

Expectations of First Year Students

A random sample of 1000 first year students at Texas A&M were contacted by phone in the Fall of 2000. Responses were obtained from 804.

Ethnicity

Group	Count	%
B	21	2.612
H	93	11.567
I	5	0.622
O	35	4.353
W	632	78.607
X	18	2.239

Sex

Group	Count	%
F	436	54.229
M	368	45.771

College

Group	Count	%
AG	59	7.338
AR	18	2.239
BA	124	15.423
ED	41	5.100
EN	172	21.393
GE	10	1.244
GS	123	15.299
LA	102	12.687
SC	74	9.204
VM	81	10.075

How much time per week do you expect you will be working at a paying job?

Group	Count	%
1-9 hrs/wk	82	10.199
10-19 hrs/wk	133	16.542
20-39 hrs/wk	28	3.483
full time (40 hrs/wk or more)	18	2.239
none	543	67.537

On the average, how much time per week do you expect you will be studying, doing homework, or writing reports?

Group	Count	%
1-10 hours	172	21.420
11-20 hours	438	54.545
21-30 hours	154	19.178
more than 30 hrs	39	4.857

On the average, how often do you expect you will participate in student organizations, such as clubs or intramural sports?

Participation	Count	%
2-3 times a week	246	30.635
Daily	72	8.966
Once a month	101	12.578
Once a week	248	30.884
Twice a month	136	16.936

How likely is it that you will take a leadership role in a student club or organization sometime in your college career?

Group	Count	%
Not at all	65	8.105
Quite a bit	182	22.693
Somewhat	310	38.653
Very	245	30.549

Over the upcoming year, how many major papers (20 pages or more) do you expect you will have to write?

Group	Count	%
None	145	18.080
One	133	16.584
Two	202	25.187
Three or more	322	40.150

Over the upcoming year, how many reports or essay exams do you expect you will have to write?

Group	Count	%
None	37	4.619
1-2	173	21.598
3-4	279	34.831
5 or more	312	38.951

On the average, over the upcoming year, how many hours per week do you expect to spend in the library studying or doing assigned reading?

Group	Count	%
1-5 hours/week	381	47.566
6-10 hours/week	242	30.212
11-20 hours/week	74	9.238
More than 20 hours/week	22	2.747
None	82	10.237

On the average, over the upcoming year, how many hours per week do you expect to spend in the library doing research for a project or report?

Group	Count	%
1-5 hours/week	507	63.296
6-10 hours/week	154	19.226
11-20 hours/week	37	4.619
More than 20 hours/week	9	1.124
None	94	11.735

On the average, over the upcoming year, how many hours per week do you expect to spend on the internet for recreational purposes, such as online games, downloading music, surfing the web, or online chat?

Group	Count	%
1-5 hours/week	335	41.927
6-10 hours/week	246	30.788
11-20 hours/week	112	14.018
More than 20 hours/week	82	10.263
None	24	3.004

On the average, over the upcoming year, how many hours per week do you expect to spend on the internet for communicating with professors or other students in your classes?

Group	Count	%
1-5 hours/week	627	78.473
6-10 hours/week	90	11.264
11-20 hours/week	23	2.879
More than 20 hours/week	5	0.626
None	54	6.758

On the average, over the upcoming year, how many hours per week do you expect to spend on the internet for academic purposes, such as research for papers or class projects?

Group	Count	%
1-5 hours/week	493	61.702
6-10 hours/week	228	28.536
11-20 hours/week	52	6.508
More than 20 hours/week	7	0.876
None	19	2.378

How often do you expect to meet your instructors outside of class to talk about your grades, course assignments or make-up work?

Group	Count	%
Never	35	4.380
Occasionally	566	70.839
Often	167	20.901
Very often	31	3.880

How often do you expect to talk about your academic program with a faculty member?

Group	Count	%
Never	62	7.760
Occasionally	561	70.213
Often	157	19.650
Very often	19	2.378

How often do you expect to discuss your career plans with a faculty member?

Group	Count	%
Never	95	11.890
Occasionally	522	65.332
Often	153	19.149
Very often	29	3.630

How often do you expect to socialize with a faculty member outside of class? (have a soft drink, snack, etc.)

Group	Count	%
Never	460	57.572
Occasionally	286	35.795
Often	41	5.131
Very often	12	1.502

How often do you expect to participate in a discussion with other students and faculty members outside of class?

Group	Count	%
Never	67	8.385
Occasionally	423	52.941
Often	245	30.663
Very often	64	8.010

How often do you expect to work with a faculty member on a research project?

Group	Count	%
Never	364	45.557
Occasionally	356	44.556
Often	70	8.761
Very often	9	1.126

How often do you expect to be involved with a faculty member as a mentor in general?

Group	Count	%
Never	227	28.411
Occasionally	448	56.070
Often	103	12.891
Very often	21	2.628

How likely is it that you will become acquainted with students whose interests are different from yours?

Group	Count	%
not at all	1	0.125
Somewhat likely	316	39.599
unlikely	24	3.008
Very likely	457	57.268

How likely is it that you will become acquainted with students whose social or ethnic backgrounds are different from yours?

Group	Count	%
not at all	1	0.125
Somewhat likely	317	39.724
unlikely	18	2.256
Very likely	462	57.895

How likely is it that you will become acquainted with students whose religious beliefs are different from yours?

Group	Count	%
not at all	2	0.251
Somewhat likely	319	39.975
unlikely	37	4.637
Very likely	440	55.138

How likely is it that you will become acquainted with students whose philosophy and values are different from yours?

Group	Count	%
not at all	7	0.877
Somewhat likely	349	43.734
unlikely	90	11.278
Very likely	352	44.110

How likely is it that you will become acquainted with students from a different country?

Group	Count	%
not at all	7	0.877
Somewhat likely	410	51.378
unlikely	113	14.160
Very likely	268	33.584

There are many aspects of development in college. I am going to name seven aspects of development and I would like you to tell me how important each aspect is in your overall development.

Developing your academic, scholarly and intellectual qualities.

Group	Count	%
not at all important	1	0.125
Somewhat important	77	9.649
undecided	2	0.251
Very important	718	89.975

Developing your aesthetic, expressive and creative qualities.

Group	Count	%
little importance	32	4.010
not at all important	4	0.501
Somewhat important	352	44.110
undecided	34	4.261
Very important	376	47.118

Developing your critical, evaluative and analytical qualities.

Group	Count	%
little importance	7	0.878
not at all important	1	0.125
Somewhat important	313	39.272
undecided	17	2.133
Very important	459	57.591

Developing an understanding and appreciation of human diversity.

Group	Count	%
little importance	23	2.886
not at all important	5	0.627
Somewhat important	282	35.383
undecided	42	5.270
Very important	445	55.834

Developing information literacy skills. (computer and other information resources.)

Group	Count	%
little importance	20	2.509
not at all important	2	0.251
Somewhat important	224	28.105
undecided	17	2.133
Very important	534	67.001

Developing your vocational and occupational competence.

Group	Count	%
little importance	7	0.878
Somewhat important	150	18.821
undecided	17	2.133
Very important	623	78.168

Deriving personal relevance and practical value from your courses.

Group	Count	%
little importance	17	2.133
not at all important	3	0.376
Somewhat important	302	37.892
undecided	26	3.262
Very important	449	56.336