

Focus Group - Reading 100 - Mon. 11:15 a.m.

Question #1

14- Not many classes have syllabi posted online - hard to pick classes without them.

17-Financial aid problems require that students have to work more.

18-Some people learn differently. Teachers should do surveys with their classes on learning styles.

Characteristics of a good teacher:

10- She is great. She's sarcastic and funny, teaches not just about reading but talks about the real world.

12-She has everyone involved.

18-She has group discussions and does group projects.

17- She has positive control of the classroom.

10-She's lenient — not as strict. Gives time to make up work.

Remarks about teachers in general;

16- People learn differently. Good teachers use different teaching styles/techniques.

18-Teachers should be more excited about coming here to class. They should find out about all of the abilities of their students.

14-Grading policies vary from teacher to teacher.

18-Some student s are not very motivated — might not do well on a test.

18- Some essay grading policies differ from class to class.

Question #2

14-Transportation and health problems

18-Bad experience in first semester with a bad teacher or failed classes.

17- Students just don't want to be here. - not mature enough.

16-It takes more that 2 years to get a degree here with taking developmental classes. "It takes forever, it's ridiculous".

19-Someone the student knew had trouble with academic advisors. They kept cancelling appointments and student had to reschedule again and again.

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Question #2 continued:

16- Financial aid took a while to go through and when it did they couldn't get the classes they wanted which resulted in a poor class schedule.

10- Student's older sister had difficulty with the nursing program requirements - couldn't pass the test. She's not returning to DCCC.

14- Appearance in front of school buildings is bad - cigarette butts all over.

Question #3

10- A lot of transfer schools change their requirements at the last minute or right before graduation. This results in students having to go here an extra semester which means more tuition.

10- Main concern is transferring. Students in transfer majors should have automatic or mandatory appointments with transfer counselors so they know what they need to do.

14- Students often pick easiest classes and transfer schools might not be impressed with these classes. Students may not be demonstrating their strongest abilities.

10- SEPTA problems. Buses are too infrequent and crowded. About half the students take public transportation. SEPTA should increase busses to 2 per hour.

13- Student has a friend who, if he has to take a bus, he doesn't come to school.

17- Financial aid is the biggest problem.

14- Some teachers do not require attendance, Some students abuse this and don't show up.

10 - The absence policy is a problem. Put the responsibility on the students to show up for classes or not. Don't have a requirement. The 3 day limit per semester is ridiculous. It should be 3 days a month.

14- Prerequisites shouldn't be required. Students should decide if they need them.

14- Teachers don't return assignments quickly and so you don't know your grade.