



West Texas A&M University

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
229814	1	1	2	WT's Career Services Dept. has what they call a "Job Shadow" program. I am very thankful I was able to participate in the program last semester. My goal is to teach High School level business courses upon graduation from WT. Career Services enabled me to spend the day with a local High School Business Teacher as part of the "Job Shadow" program. It was a great experience and it solidified my resolve to become a qualified teacher.
229814	1	1	2	I love being at WTAMU
229814	1	1	2	None
229814	1	1	2	GO BUFFS
229814	1	1	2	these surveys are to long
229814	1	1	2	That there are a lot of race questions which I disliked answering.
229814	1	1	2	The environment and resources such as the technology offered makes the learning so much easier and much more fun. It allows me to receive a more rounded education.
229814	1	1	2	I am not the average college student who is happy with C's or B's. I am an A student. My freshman and CORE classes have been extremely hard and I think that needs to be changed. These are the classes that should turn you onto education, not off of it. My English 1302-20 class is unbelievably hard because the teacher makes it that way. I would like the CORE courses to be toned down about because we have had more than half of our english class drop within the first week. <input type="checkbox"/> I love WT and I want to see it do it's very best for it's students. Please keep up the good work.
229814	1	1	2	My educational experience here at West Texas A & M University has been a grat experience. It is a great institution.
229814	1	1	2	I love WT, the only complaint I have, is that its difficult to receive a scholarship without being a minority or in financial need "according to FAFSA."
229814	1	2	2	Many of the teachers are easy to talk to and are willing to help a student when they are asked.
229814	1	2	2	With one exception, my instructors have been extremely helpful and understanding. I am glad I chose WT!
229814	1	2	2	not really
229814	1	2	2	I think overall my experience here at WT has been great the faculty is amazing and they help and work with you to make sure you understand . There is so much help here I love it here
229814	1	2	2	So far, my college experience has been fulfilling and excellent.
229814	1	2	2	Could we please have recycling bins in the dorms and around campus?
229814	1	2	2	I think our school should focus on how to retain students after thier first year experience. I also think labs should be better, Amarillo College has better labs then WTAMU & its cheaper. People think they are getting cheated out of tuition.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	1	2	2	I HAVE ENJOYED W.T. AND WOUKD TELL OTHERS TO GO
229814	1	2	2	You should consider shortening this surverey. It seems that many of the questions could have been consolidated.
229814	1	2	2	well the business office could use a good talking to. They are sometimes rude and often misinformed and seems like they don't even know what they are doing. Like for example, last semester when I took out e.loans for tution and books, I was told one amount and then two days later I was told another amount. They don't seem pleasent when talking to students, like me who have money problems. But one major irritant is that they don't inform you of your bill amount or due date at all til about 2 weeks til it's due. That's happened to me and a good friend of mine, who's now not able to attend school due to not being told about a bill and basically goes, "oh well". This needs to be corrected and needs to be corrected as soon as possible. Maybe even billing a person more than 2 weeks or so before the money's due???
229814	1	2	2	I feel as though there is no support for single parents who are attempting to gain an education and that there is llittle understanding of their special circumstances and responsibilities.
229814	1	2	2	My experience at West Texas A&M University has been amazing. I love the small school atmosphere.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	1	2	2	<p>Academically: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>- Most of my instructors have provided subject information in such a way that has been clear, relevant, and has encourage the desire for further learning. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>-Other than my English 1301 course (last semester), the expectations, per course, are reasonable. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>- In the above mentioned English course, it is my belief that the difficulty was do to lack of clarity from the instructor, as well as her extended online assignments and expectations. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Socially: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>- As a 40 year old woman, I have not felt connected or encouraged as a student. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Professionally: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>-My entry, as a transfer student, has been chaotic, uninformed, and without personal assistance. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>- My maturity and diligence kept me from falling through the cracks and/or discontinuing the search for the 'right' individuals to assist in my enrollment needs (including paperwork, financials, advising, campus information and understanding, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>- Thankfully, I now have at least two administrative contacts who provide excellent assistance. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The depth of subject interest and knowledge, as shown by the majority of my instructors, is the aspect I have most recognized and come to appreciate. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
229814	1	2	2	I love West Texas A&M University. I am positive I made the right choice by deciding to come here.
