



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 and may not be suitable for immediate distribution. Faculty members, administrators, or other students may be mentioned by name, and comments were not edited for grammar, offensive language, excessive length, or otherwise questionable content. Comments are sorted by class. Gender, enrollment status, and UnitID (your institution’s identification number) are included.

Student identifiers are not given in this report but are provided in a separate SPSS data file. For this reason, please use discretion when using, storing, and disseminating the SPSS file.

Student Comments

August 2010

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	1	1	1	I am only a concurrent student, so many of these questions were weird to me. <input type="checkbox"/> The educational experience I received helped to further my knowledge, and I feel was more valuable than what could have been received at my high school.
218645	1	1	2	There's nothing wrong with this college academically speaking, but socially...I constantly feel out of place, like I don't belong. Most days I don't leave my room except to eat and go to class. I do this to avoid the awkwardness of walking around campus trying to find something to do or talking to people that I don't really know. I tried fitting in at the beginning, but it didn't really work out too well.
218645	1	1	2	shorten it up a bit
218645	1	1	2	Great school and a great environment. I wouldn't want to be any where else!
218645	1	1	2	My only complaint for the entire school is with my advisor. He is not at all interested in my life, my career, or my academics. He said, "My job is to sign the paper so you (the student) can register. You figure everything else out." If he doesn't want to teach/advise, why is he still receiving any of my hard-earned dollars in the form of a paycheck?!
218645	1	1	2	The University of South Carolina-Aiken is a wonderful school and I would recommend it to anybody who is looking for a place with a family feeling.
218645	1	1	2	I really want that iPod.
218645	1	1	2	Excellent institution. Very clean, safe campus. A wonderful school for people who like the small town environment.
218645	1	1	2	I'm disgusted with the amount of drugs and alcohol abuse that goes on in the dorms. It is distasteful and I believe a scandal for kids to be caught by the campus with more than an ounce of any kind of drug and still be housed. If money is the only thing that this school is concerned with they should not be voted number one for anything. Nor should anyone be proud to come here. I am leaving as fast as I can. It was a mistake to come here. Making deans list here is a joke and while I am challenged at time I made deans list and I feel that this play is disgusting.
218645	1	2	1	I feel USCA is very dedicated to providing a quality education in the School of Education.
218645	1	2	2	USCA is a great college and I would highly recommended it to anyone!
218645	1	2	2	the teachers have all been very helpful
218645	1	2	2	The cost of tuition is way to expensive
218645	1	2	2	I am a 'non-traditional' student makes it a little harder to relate to the younger students. The Professors are very approachable and willing to clarify ideas and help better understand any course work problems. I have felt respected and not spoken down to because of my age. Professors are so well versed in their fields of study and interesting. I am thrilled to be back in school and I enjoy that the campus is small. I feel like the instructors and support staff care.
218645	1	2	2	Advisors should be more readily available.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	1	2	2	Go Pacers!:))
218645	1	2	2	My academic advisor seemed more than enthusiastic to help me with whatever I needed.
218645	1	2	2	THE ONLY THING I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS; THIS IS A GREAT SCHOOL, HOWEVER THEY DO FAIL IN BEING MORE HELPFUL, UNDERSTANDING AND ENCOURAGING FOR THE NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS. THIS IS A MATTER I WOULD APPRECIATE LOOKING INTO.
218645	1	2	2	I think this school is very nice and the faculty and staff are very nice and understanding and cares for their students and this school has taught me a lot about my major already and what I have to do to get my degree and I'm only a freshmen.
218645	1	2	2	All advisors should know the basics. If something is required for that specific program, then the advisor should know about it. If that advisor does not then they do not need to be advising at all.
218645	1	2	2	I think that this being a smaller school it is harder to make friends because most of the students come in knowing each other and cliques are already formed.
218645	1	2	2	I'm from out of state and I still feel homesick, and a lot of times I feel I want to transfer back home. But I also do not want to leave this school. I like that it is small, so the class sizes are small, making it easier to receive individual attention. For the most part I got used to everything and don't mind being here much anymore.
218645	1	2	2	My advisor was not very helpful.
218645	4	1	2	Great Accounting Professors at USC-Aiken!
218645	4	1	2	I enjoyed being a student at USCA. The teachers and fellow students are friendly and very helpful. My experience has been rewarding.
218645	4	1	2	In my experience it seems as though if you require nothing from any office life is grand. However, when the time comes for help, one must "jump through hoops" in order to get help. This has been observed over many semesters at this university.
218645	4	1	2	I do not agree with the social ideology of the majority of my professors and the textbooks. I am retired military and have vast experiences(good and bad) with different cultures outside of the academic world. I am a proud American and sometimes feel compelled to bring a different perspective to the classroom when either the professor's or the textbook's ideological differences are apparent.
218645	4	1	2	good school, however the student body is rather conservative. but it can be expected geographically
218645	4	1	2	USC Aiken has been wonderful.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	4	1	2	I feel like I should be getting more preparation for continuing my education into graduate school. In my case, I feel that the music faculty are more concerned with their participation numbers in their ensembles than helping students prepare their instrument(s) for further education. In a way, I feel taken advantage of by them.□ However, any question that I've asked regarding continuing my education, I have been assisted with in an appropriate manner.
218645	4	1	2	please keep religion out of school.
218645	4	2	1	Love the hard work!!! Hard work pays off.
218645	4	2	1	The biggest drawback I have is that I am a fulltime working mom attending night classes at USC-Sumter. The bookstore, library, and my advisor are not available to me at night. Luckily my advisor will let me do my advisement online, I have to order my textbooks online which actually saves me alot of money, however getting the textbook information in time to order the books before classes start is impossible. And being able to use the library for research is not an option for me. The faculty at USC-Sumter is very supportive and knowledgeable, now if my degree would say USC-Sumter that would be cool, because I will never set foot on campus at USC-Aiken.
218645	4	2	2	Overall, I have enjoyed being a student at USCA. I think it is a wonderful school. I can say that I have learned so much & with the exception of a few, most of the professors are great!
218645	4	2	2	The Psychology Department consist of many racist individuals. Opprotunities are not offered to minority students as they are for white students. The department head is very rude and uncaring. If I could start all over again I would never choose Psychology as my major because the Department is horrible with an exception of two very good professors.
218645	4	2	2	My professors for my special education courses have been exceptional. I could not have done this without their level of knowledge, support, and constructive criticism. They have taught me so much and have been completely honest and forthcoming with information, as well as constructive criticism throughout my college career at USCA. I would recommend anyone wanting to be a special education teacher to attend USCA. This recommendation is due to the wealth of knowledge, depth of commitment and compassion of my professors, as well as their genuine concern for my academic and professional career. To me Dr. Hanson and Dr. Schweder should both be considered for exceptional teacher awards, or teacher of the year, or the millennium for that matter.
218645	4	2	2	Glad I go to school here and would not have it any other way. Dr.Wilson is an amazing teacher and she has really helped me a lot.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	4	2	2	There have been smoking rules implemented on where smokers can and cannot smoke on campus. However, the rules are not enforced. I have bronchitis, and I shouldn't have to walk into a cloud of smoke when walking from building to building. When this happens, my bronchitis flares up, so I have to take medicines to stop my uncontrollable cough. I shouldn't have to experience this. Smokers should be made to move far from the entrances and exits of each building as a courtesy to other students with breathing or lungs complications.
218645	4	2	2	The Education program at USC-Aiken is amazing! All of the teachers are very personable and willing to do anything they can to help further your education. I have had a great experience within the Education Department at USC-Aiken. I would recommend anyone that is pursuing a degree in Education to enroll at USC-Aiken.
218645	4	2	2	I do not think the program needs to be as difficult as the faculty make it. My class is half the size it was when I started nursing school.
218645	4	2	2	I have had a rewarding experience at USCA! I would definitely encourage prospective students to apply to USC Aiken!
218645	4	2	2	I felt like the University prepared me well, but I don't feel they kept up with my records well enough. It took me five years to graduate when I could have conceivably graduated in three and a half. I understand some of this is my responsibility, but as a freshmen I had to learn. Better advisement sessions would have helped.
218645	4	2	2	I think that the USCA SON focuses way too much on paperwork rather than clinical experience. It is not the papers that we have written that is going to make us successful in our career, it is the clinical hours that will make us the nurses that we are going to be!!
218645	4	2	2	I think if you have a previous degree, there is no need to do ICE. I also do not agree with the way the writing portfolio is set up.
218645	4	2	2	Career Services could help more.
218645	4	2	2	BSN Program is the best around!
218645	4	2	2	Being a senior, I think more real world experience is necessary. I did internship at a job and hardly learned anything about owning my own business or managing another one. I think as a part of internship or hands on learning for students, that topics like ordering inventory, taxes and other such technical operations should be a part of the learning process. I think USCA focus a lot of analyzing and writing - but should do more of the simulations and hands on learning in this field.
218645	4	2	2	I could not have chosen a better University to attend. The chemistry faculty especially have been pivotal to my success here, and I feel I have received the best undergraduate education available.
218645	4	2	2	Great school!

