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Socialization and Campus Involvement [brochure and video]

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What is Socialization?

According to "Becoming a College Student: A Study in Socialization," socialization is defined as: "a process of learning what it means to be a member of a group and navigating one's sense of self as a part of that process." (Sternheimer, 2011)

Why is Socialization important in college?

- Improves emotional health (Sax, Bryant & Gilmartin, 2002)
- Boosts academic performance and retention (Pritchard & Wilson, 2003)
- Builds valuable skills for the future (ex: Can make a student more marketable to future employers)
- Learn more about one's own capabilities
- Can lead to finding new passions or interests



References

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Socialization and Campus Involvement

Impact on Emotional, Mental and Physical Health



Allison Smith and Heather Thomas

PRO's	CON's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can build social skills • Can give students support • Provides a sense of belonging • Increases exposure to diverse people and cultures • Can improve academic performance • Makes students more well-rounded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can lead to overcommitment • Can add stress and pressure • Can affect time management • Activities can take become priority over academics • Can add possible financial burdens

Advice for Incoming Students

Professional Perspective:

Use the resources available on campus to become more aware of involvement opportunities outside of the classroom. Socialization helps to make more well-rounded individuals which is beneficial for the future.

"When we asked students to think of a critical incident or moment that profoundly changed them during college, 4 out of 5 chose an out-of-classroom experience."

~Richard Light
"Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Minds"

Student Perspective:

Make getting involved on campus a priority. Taking the first step of getting involved can lead to more ways to feel a part of the campus community. Step outside of your comfort zone to find passions and interests that will make your transition to college easier.

Socialization Opportunities on Your Campus

- Student Activities Office
- Housing and Residence Life
- Greek Life
- Academic Departments
- Religious Organizations
- Student Clubs
- Sports and Intramurals