229814	1	2	2	West Texas A&M University is an excellent college!
229814	4	1	1	higher educated professors and being able to retain a professor with competituve wages for longer than a semester
229814	4	1	1	Will highly recommend friends and relatives that want to especially go back to school to attend West Texas A&M University.
229814	4	1	1	Have found some instructors tend to have an arrogant attitude towards older students who often have more experience with web-based learning than they do.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	1	1	It seems that instructors are only concerned with writing. Each class I have taken recently has involved volumes of writing. I think these instructors that require so much writing are taking it for granted the student is learning the material, the fact is they are only trying to finish the paper trying to include the concepts required for the grade.□ Not all students want to be English majors, therefore writing may not be as easy for them, yet the instructors grade heavily on format with little emphasis placed on content.□ Writing is not a good indicator to see if the student is learning the material, especially in a non English-Lit. class.
229814	4	1	1	none
229814	4	1	1	The fact that my major is not even listed in one of the previous choices helps to illustrate the feeling that my major (Emergency Management) is really just a Public Administration degree. I have many friends who have dropped out of the program for this reason.
229814	4	1	2	WTAMU should have a seperate advising department. Often, the faculty is too overloaded with teaching assignments, and I believe they lack a little in the advising department. I also believe the SES department should have an education emphasis built into one of the catalogs that isn't focused on just physical education. I believe there is enough demand for people who want to teach and coach that there should be a program for those people. The SES department does a great job of teaching subjects that are applicable to the coaching side, however the problem I'm running into is I'm going to have to get an alternative certification to teach. If someone would have told me that to start with I would have went a different direction.
229814	4	1	2	As a music major, the path to a degree seems to be slightly different than that of another, more traditional degree. Though some of the previous answers might suggest otherwise, I have received an invaluable education here in the music department. I cannot imagine receiving a better undergraduate education from any other university in the state of Texas.
229814	4	1	2	This was a boring survey.
229814	4	1	2	N/A
229814	4	1	2	Finacial aid offices works too slow and does not get the funds distribited in an efficienct amount of time.
229814	4	1	2	Needed more information and help from advisor.
229814	4	1	2	Poor, racially inconsiderate institution that is disrespectful of many non-caucasian ethnicities

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	1	2	In general i believe that the core classes are a waste of time, since these classes should be finished during highschool. I like that we can follow our performance by taking 3-4 exams pr class/semester, which is very different from the European school system. I have been through most of my class material when taking a two year degree and also some in High school so I have not been truly challanged so far academically. I think the professors need to make the classes here more demanding, if you want to uppen the academic level. Some grades are almost given away. This is nice if you want to make all A's but i do not think that it reflects the actual academical level here!
229814	4	1	2	Overall, the classroom experience has been fruitful. I have received a great education thus far from these professors, whom I think are highly qualified to teach the material. I have enjoyed myself within the confines of the classroom. □ The administrative side of things has not gone well. The communication between my adviser to my dean to me has not been well established. Even with all the effort I have put in, things have managed to go awry in that area. So much mis-communication! And naturally, I'm the one who receives the blame for the misunderstandings, even if I have tangible proof to show otherwise. I'm sick of having to depend on these people for my future, but there's nothing else I can do. It's too late in the game to transfer, and they won't give me a new adviser either. □ She also complains a lot to me about having too many students to deal with, so why don't they let me go to someone else, then. If she's incapable of seeing to her load then give it to someone else!□ Also, I absolutely abhor the condescending tone my dean has used time and again when contacting me. It is not his job to belittle me for any reason whatsoever. But, as I've been told by various people, this school is to keen on transfer students. They'll always treat us like outsiders, and I am beginning to see
229814	4	1	2	Parking can be very frustrating. Otherwise, my experience has been great.
