

# Why are You in College?

Students enroll in the University for many reasons. In a recent national survey of college students the greatest number of entering freshmen reported they are attending college to get a better job, to obtain a general education, and to make more money. Others were in college for the sake of learning or because their families expected it.

Clarifying why you are in college helps you to understand what is important to you and helps you to set short-term and long range goals. Examining your expectations of college will help you plan ahead more realistically and help make the experience s successful and fulfilling as possible.

## What I Expect to Learn From College

Please rate the importance of each of the following statements:

1 = not important at all

2 = important

3 = very important

### I. Academic Goals:

Importance

- To take courses with interesting and stimulating content \_\_\_\_\_
- To have exciting, highly qualified teachers \_\_\_\_\_
- To learn for the sake of learning \_\_\_\_\_
- To receive special help from my instructors when I need it \_\_\_\_\_
- To choose a major that will be interesting and suit my abilities \_\_\_\_\_
- To improve my ability to think and reason \_\_\_\_\_
- To become proficient in study skills \_\_\_\_\_
- To broaden my intellectual interests \_\_\_\_\_
- To get good grades \_\_\_\_\_
- To become knowledgeable about important social, economic and political issues \_\_\_\_\_
- To receive fairness in assignments and grading \_\_\_\_\_
- To learn how to use the library effectively \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Record your three most important academic expectations in section IV.A

### II. Personal Goals:

Importance

- To become independent of my family \_\_\_\_\_
- To participate in sports and physical exercise \_\_\_\_\_
- To make life-long friends \_\_\_\_\_
- To enjoy a variety of cultural activities \_\_\_\_\_
- To become involved in student activities, e.g. student government, social clubs, special interest groups \_\_\_\_\_
- To participate in recreational and social activities on campus \_\_\_\_\_
- To learn how to become an effective leader \_\_\_\_\_
- To have comfort and privacy where I live \_\_\_\_\_
- To make my family proud of me \_\_\_\_\_
- To find a future spouse \_\_\_\_\_
- To be able to make good decisions \_\_\_\_\_
- To manage my time effectively \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Record your three most important expectations in section IV. B

**III. Career Goals**

**Importance**

- To take courses that lead directly to an occupational field \_\_\_\_\_
- To prepare for a career that will allow me to be creative \_\_\_\_\_
- To get help in exploring my interests and abilities \_\_\_\_\_
- To explore a variety of career areas before deciding on one \_\_\_\_\_
- To learn skills necessary to find a good entry level job when I graduate \_\_\_\_\_
- To prepare myself for a certain lifestyle \_\_\_\_\_
- To use education to help solve the world's problems \_\_\_\_\_
- To be successful in my field after I graduate \_\_\_\_\_
- To make a great deal of money \_\_\_\_\_
- To receive a broad, liberal education that will prepare me for many career options \_\_\_\_\_
- To find work that will give me a feeling of accomplishment \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Record your three most important career expectations in section IV C.

**IV. What I hope to accomplish in College:**

**Mercer, Community and Personal Resources to Help me Fulfill My Goals:**

**A. Academic**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Personal**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Career**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

What I want to accomplish my first semester at Mercer: \_\_\_\_\_

What I want to accomplish my first year at Mercer: \_\_\_\_\_

What I want to accomplish after I graduate from Mercer: \_\_\_\_\_