



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.”

Confidential 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, and enrollment status. UnitID (your institution’s identification number) is also included.

Because student comments are confidential, 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 2012

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	My major is pointless, and my life is going nowhere.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	This is a great experience. The school is very flexible with my schedule and understands that I am a student first.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	Overall the experience at USCA is pleasing. There are just some things that bother me. I notice quite frequently that when i ask questions in class my instructor would either cut me off or ignore me completely. Instead of saying "no that's incorrect, this is the answer...." He/She would just look at me and say "anyone else have a better answer?" Which i find this a little humiliating and discouraging. Along with some of my peers in classes. I'm a nice person, i like to talk to people when i feel that the situations in class are getting too tense, or i see that someone feels that they did horrible on their Anatomy Lab Pratical so i try to give them so reassurance. But it seems that being nice does not get you far. They just stare back and totally ignore the fact that i said anything, even when i ask them how to do something they act like they don't want to help me understand. So i guess the point that i'm getting at is that the atmosphere here is sad. I feel lonely when i'm in a room full of crowded people. Back in the beginning, before i was enrolled full-time in my classes, i had a meeting with my advisor. My advisor was not in so i had to talk with her secretary. As i sat there in front of this woman she sat on the other side of the table and told
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	Many people in charge don't care to listen or make commuting an hour to school easier. False expectations are formed at orientation and are total disappointments.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	n/a
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	The school that I'm attending is helping me find a better understanding of my career choice.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	USCA gives great educational values and focuses on each student individually
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	Professors with difficult accents tend to be very confusing, lowering my grade. Faculty members could be more friendly.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	some teachers and other workers show their lack of care towards the students.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	Professors are nice, and they are willing to help you to succeed academically. I found Professors at this institution as very challenging professors compare to the university where I came from.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	I love USC Aiken. The professors are nice, fair, and always happy to help or provide extra explanations. The other students are very nice and most of the students I know are very dedicated to their work. Overall, my experience as a first-time college student has been unforgettable--I wouldn't have it any other way!
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	I have enjoyed this campus a lot. But I wish that some of the teachers would understand that personal things do happen and we can't control them. Sometimes I would like to be asked if everything is ok, instead of well it was your fault that you weren't at class.
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	This was too long!
218645	First-year	Female	Full-time	The faculty and staff are VERY helpful. They make me feel welcome and show interest in my well being. It is very encouraging to see that they are not just here to do their job and go home; they do more than just that.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	First-year	Female	Part-time	Overall I love being a Pacer I just wished the Professors would care more about what is happening with us as their student on the outside world, rather than coming to teach to collect a paycheck. Example like if a student cannot attend a class on a certain day and that day a test will be given, I just wish that professors would take it into consideration and ask us a0s students, well what is going on that you cannot attend class on the test day? Rather than just blow us off like if you missed the test you missed the test. Something has to change, that is part of the reason why I have regretted coming to USCA because it just seems like no one cares about anyones situation or what a student may be going through at that moment in time.
218645	First-year	Male	Full-time	I enjoy the one-on-one attention I receive from the Professors at USC Aiken. The student life is strong and I am involved in many events/organizations/clubs on campus. There are no problems.
218645	First-year	Male	Full-time	Good. Helpful
218645	First-year	Male	Full-time	I believe that certain departments at this University are strong and represent the College very well. There are certain departments that have to work harder to keep students engaged, and focused on the materials they cover. I enjoy being at this institution a lot. I might have some issues but they are very minor and not worth mentioning.
218645	First-year	Male	Full-time	I love attending USCA. It's nowhere near perfect and has it's flaws but is also an excellent school and provides for a very good college experience, especially for rising college Freshman.
218645	First-year	Male	Full-time	n/a
218645	First-year	Male	Part-time	I've finished most of my general education requirements, so I do not have any humanities or english classes that require papers.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	love this school
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I am a non-rational student. It is very frustrating to be categorized as a typical student. I take my academic career very seriously. I am a mother of two. There are times that absences are required for medical issues dealing with my children. It is held against me in some of my classes. Please keep in mind, I provide Doctor's excuses. Instead of appreciating my consideration, I am put into a category of the typical missing class mentality.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I am having a better educational experience coming back to college, than I did when I was younger. I feel that the experience is mostly due to my maturity level. I did not put as much emphasis on school when I was younger.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	n/a
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I'm just guessing on the number of pages. I'm an English major, taking five classes, and one of those classes is Senior Seminar. I'm definitely doing an above average amount of reading this semester.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	This semester I am interning in a school. I have not been in an official classroom so my answers may be be accurate to what a normal week in a class on university campus is like.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	When reviewing my answers, it would be of importance to realize that I am in the middle of doing my teaching internship. For most questions, I thought back to last semester when I was in class daily.