229814	4	1	2	The professors of this crappy institution of higher learning are some of the most selfish ungrateful arrogant assholes I have had the displeasure of taking classes from. When the Administration does not care about the students it carries over to the professors and it becomes alright to treat the people who supply your paycheck like crap. It is obvious that this institution forgot who they work for.
229814	4	1	2	West Texas A&M University is one of the most unimpressive institutions I have witnessed in my lifetime. Poorly ran, laughably horrible faculty, a black hole of students' well-earned money, and overall an irritating experience.
229814	4	1	2	None

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	1	2	I am very pleased with the current faculty of the Theatre Department in the Harrington School of Fine Arts. Each seems to be well qualified.
229814	4	1	2	I believe teachers should learn how to teach.
229814	4	1	2	I am sure all is aware of the "transfer" retention problem here. I offered up a problem now here is my solution but it only addresses just a percentage of the problem I believe that WTAMU groups: Fraternities, Sororities, SIFE, and Student Government type organizations will help reduce the attrition rates. Maybe WTAMU could go beyond what is currently in place to help promote these organizations further in order to graduate more incoming freshman at this collegiate institution. (Just my two cents) Thanks.
229814	4	1	2	West Texas A&M would rather expand their sports program then their education program. This is problem that will not be fixed. I am glad I no longer have to sit in classes that an intelligent ten year old could pass. The required basic classes at WT are a joke. The only classes that I feel like were worth taking were several upper level history classes. The history faculty is absolutely amazing. They are not only advanced in their field of study but they care about each individual person. They actually want their students to get an education. This means their classes might be a little challenging therefore upsetting most students at WT. After all going to football games are much more important than learning.
229814	4	1	2	Please put in more parking areas.
229814	4	1	2	Poor Administration whose only concern seems to be money, not students
229814	4	2	1	The nursing program at WTAMU is the most unprofessional program I have ever been involved in.
229814	4	2	1	I attended WT on campus for one semester and have taken on-line classes for 2 1/2 years since then. I will graduate in May and have loved every aspect of WT...especially compared to other institutions. Truly the Best!!!
229814	4	2	1	Instructors in the on-line program have changed. It seems as if they just dont care anymore. They dont provide feedback or clear instructions to what needs to be completed.
229814	4	2	1	Do you think WT can provide a crosswalk from the Physical Plant parking lot sidewalk to the Fine Arts parking lot sidewalk? It gets pretty scary trying to cross the street with the traffic not slowing or stopping for students who are walking across the street.□ Thank you.
229814	4	2	1	ITs been a great experience and I would definitely recommend it to others!
229814	4	2	1	I have enjoyed my experience at WTAMU. The only concern I have is the administration. Many people that I have talked to, as well as myself, have experienced difficulties with them. They are not very helpful,and they make you feel as if you are bothering them.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	2	1	<p>Many of the professors assigned as "advisors" to students are not very thorough. I've seen many student miss out on taking classes and end up stuck in school for an extra year, not just one semester, to take a class their advisor should have known about and informed them of. It happens too often to simply be the occasional human error. I think it's an issue that goes unaddressed too often. □</p> <p>□</p> <p>Since I've been meticulous about my own education and have had other (nicer) professors to lean on, I didn't have to bother my advisor much. I have gotten myself and my husband successfully through the better part of our bachelors. I do love the university, but mostly because of the faculty in the music department and the camaraderie between my peers and I. A good education is a nice thing, but a good education from people that care about you is better.</p>
229814	4	2	1	<p>You need more parking for commuters. I have to leave an hour early for class in order to find parking. Very annoying since we pay to attend.</p>
229814	4	2	1	<p>Overall, college has been a great experience. WT is a very friendly campus, with wonderful new improvements. □</p> <p>I would like to continue on toward a Masters or PhD, however, that is not an option for me at this time.</p>
229814	4	2	1	<p>The only negative feedback about the quality of my educational experience at this university is: not having enough on-line courses and the need for instructors to retrain with today's education technology. Many of the instructors are superb inspirational teachers but lack tech know how. This will cause the students to look into other options for education because we are in the digital age.</p>
229814	4	2	1	<p>If I could change schools I would. This school has made me think twice about the education that I have been receiving from this school. The tuition alone is a reason they are always raising it and I do not see why all students should have to pay for services that they do not need. I also do not see why they charge the student two and some times three different tuitions. HORRIBLE SCHOOL</p>

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	2	2	They should really know how to identify the teaching experiences that go on at their school, some teachers should NOT be teaching a college level course.
