



National Survey of Student Engagement

University of South Carolina Aiken

The final page of the NSSE Web version asked students to respond to the following question in an open text box:

"If you have any additional comments or feedback that you'd like to share on the quality of your educational experience, please type them below."

Student responses to this question appear on the following pages. Please note that these comments appear exactly as the students entered them. They were not edited for grammar, offensive language, or otherwise questionable content. For this reason, student identifiers are not provided.

Student Comments

August 2008



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NSSE 2008 Student Comments

UnitID	Class	Additional Comments
218645	1	great school and highly recommend
218645	1	My school is the best school around.
218645	1	Excellent instructors and excellent university.
218645	1	This school provides a high quality education but needs to provide more one-on-attention.
218645	1	I hope my input helps.
218645	1	I love USCA. It's been really fun, and I love living on campus. I just recently joined Lamda Chi Alpha, and the whole experience of college life up to this point has been exceptional.
218645	1	I love the school that I attend; the teachers are wonderful and they provide us with all the essential tools we need as students to fulfill our assignments. On the contrary, I feel that it is quite boring here. The students are not to inviting and friendly. Otherwise, everything is okay.
218645	1	Getting involved has kept me motivated while in school. If I did not join student organizations I would not of had an effective year. I have gain so much support and advice from the friendships I have gain this year. I would encourage all that come to USCA to be outgoing and try to get involved in something while at school. The groups will introduce you to so many people that can help you if ever in need of anything.
218645	1	I think that the advisors should get paid to be and advisor. I do not think that all of the staff should be forced to be an advisor. If an advisor does not have time for the student due to a filled schedule or inconvienient office hours then it makes the experience less desiriable and more frustrating.
218645	1	so far, so good.
218645	1	I've really enjoyed attending USC Aiken my 2007-2008 academic career. The campus is very friendly.
218645	1	My educational experience at USCA has been excellent. I chose USCA because it was close to home, and I could maintain a job out of high school while still attaining a college four year degree. As well tuition is not as expensive as some of the other schools in our state. Finally, while at USCA I have found that I really enjoy the small classroom setting because I know that my professors know me, and they make an effort to see me succeed.
218645	1	This has been a great experience this year. The professors and faculty have been outstanding in making sure I recieve a quality education that prepares me for the future.
218645	1	I love USCA!
218645	1	This school has really met my expectations and I am happy with my choice of coming here!
218645	1	My first year experience has been nothing short of amazing. If i could go back and do it all over again i would most definitely pick this University. It is a lot of fun but yet teaches me a lot. I would recommend this University to anyone I could.
218645	1	USCA has a fantastic learning environment for a small school. The faculty is great and actually seem to care about their students.

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218645	1	I am a northerner who has come down to USCA and honestly I have not had to try in any class I have been in. The tests and materials that I am learning are things I learned in HS. I went to a college prep HS and was taking Cleveland State University courses but was not given credit for the courses, but instead the classes were ruled as AP because my high school had no relationship at that time with CSU. The tests, quizzes and other assignments I have to take are all things I have done because of these coursss. Otherwise it would be a challenging curriculum, but since I have a very solid background especially in sciences it is easy right now for me.
218645	1	I really enjoy going to USCA because all the professors are willing to help when you are struggling in class and the size of the classes are perfect for learning.
218645	4	Sometimes it was very difficult just to get enrolled in the courses that I needed when I needed them. Not just in regards to the times offered, but mostly the number of sections available. Also quite a few courses were only offered in certain semesters. More professors, or perhaps T.A.'s, are needed.
218645	4	I think there should be more professors for the math222 course.
218645	4	Professors, full-time and adjunct, need more education about the help provided to students with disabilities and instruction on how to facilitate the needs of such students.Awareness is the key to success.
218645	4	USCA really needs to work with the advisors to be advocates for the students. Many like in my case are misinformed about their schedule and prereq's making them unable to finish school on time. I would put 99% o
218645	4	One of the courses I took at this institution was similar to a class that I took at the instution I went to after high school graduation, so I was given the opportunity to test the quality of the two classes. The class here was only offered in two sections by the same professor. I breezed through the class because I had already been introduced to the material, but I feel like the class at the other institution was a little more challenging in engaging the students to really comprehend and understand the content that they will be sure to see again on a post-graduation exam.
218645	4	I would like to suggest that all ethnics groups should be presented in the administrative offices.
218645	4	I believe that having an intercultural course for students to take is beneficial. I an currently enrolled in that class and I see that most students that take this class are business majors. I think that it would be helpful to all students to have some type of intercultural course. It helps students relate to others who are not from the US. The knowledge that is acquired from this course if critical in todays world.
218645	4	USCA is great!
218645	4	I have majored in Bible and Computer science at two other universities. I am a nursing major at USCA and I can attest that it has been the most challenging of all the courses of studies I have taken before.
218645	4	Great School, don't get to big, and watch the tuition.
218645	4	Really poor academic advising. Poor experience with help from the staff at this university. Very disappointed with my experience here.
218645	4	The quality of USCA's staff is outstanding.



