

De Anza College Office of Institutional Research and Planning

To: Enrollment Advisory Team

From: Ola Sabawi, Research Analyst

Date: 4/30/2018

Subject: Dropped Course Survey – Spring 2018

The dropped course survey was distributed to students who dropped one or more of the courses they were registered in during spring 2018. 728 respondents completed the survey.

Reasons why Respondents Dropped a Course

- 16% (115) dropped the course to enroll in a different course.
- 14% (101) were not satisfied with the instructor.
- 13% (97) chose to submit an open ended response.
- 11% (82) reported that the course day or time no longer fit their schedule.
- 11% (79) dropped the course to enroll in another section of the same course.
- 6% (47) reported personal issues outside of school.
- 5% (38) reported their job schedule did not allow them enough time to be successful.
- 4% (28) found it hard to spend time on their class.
- 3% (23) reported that the class was not what they thought it would be.
- Other reasons for dropping a course were cited at rates of 2% or less.

What is the MAIN reason you dropped a course this term?	Respondents	Percent
I dropped the course to enroll in a different course	115	16%
I was not satisfied with the instructor	101	14%
Other:	97	13%
The course day or time no longer fit my schedule	82	11%
I dropped the course to enroll in another section of the same course	79	11%
Personal issues outside of school	47	6%
My job schedule did not allow me enough time to be successful	38	5%
It was hard to find time to spend on my class	28	4%
My class was not what I thought it would be	23	3%
It was hard to find time to spend on my online class	18	2%
Financial issues	17	2%
The commute to and from class was a challenge due to the amount of time involved	16	2%
My online class was not what I thought it would be	15	2%
I could not afford the textbook or course materials	12	2%
I was not passing the course or not getting the grade I wanted	10	1%
I was not satisfied with the course content	9	1%
I was not satisfied with my overall experience at this college	3	0%
No response	18	2%
Total	728	100%

Open-Ended Responses Grouped into Themes:

Theme	Respondents	Percent
Dropped to enroll in a different course or different section	13	17%
Realized the course was not needed	13	17%
Unsatisfied with instructor or method of teaching	10	13%
Registered for too many courses/ wanted to lighten the load	8	10%
Course was too difficult	7	9%
Family, personal, or health reasons	6	8%
Online course deadlines conflicted with schedule/ required time commitment	4	5%
Registered in the wrong course	3	4%
Course was cancelled	2	3%
New work schedule that conflicted with class time	2	3%
Problems with traffic or public transportation schedule	2	3%
Time conflict with another course	2	3%
Decided to change degree pathway or major	1	1%
Decided to take the course at Foothill College	1	1%
Issues with other students	1	1%
Received a higher placement score/ dropped the course to register for a higher level	1	1%
Unable to acquire required class materials	1	1%
Total	77	100%