229814	4	2	2	Online Students should be provided the same courtesy as far as school orientation as classroom students. Every phone call made was a cold call needing transfer to another department. It is quite an isolating experience as a whole.
229814	4	2	2	I will be applying to graduate school at WTAMU for the Fall semester 2010.
229814	4	2	2	I wish I lived closer and didn't have to drive so far but I can't Afford to live on campus
229814	4	2	2	I have had a great time at WT. I will be sad to leave after this year because I feel like I was just starting to really get to know my classmates after having had them in many of my classes throughout the past two years. Hopefully we will keep in touch. We have formed a close knit professional learning community of future teachers.
229814	4	2	2	The education was good; however, the school is not completely handicap accessible. I have had the most trouble with the business aspects of WTAMU including advisors, deans and degree plans. I also applied to graduate school where the process has been slow and very frustrating.
229814	4	2	2	I wish that sometimes the online classes were a little easier to do.
229814	4	2	2	The only thing I would complain about is the offering of classes. I have taken several classes outside my major because the university didn't offer the classes I needed. Also, many papers are done in a team, I understand this is a key component when getting to the work field, but having every paper and test done as a team is crazy. Half the time team members did not contribute making it very hard on me having to do their work and mine so I could pass. Otherwise, working full-time, taking care of three children, and going to school has been hard but feasible and WT has been a good school to attend.

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	2	2	<p>As a non-traditional student with an aquired background in the field, there are few qualities that I have gained from this setting which predominately approaches student from the perspective that they are young, out of highschool and with no formal work experience. I believe this has to change possibly by way of segmenting programs that cater to non-traditional adult students. As a proactive student committed to quality, I believe that the instructors need to improve in provide useful feedback to student performance qualitatively and quantitatively. To illustrate, often times a grade is returned on an exam without identification to errors or comments that will explain what was incorrect or guidance to improve. This is part of teaching. Lectures without encouragement of dialogue, or comment do not establish communication. I realize that time places constraints on doing this, however without these provisions teaching is incomplete. □</p> <p>As far as the infrastructure of this institution, it is evident that student needs are not a priority nor is proactive communication to keep students informed. For example course syllabus should be made</p>
229814	4	2	2	<p>This school is incredibly difficult to work with administratively, i.e. the business office, admissions, etc. They create obstacles through loopholes, unnecessary lapses of communication and general processing which could be avoidable altogether if the services were working together and willing to work with students as opposed to punching the clock. This complaint in no way extends to the teaching and education support staff who exemplify quite the opposite work ethic; a quality which would be very attractive to many potential students who instead are discouraged by incompetent, ignorant and often plainly rude university personnel. (For brevity of space provided, specific examples can and will be provided upon request.)</p>
229814	4	2	2	<p>It has been a wonderful experience, and I'm proud to say that this is my alma mater! :)</p>
229814	4	2	2	<p>Most of the responses given in this assessment pertain to the Theatre Department of the Collage of Fine Arts and Humanities. My experience outside of this area is not quite as good as it has been in the Theatre Department. The Music classes I have been involved in are of the quality of the theatre classes. Many professors outside of these departments are too concerned with their own research and not with teaching. I thought that was the point of being a professor. Physically, this University is having problems. Most of the students commute and yet there is not nearly enough parking on campus. There have been many cosmetic changes that do not have the best interest of the students in mind. They just built a brand new dorm then took away ample parking for that dorm. As far as the administration, it is difficult to work with them. Residential living is rigid and uncaring, and the President has delusions of grandeur. I chose WT because of the welcoming environment in the Theatre program. I wish that the rest of the University would follow that lead.</p>
229814	4	2	2	<p>I have had some great instructors, and a great advisor. They truly care about student's success.</p>

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	2	2	I have had an amazing time at this educational institution. I have gained many friends and have learned a great deal while attending WTAMU. If I could do it again, I would do it the same! The faculty and staff are very helpful and freindly.