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218645	4	My education was great here, the jr. portfolio is something that needs to be done away with. If we were able to get out of English 101 and 102, I feel we should not have to prove ourself again by having professors that do not know our writing style grade us. This is just a thought and I know no one will do anything about it. No other school has something like this they just have interviews. Why are yall trying to make it so hard for us to graduate and to continue our careers!!!!
218645	4	My experience at USCA has been phenomenal. I have had the opportunity to make friendships that will last a lifetime, and I have also met a number of professors that I will never forget. USCA has nurtured my educational experience for a little over four years, and if given the chance, I'd attend USCA over again.
218645	4	The University of South Carolina Aiken has been a wonderful institution to attend . The instructors have been helpful and supportive and offered a tremendous amount of encouragement in my course of study. All members of SOBA have offered any type of help necessary and I would recommend USCA for a business education to anyone!
218645	4	My experience in this institution has been a most rewarding one. I've learned more here than I ever could have at my first school (technical college) and I'll be proud to be a graduate of USCA.
218645	4	I will be graduating in May, and feel that I have received a good education. I believe that the academic advisement is really lacking at the institution. I also feel that with the increase in students here at USCA that more professors need to be hired. It has become difficult especially in the business department to find classes you need to graduate that are offered when you need them, and that are not full.
218645	4	I am a non- traditional student and there aren't many organizations designed for students like myself, additionally, as an older student (often older than my professors) it can frustrating to be treated like a child. However, all in all, my experiences have been positive.
218645	4	Don't give all of your scholarships to in-state students. I cannot in my right mind ever recommend anybody to this university who will be an out-of-state student because I know that if this person is not an athlete, they will not be considered into getting a scholarship to help wave fees.
218645	4	none
218645	4	USCA is a wonderful school.
218645	4	This University is supposed to be a link to USC. But, it works very differently. For example, this campus has a writing portfolio, why does USC not require this? The Math and English programs here are in need of serious overhaul to work as they need to!
218645	4	I think that the school could encourage students to interact with the opposite race. Most events are either "Black" or "White"
218645	4	n/a
218645	4	I have received a very well rounded education from the University of South Carolina Aiken. I think that the smaller classes have been very beneficial.
218645	4	Please add a Fine Arts degree specifically for Graphic Design! More classes relating to graphic design would be quite helpful as well.

