost. I'm concerned those things have "cost" me a better education because this campus is so convoluted in all of it's processes and I think people like me get lost between the cracks.

I enjoy my my time at school, and 90% of my instructors have backed up this school, and show great respect for the institution.

i felt it was a great start to going back to school.
Question 5: Have you witnessed bias/harassment/discrimination based on race/ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or sexual orientation at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

Consistently had a teacher womanize and make inappropriate comments during class; even called me on my personal cell phone, after the final, to ask me what I thought of the class and the final.

I constantly see people making fun of others due to their weight or how they dress. There are "cliques" of people who sit in one spot for hours and make fun of every person that walk by. Professors will only show on the syllabus that they do not tolerate disruptive behavior in classes, however if a student answers a question from a professor they will get laughed at for their answer. This has happened in every one of my classes and in some cases the professor will laugh with them. Unacceptable.

I felt comfortable enough to come out as a lesbian while attending this college due to how open and loved they make every student feel! Thank you for that, my previous colleges would have never been as satisfying.

I have witnessed racial discrimination by an instructor against my fellow students.

I personally have felt bias from chemistry professor as well as a trig professor. I can not say if it is because I am a woman or because they are just not nice men.

Question 6: Have you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.

A girl in a history class asked the professor if she could write quiz answers on her laptop and then email to professor. She had notes and internet access.......  

During a test in CIS2010 the instructor left the room and the students began sharing answers. That is one example. There seems to be a segment of the student body that is always desperately looking for an angle and often seem to find one.
Every class I have been in I have not seen anyone who committed academic dishonesty/cheating.

I have seen people sit right next to me and cheat. I don't really care because it's truly their loss. Plus their paying for it or someone is. All teachers as far as I know are very strict with a zero tolerance policy that is clear. I have seen people escorted out of the room who were blatantly cheating. They never returned. The teachers can't catch everything.

In my Spanish class last semester, we had to take exams and tests in the computer lab. We were not permitted to use our book or any notes. There was an instance when my professor stepped out of the room and three students immediately pulled out their textbooks.
Class of 2012

Question 1: What have been the best parts of your student experience?

Diverse demographics; my particular major; quality of the faculty

Finding classes I wanted to take and taking them. Most professors are very supportive. Sometimes age can be a factor in satisfaction.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to interact with and get to know many of the professors in my department, and to participate in research with a couple of them. I like the small class size and professors' willingness to make time for students outside of class.

I have had some fantastic classes with good professors and classmates.

I like that a significant number of students here are non-traditional, like myself. I also like that class sizes are smaller here than at other institutions I've attended.

Question 2: If you could change three things at this institution, what would they be and why?

1) It is a pain that so many classes are restricted because the college is only allowed to offer a certain number of classes at the 3... or 4... level, like C++. I was told by instructors/advisers that many classes are listed in the course catalog but aren't offered for this reason.

2) I appreciate the online classes. But yet, the classes that I would like to take for discussion about the topic are not available in a classroom setting, like specialized history classes, or they are offered in the middle of the which doesn't facilitate enrollment. That makes the college think that people aren't interested.

3) The faculty don't talk to each other. Trying to coordinate majors and minors is exhausting. They look at a webpage and that's it. If one faculty member doesn't see what they want to see, they think it isn't there. Well, it's a different department. The student is left hanging. We start by talking to one department, we talk to advising; we do all the footwork only to be told by the other department "Yeah, sorry. Go back and start over. You're wrong."
Student Comments Report

1) Online courses - Great selection, but it would be even nicer if students didn't have to turn in hard copies of assignments.
2) Instructor reviews - I would like to know that there is some sort of remediation for when a professor receives low scores at the end of semester surveys. Some instructors deserve it, others do not. But I have had some instructors that I would charge with felony impersonation of an instructor.
3) Online students - We still have to come down to campus for exams. Give us the opportunity to get a student bus pass. I know that it's not part of our fees, I'm sure a lot of us would pay for it and use it.

1) Academic Advising, they don't take enough time with each student and weren't very helpful.
2) More class availability and class time options, i'm a biology/ pre-nursing student and the classes fill up too quickly.
3) Change the name of Metro to a University.

1) Classroom size
2) Tuition
3) Variety of classes

1) I wish the recreation center was open an hour or two later. Being able to work out after class would help my fitness/work/life balance issues. 2) A few classroom issues: I dislike the little seat/desks. They are uncomfortable for 2 hour lectures and hard to use with a laptop. More power outlets for laptops and fix the wireless network so it works reliably.

Question 3: Please feel free to comment on any topics relevant to your student experience that have not been raised in this survey.

I feel personally, and personably accepted here. That's been very good. It's been hard to relearn learning on an arbitrary time scale, but my instructors have been kind, and accepting of my difficulties, and I'm getting better.

I have an undergrad degree from another institution and am here doing post-Bac work. Much of this does not apply to me.
If I had met with an advisor - I think that I would have done this and things may have turned out much differently. The information was probably available, I just didn’t get it and I feel like I missed out on a lot because of that.

Maybe if the upper administration would take a pay cut we could apply some of that funding to programs to help student research get funded by the college instead out of their own pockets.

Most of the time it's a good experience, but every now and again, somebody stares just long enough for me to be uncomfortable. I'm here for the same reason they are.

**Question 4: All in all, if you had to do it all over again, would you enroll at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

Again the cost for what you get at this school is a pretty good quality.

I feel like the programs want you to learn a lot, but there needs to be some sort of measure in place to let students know if they are understanding the subject.

I like the degree program and academic support.

I really feel that I have received the best value in education by coming here, and I love the culture here which welcomes returning and non-traditional students.

I would because I receive a great education that is just as good as other colleges and universities at a lower cost.

I would enroll again, I will probably come back once I graduate and get more classes in.
**Question 5: Have you witnessed bias/harassment/discrimination based on race/ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or sexual orientation at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

I don't care to elaborate, as I am currently in such a situation which is proving difficult to resolve.

I feel like the professors in my program could work a little more with me and my disabilities. They don't seem to understand that with a little extra time allowed and help, that once I get it, I will excel and succeed.

I have been in classes in which someone’s religion comes underfire (i.e., Islam) and the professor does nothing to get discussion back on track. I have attended a class in which the professor made a negative comment about transgendered people although a transgendered individual was in the class.

It lingers around because people are people. However, I've not seen any of the nebulous feelings degenerate into actual actions or incidents. This college does a better job than most of the other universities I've attended in our student's and teacher's ability to look past those things, and see/accept the people for themselves. It's the first I've seen where the blacks accept the whites, and nobody really seems to care where you came from - just glad you're here.

Nothing overt, but just in the way that all human interaction has a level of bias against others for any number of reasons.

**Question 6: Have you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating at this institution? If you care to, please elaborate.**

A couple of times I was in groups where a group member would plagiarise on a paper.

During an online class, another student submitted a reaction paper that was very similar to the one I had submitted including sentence structure and argument sequence. When I contacted the instructor to express my concern, he minimized and did not properly address the situation.
Foolish first year kid once asked me if he could pay me to help him cheat on an exam. I explained to him that I paid for the class so that I could pass it, and my bill didn't include carrying the lazy on my back.

I have witnessed people take an online class for a relative because they have taken that subject before. The individual completes all the discussions and assignments for the student who is actually enrolled for the course. A co-worker of mine had been caught using someone else's paper as their own but they were not turned in to the Dean. The professor just gave the student an F on the assignment but not the course.

I see it every time I take a test.