229814	4	2	2	I appreciate my education but there are definitely some problems where WT has its priorities. There is so much focus on how the university looks and not on providing a decent education for all students. There is a large emphasis on the Athletic department when they comprise of just a small percentage of the student population. I don't think the school realizes the wrongdoings they are doing to the majority of the student population, especially when they are actually paying to attend college and not on scholarship.
229814	4	2	2	I found the questions on spirituality to be a bit biased. I understand the importance of spirituality to other students, and how a healthy spirituality can help one academically, but I felt there was not an appropriate answer for atheist students like myself.
229814	4	2	2	I do not recommend this nursing program at this time. Frequent faculty and administrative changes during the past few years have brought a sense of unease and discomfort to many of our students.
229814	4	2	2	I am unhappy with the advising I have not received. I would like to email my Advisor, but don't even have her email address. Phone calls have been unanswered. I feel lost about what classes I still need to take to graduate.
229814	4	2	2	Financial Aid is impossible to work with. The comm takes forever to give appeal answers. There is no way to get the robots in financial aid to explain their answers, they just say this or that and wont elaborate or explain.
229814	4	2	2	Organic Chemistry is a challenging class; however, something needs to be done about the professor. This is a very popular response and I am amazed during his time allotted there hasn't been either a change or improvement upon the matter.
229814	4	2	2	Paula Schlegel is AWESOME!
229814	4	2	2	Poor emphasis on academics and improving quality of education provided at this institution.
229814	4	2	2	I chose WTAMU because I could complete my degree online. I live too far from the college to drive there on a regular basis and if it wasn't for the online classes, there's no way I could finish my degree. I found the online classes much more challenging than face to face classes.
229814	4	2	2	the advisors are horrible in the natural science department.if you are not the ideal college student(doesn't work, has money,no family), that is the only way an advisor will talk to you outside of class.as far as advising, there is none, there is a mean parent figure that gripes at you as if you were a child. the advisors here are the worst i have ever seen or heard of!

UnitID	Class	Gender	Enrollment	Additional Comments
229814	4	2	2	I love WT and all that it has to offer, even though I might not take part of all of it. the biggest problem that I have had in the past was financial aid. and i don't understand why the scholarship deadline is so early. other than that i am glad to be here.
229814	4	2	2	The Agriculture program is top notch, from the faculty and staff to the curriculum.
229814	4	2	2	WT is a great school!
229814	4	2	2	I loved WT although I just find out I still need 4 hours to get my degree for May Grad, and an Arts class at that. I am disappointed that it wasn't caught til now. :(
229814	4	2	2	The teachers in the music department are amazing. They really know what they are talking about and have really helped me to become a good band director. I felt like the department head, dean, and sometimes the president were attacking our teachers for no reason, not really knowing the extent to which our teachers help us. This was mainly the department head as he has forced many of our teachers to consider other jobs just because he doesn't like them. I would like to see him and the dean of the fine arts replaced with people who have the students needs in mind.
229814	4	2	2	Some of the questions don't apply to certain majors.
229814	4	2	2	My educational experience has been wonderful, but often the bureaucracy of the administration is frustrating and I don't feel that they understand my needs as a student living on campus. They are too interested in turning this university into a money-making machine than concentrating on maintaining a high quality of education at low cost to the students.