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	4	2	2	<p>The Nursing Program is unorganized and ridiculous. Some of the faculty have been very helpful and wonderful; however, others were not so great. A Nursing Program should be challenging yes, but not to the point where students are so stressed out and nervous that they become sick, scared, and even second guess there choice of career. The work load is to overwhelming, especially when we do alot of things that are not done by actual nurses anymore. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>For Administrative staff overall, a lot of the people working in the main offices around campus are NOT qualified. Some of them inform you of wrong information while also showing the fact that they hate there job. If they don't like working with people, especailly ones who do not know everything about everything here, then they should not be hired to work in that position. The rudeness just shows stubbornness and often makes one feel intimidated.<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Also, the bookstore is overly priced and understocked. Some of the personnel that work there are also rude and snotty. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Apologies to the staff that are here for the students and show there compassion. This elaborates on the childhood note that is universal "one bad seed can always screw it up for the good ones."</p>
218645	4	2	2	The professors are very available, and are always concerned with student affairs outside of class.
218645	4	2	2	I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at USCA. I feel prepared for real world experiences and know that with the knowledge my professors have equiped me with will help me in all areas of life and anything I choose as my career.
218645	4	2	2	My education experience has been one I will remember and I have really enjoyed it. However, I am a student of Aiken, but I attend classes through Salkehatchie. I feel there is a huge communication barrier between the two campuses which could be fixed.
218645	4	2	2	na

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	4	2	2	<p>I am quite upset with the college experience that I have had at USC Aiken. Much of the material that we study is inconsistent with what actual nurses in everyday life encounter on a day by day basis. Our clinical paperwork is overwhelming and unnecessary. Clinical is where I feel I get most of my education from and we get two days a week at a hospital that is thirty minutes away, and did I mention that we have a hospital right across the street? The faculty and staff in the nursing building are disappointing, as most students feel they are trying to "weed out the weak." A college experience is supposed to be eye-opening, educational, a great experience, and so much more. I have literally dreaded every single day that I have stepped foot on this campus. I dread walking into the building because I already know what my day is going to entail. I can not speak for every staff or faculty member at this university, but I can speak for the faculty and staff that I have encountered as a nursing major. When I graduate from this university in December 2010, I plan to write a huge letter to the Aiken Standard. I hope every student who plans to attend USC Aiken takes a brief look at what I have to say and I hope they have a second thought about attending this school.</p>