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218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	The advisors for my two majors were drastically different. I think that there should be more training for advisors on school policies and procedures for graduation. One of my advisors caused me to graduate a semester later due to confusion with class requirements. My other advisor is great and has helped me alot because they took the time to find the answer and knew alot already. I do not like how spring graduation is limited with tickets allotted to students but the fall class get unlimited tickets. It is unfair to those students who pay the same amount of tuition.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	It is very hard to work and go to school
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	The USCA school of Nursing has a great staff of caring, concerned professors and clinical instructors. Most of the professors smile and say hello when they see us and ask how things are going- what exam we have etc. It's a pleasure to attend there.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	N/A
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I have enjoyed my collegiate experience here at USCA.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I absolutely LOVE USC Aiken and everything this institution has to offer. I do not believe that I would have ever accomplished as much as I have while here at USCA had I attended another university. I am very grateful for the impact USC Aiken has had on me.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I have enjoyed USCA and am so glad I chose this school. That is a decision I will never regret and will miss USCA when I graduate this semester.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I attended another 4-year college before this, and I often find myself wishing I had started here. The program I am in is set up more logically here, but unfortunately I only take half of the program courses my classmates are taking now due to transfer credits. This transfer has been a good experience.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	Dr. Martin has helped make my experience here great.I am so lucky to have her as an advisor. Also, Though i have ran across a lot of absent minded professors, I have enjoyed my time here at USCA.
218645	Senior	Female	Full-time	I feel like they try to accomodate you, but they do not realize or choose to not see that many people have many other committments outside of school.
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	In the middle of my junior year I was forced to change my major when my adviser and the dean of my course of study finally informed me that they believed my choice of major was "not a good fit."
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	This University has a poor standard for their educators. In the year I've been here I have had two professors that I felt knew the content they were teaching and cared that their students were learning the information. The rest have been extremely lacking in their content knowledge and ability to teach or relate to their students. I attended USC Columbia to receive my first Bachelors. I have had plenty of educators and the ones at this institution are below <u>standard in my opinion.</u>
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	if ever I encounter a difficulty, my professor(s) and or my adviser has always been readily available to assist me. On the rare occasion that one of these were not readily available another adviser or professor would offer their assistance. It is up to the student to ask. Once you ask, there is always someone available to help
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	Having attended a major 4 year college, and transferred into this one, I think this school is an exceptional educational facility. My only regret is not having attended this school from the beginning.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	I have been to several colleges and I think the different offices (example, buisness, financial aid, career counseling) are wonderful. They are friendly and very happy to help me. They treat me with respect every time I visit. My advisor is also wonderful. She walks me to offices I can't find and always responds to my emails promptly. Most of my professors have answered my questions without any problems! It is a very nice change from my previous college where I was treated as low class. Students are treated respectful here. Students aren't treated like "we are lucky if the professor answers our questions or emails us back". It's a great learning environment. I'm not scard to have class discussions!
218645	Senior	Female	Part-time	The educational department is understaffed, and their course schedules are very inflexible (most education courses have turned into a once a week night class :(
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	I absolutely the the college I attend. Our slogan is, "Focused On You". This is evidenced from the classroom to the lunchroom. I don't regret paying tuituion here at all. To have the 2nd lowest tuition in the state, there is alot of education and experiences gained that most students, at larger universities probably won't get. I fell in the love with the campus' aesthtics, but as I moved along, I fell in the love with the people, the culture, and the quality of education and life. Surely this institution isn't perfect, but it's constantly striving towards excellence and achievement. every single day!
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	I have become absolutely and undeniably dumber as a direct result of this institution.
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	no
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	Out of all the majors I've explored at this university (Sciences, Business, Psychology, & History), the English major is the most challenging, engaging, and thoroughly enjoyable--the English Department at USCA is top-notch. Some of the questions in this survey, though, are quite vague and/or misleading. I will not substantiate my claim, however, in the confines of this comment box.
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	Good school with good teachers
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	I am not sure that some of the instructors are experts in his or her teaching area of concentration.
218645	Senior	Male	Full-time	I feel that without the relationships that I have made on campus peers and instructors, I would not be the person I am today.
218645	Senior	Male	Part-time	spirituality has nothing to do with my education and in terms of political motivation seems to detract from academia. I don't identify with any ethnicity as I believe we probably all have a few common ancestors regardless of our skin tones.
218645	Senior	Male	Part-time	Biology and Geology have given me a greater presepective of the world, the biotic and abiotic factors in them, and how they relate to everyday life.