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218645	4	I have had a wonderful experience at USCA. All of my professors, save one, have been most helpful, understanding, and empathetic. I'm really going to miss the hard work after graduation.
218645	4	I took tow internet courses last semseter and the teachers that I had especially one of them was very rude to me when asking question about an assignment that I had. I wrote that on my evaluations. I am not going to say the name of the teacher just because Im not sure if its the right place but if you would like to know I will be happy to give it to you in a more private place. Other then that my experience here at USCA has been wonderful!
218645	4	I hated every minute of it. Most of the instructors so not care about the quality of how they teach nor do they care at all for the well being and success of their students.
218645	4	Generally, the instructors are knowledgeable, engaged with the student body, and encouraging
218645	4	The professors are so well trained and really know the discipline in which they teach. They are always concerned with the education of their students and I love knowing that they're there to help if I ever need it.
218645	4	Great school. Wouldn't want to be anywhere else! The nursing program is excellent!
218645	4	The faculty and staff of the nursing department are very knowledgable in their fields and make it easier to learn
218645	4	Great school!
218645	4	I feel that the Art department needs a lot more attention...& funding!!! Art students pay just as much as the other students. the building needs up dating and expanding.
218645	4	I will miss USC Aiken greatly!
218645	4	I am a returnig ADN in nursing student from USCA with plans of getting a BSN in nursing. I have enjoyed attending here and will continue to attend here for future endeavors. USCA is a wonderful institution.
218645	4	I've received many opportunities here that have enriched my educational experience and inspired greater enthusiasm for the subject matter. Now, at the end of my senior year, I'm confident in my skills and ready to face the work force.
218645	4	I have been happy overall, but I have been very disappointed about the difficulty getting into my psychology classes that I need. Because I have had trouble, I will be going to college a lot longer than I expected.
218645	4	My educational experience at this institute has been challenging, but has inspired greatness in me. It has made me a better person, and more prepared for society.
218645	4	I really enjoyed being at the University of South Carolina Aiken. I wouldn't have traded it for any other school because the faculty are very helpful, friendly, and proficient. I believe USCA is, and will always be, one of the best universities in South Carolina. Thank you USCA.
218645	4	This school is very hard
218645	4	I have had an excellent experience at USCA and would recommend this school to anyone
218645	4	As a nursing major the only real suggestion I have is more clinical time in the finalsemester. I have learned that USC Aiken is the only school in this area that doesn't require 240 clinical hours in the ICU for the BSN program. I think that would be beneficial. We need less time in the class room and doing projects and more time in the hospital. Doing projects and papers is not going to help me pass the NCLEX.



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218645	4	The teachers that teach the special education courses are top notch.
218645	4	Teachers need to find some way of finding out who's participating in the group assignments and who's not. Some students do not want to speak up because they are afraid of that person knowing it was them. Everyone should participate in a group assignment.
218645	4	USC Aiken is the most amazing institution! I would not be where I am today without USCA. We are truly a campus family and my success has come from the caring learning environment I've been emmersed in for the last 4 years.
218645	4	As a transfer student to USCA, I immediately felt welcome and at home here. All of the professors in the school of business have exceeded any expectations I ever had of college professors. They have challenged me to do my best at everything, and I believe have fully prepared me to enter the work force after I graduate. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at USCA.
218645	4	Wish they would offer more tutoring resources for the nursing program. Change the requirments of the number of class that could be retaken before kicked out of the nursing program.
218645	4	I will not graduate this semester for a few reasons. 1. I changed majors (fair) 2. I transferred from USC and NONE of my classes transferred except one out of an entire year there (not fair) 3. because a few of my classes did not say the exact number, but were the same class so my advisor would not override it (not fair). I think USCA needs to reevaluate the way they treat their students when it comes to completing a degree. It should not take me 6 1/2 years to complete a degree to teach first graders.
218645	4	As student here at USCA I have enjoyed the experience as a whole
218645	4	I have really enjoyed my experience at USCA, but I do feel the importance on Foreign Language had made it very difficult for older students to excel.
218645	4	As a senior I have been around to see the many changes here at USCA. The one area that has not changed and does not need to is the Student centered environment. That has been one of the defining points in my college education.
218645	4	Great school
218645	4	It would be helpful if Aiken could have more classes online.
218645	4	I think it would be cool if the school sponsored a Valentines Dance for the students. The fee to attend could be \$5 a person and all the proceeds could go to the kidney foundation, cancer society, or some kind of non profit organization that could help those in need.(but there would have to be a real DJ spinning the music and it would have to last atleast 3 or 4hrs.) I think the students would have fun decorating up the gym for such an event and that the faculty would enjoy chaperoning the dance with there sinificant others. - Just an idea to increase student involvement. (Intelligenc plus character -- that is the goal of true education.- Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.)
218645	4	The continued growth of student workers has become a problem. Students that attempt to balance one or more part time jobs, or a full time job, at the same time as attending college is growinf exponetially. More time management workshops would be helpful to these students.