

GWC Fall 2018 Start of Semester Survey

During the beginning of Fall 2018 semester Golden West College students received a survey about their experiences at the beginning of the semester including Welcome Day, Welcome Week and other aspects about their experience at GWC. The responses of the 671 students that participated in this survey are included in this report.

1) Students were asked the following opening questions:

Table 1. Students were asked to answer the following questions:

	Yes	No
Are you the first person in your family to attend college?	35.1%	65.0%
Do you know anyone else currently attending Golden West College?	74.2%	25.8%
Did you attend the GWC Welcome Day orientation for new students?	27.3%	72.7%
Did you participate in any of the activities on campus during the first week of school?	19.1%	81.0%

Note. Total responses N=668, Skipped= 3

- 2) Students were asked to rate their overall level of agreement with Welcome Day and Welcome Week Activities.
- 82.3% of respondents rated the overall quality of the GWC Welcome Day orientation as Very Good or Good
 - 76.8% of respondents rated the overall quality of the activities/events on campus during the first week as Very Good or Good.
- 3) If students said “Bad” or “Very Bad” for the Welcome Day or first week activities, they were asked to please let us know what GWC can do to improve them. (N=28)
- Keep the hammocks out (3 respondents)
 - GWC did a poor job at promoting the events, OCC sends out emails when events are going to take place. That would be a good way to promote it. (2 respondents)
 - Campus maps throughout campus are not user friendly. It would help if they included a “You are Here” marker on them to orient yourself.
 - Registration seemed a bit disorganized
 - Financial Aid presentation was a bit long. It should be shorter, and if anyone has any further questions, they should meet with the staff afterwards.

Table 2. Students were asked to rate the overall quality of the following campus facilities or resources:

	Excellent	Average	Poor	I have not used this facility or resource
Library / LRC	55.8%	16.0%	0.6%	27.6%
Student Services Center	64.7%	17.3%	1.8%	16.3%
Classrooms	30.1%	57.1%	8.6%	4.2%
Student Health Center	21.0%	9.8%	1.0%	68.3%
Bookstore	49.5%	35.9%	2.7%	11.9%
Food services	20.3%	21.7%	9.9%	48.2%
Parking / Public Safety	33.2%	43.5%	9.8%	13.5%
Restrooms	20.5%	58.1%	13.4%	8.0%
Outdoor spaces and seating areas	44.7%	43.7%	5.7%	5.9%

- 4) If students said “Bad” or “Very Bad” for any of the facilities or resources, they were asked to please let us know what GWC can do to improve them. (N=127)
- Bathrooms seem pretty run down; have spiders, spider webs and other bugs (24 respondents)
 - Parking lot needs to be updated; parking spaces too small, ticket dispensers not working (23 respondents)
 - Staff parking that is not being used by Staff on Gothard parking lot should be changed to student parking (3 respondents)
 - Classrooms need to be updated; there is mildew, bad smells, squeaky seat, broken chairs, small desks (uncomfortable for bigger students), not enough seats, crowded rooms, outdated technology, etc. (21)
 - Bookstore is overpriced and not student friendly (7 respondents)
 - Wish the cafeteria was open (6 respondents)
- 5) Students were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the following statements about their experience at GWC so far this semester.
- 85.4% of respondents Strongly Agree or Agree that they feel welcomed at GWC.
 - 87.4% of respondents Strongly Agree or Agree that they feel safe on campus.
 - 82.3% of respondents Strongly Agree or Agree that they were able to get all of the classes they needed.
 - 83.9% of respondents Strongly Agree or Agree that they are satisfied with the programs and course offerings at GWC.
 - 86% of respondents Strongly Agree or Agree that they plan to return next semester.
- 6) If students answered “Disagree” or “Strongly Disagree” to statements about their experience at GWC so far, they were asked to let us know what GWC can do to improve. (N=43)
- Courses getting cancelled without prior notification can be annoying (3 respondents)
 - Need for more 8-week courses
 - Need for more offerings of language courses like Spanish, French and German.

- I feel welcomed everywhere else on campus, except in financial aid office.
- At night when it is dark, I feel extremely nervous and unsafe on campus. If possible please have public safety on foot to escort students to their cars, or walk around in dark areas where their cars don't fit.

7) Respondents were asked to identify their ultimate educational goal by selecting all of the choices that apply (583 students responded; 83 skipped question)

Table 6. What is your ultimate educational goal?

	Responses
Transfer to complete bachelor's degree or higher	467
Earn associate's degree (no transfer)	85
Earn certificate (no transfer)	38
Complete vocational training program	22
Advance in current job or maintain professional license	33
Develop new career interest or goal	100
Personal development or enrichment	124
Improve basic skills	111
Other (please specify)	22
Skipped	83

8) Respondents were asked to identify why they chose to attend GWC:

Table 7. Reason respondent chose to attend GWC

	%
Close to home	73.42%
Academic reputation	22.49%
Friends or relatives attend or have attended GWC	34.58%
Graduates get good jobs	10.05%
Specific program or major	28.28%
Social activities	4.77%
Opportunities to play sports	2.56%
Other (please specify)	8.86%

9) Respondents were asked to share anything else they would like to share with GWC about the start of their semester. (N=63)

- Golden West College is a great place! (5 respondents)
- Please keep the hammocks out (4 respondents)
- Books in the bookstore are really expensive and not always needed (3 respondents)
- Financial Aid Office needs to have more people available (3 respondents)
- I would like to see more classes available in the skilled trades sector like machinist, diesel, auto, body, etc.

- 10) Full-time (12 units or more) or part-time (less than 12 units) enrollment:
- 50.5% of respondents identified as being enrolled full-time
 - 37% of respondents identified as being enrolled apart-time
 - 12.5% of respondents declined to state their full-time/part-time status.

11) Respondent’s Race/Ethnicity

Table 3. Respondent's Race/ Ethnicity

	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.4%
Asian	25.5%
Black or African American	1.9%
Hispanic or Latinx	26.2%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.9%
White	24.7%
Two or more races	4.0%
Skipped	16.3%

12) Respondent’s Gender Identity

Table 4. Respondents Gender Identity

	%
Woman	53.8%
Man	30.8%
Non-binary	1.6%
Skipped	13.7%

13) Respondent’s- Age Demographics

Table 5. Age Demographics

	%
Under 18	4.0%
18-24	55.7%
25-34	16.2%
35-44	6.0%
45-54	3.3%
55-64	1.3%
65 and above	1.0%
Skipped	12.4%