Why do freshmen in Arts and Humanities go to college?

Arts and Humanities freshmen name the following as very important reasons for going to college:

- Make more money: 68%
- Get a better job: 67%
- Gain a general education and appreciation of ideas: 61%
- Become a more cultured person: 51%

In general, these are the reasons given most frequently by the freshmen class as a whole, although Arts and Humanities freshmen do not place as strong an emphasis on "make more money" or "get a better job" as other freshmen.

Why do Arts and Humanities freshmen choose Buffalo State?

These freshmen name the following reasons as very important influences on their decisions to choose Buffalo State:

- Buffalo State has low tuition: 38%
- Buffalo State graduates get good jobs: 29%
- Buffalo State has a good academic reputation: 26%
- Buffalo State offered financial assistance: 26%

These reasons are similar to those given by other freshmen, but the Arts and Humanities freshmen cite all of these reasons much less frequently than other freshmen.
How do Arts and Humanities rank Buffalo State among other institutions they considered?

Sixty percent rank Buffalo State first among the colleges they considered and twenty-eight rank Buffalo State second. The remaining 12% rank Buffalo State third or lower. These rankings are the same as those given by other freshmen.

What predictions do Arts and Humanities majors make about their careers at Buffalo State?

Freshmen in the Arts and Humanities expect to succeed at Buffalo State; almost all (98%) say there is a very good chance or some chance they will graduate with a "B" average. Only 15% think there is some chance or a very good chance that they will fail a course. Like other freshmen, almost half (48%) think there is some chance or a very good chance they will change majors or career choice (50%) while in college. While 22% think there is a very good chance they will be satisfied with Buffalo State, another 69% think there is some chance they will be satisfied. However, three out of five say there is some chance or a very good chance they will transfer to another institution.

What are the long-term academic goals of Arts and Humanities freshmen?

Freshmen who plan to enter Arts and Humanities have high long-term academic goals. Only 36% expect the baccalaureate to be their highest degree; 49% expect to get a master’s degree and 15% say they will earn a doctoral or professional degree. Over a third (35%) expect to earn a graduate degree at Buffalo State.

How do Arts and Humanities freshmen see themselves?

Freshmen were asked to rate themselves on nineteen traits by comparing themselves with "the average person your age." Their responses can be compared to those of a large norm group of freshmen who entered public four-year colleges in Fall 1998. Generally speaking, Buffalo State freshmen rate themselves somewhat lower than the norm group. Freshmen who intend to enter Arts and Humanities are most likely to rate themselves above average on the following traits:
Creativity 77%
Understanding others. 70%
Cooperativeness. 63%
Artistic. 55%
Self-understanding. 55%
Writing ability. 55%
Competitive. 54%
Intellectual self-confidence. 53%
Drive to achieve. 50%

Understandably, Arts and Humanities freshmen rate themselves much higher than other freshmen on artistic ability, creativity and understanding others. They rate themselves much lower than other freshmen on drive to achieve and physical health.

What are the long-term personal goals of Arts and Humanities freshmen?

Freshmen were asked to rate the personal importance of eighteen long-term goals. These are the long-term goals rated essential or very important by the greatest number of Arts and Humanities freshmen:

- Be very well off financially. 70%
- Raise a family. 66%
- Help others in difficulty. 65%
- Obtain recognition from colleagues. 65%
• Become authority in my own field. 63%
• Create artistic work. 52%

Although "being very well-off financially" is the goal most frequently cited as essential or very important by freshmen in Arts and Humanities, they are still significantly less likely than other freshmen to rate this goal as essential or very important. Significantly more Arts and Humanities freshmen rated "create artistic work" as essential or very important than did other freshmen.

*All data reported here is from the Freshmen Survey administered during Summer, 1998 orientation.

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