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# SPRING 2021 STUDENT OPINION SURVEY

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UVU Institutional Research  
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## Utah Valley University Student Opinion Survey, Spring 2021

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Utah Valley University's Institutional Research office conducts a general survey of UVU students during fall and spring semesters. During Spring semester 2021, twelve thousand randomly selected UVU students were invited to participate. The survey was administered online and ran from 22 March 2021 – 5 April 2021. One thousand three hundred and sixty-two students opened the survey. One thousand three hundred and thirty-eight submitted responses. The response rate was 11% and the margin of error is +/- 3%.

### Key Findings

- Fifty-four percent of survey respondents are single; 43% married
- Sixty percent of survey respondents are employed 21 hours *or more* per week
- Twenty-two percent of survey respondents are parents (with children in the home)
- Sixty-nine percent of survey respondents report identifying as Latter-Day Saints.

## Core Questions

Overall experience and student pride

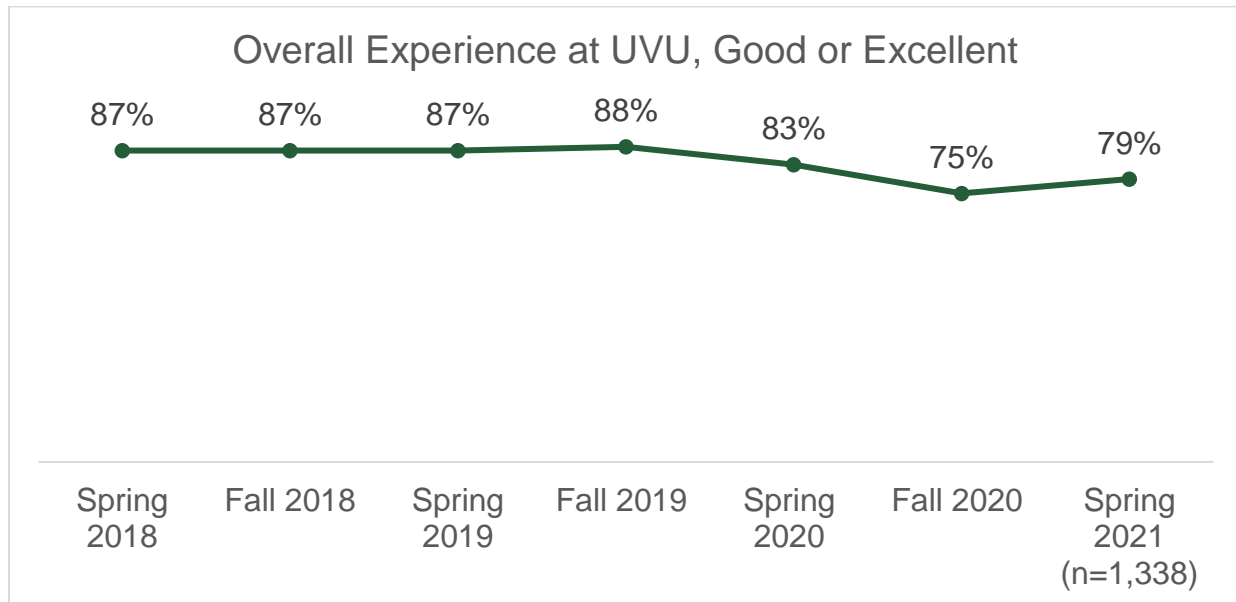


Figure 1

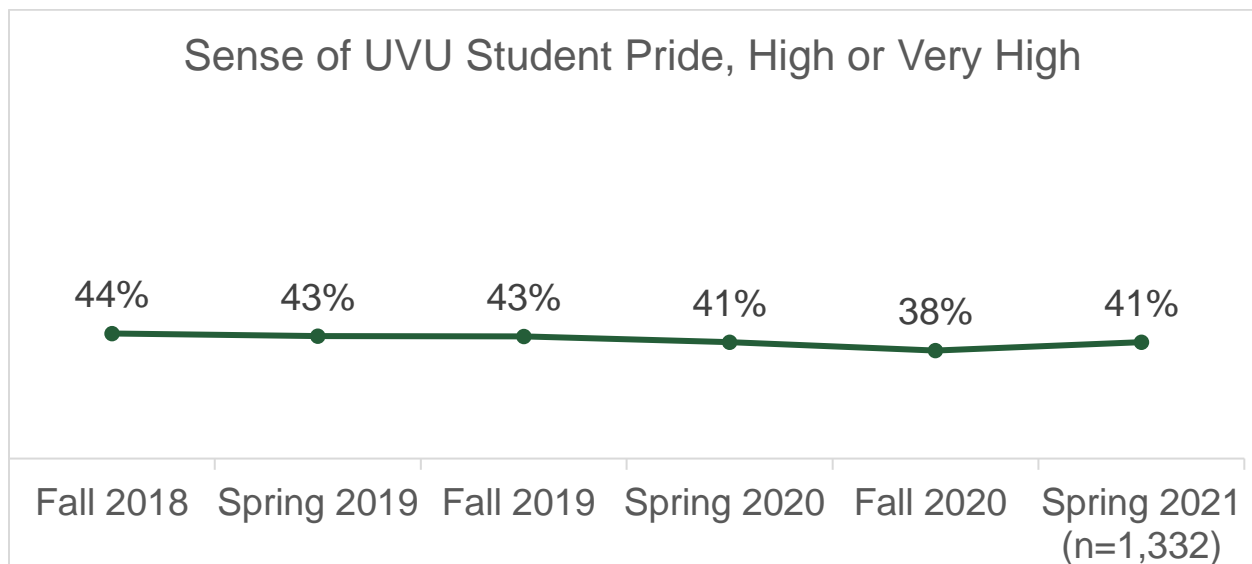


Figure 2

## Respect

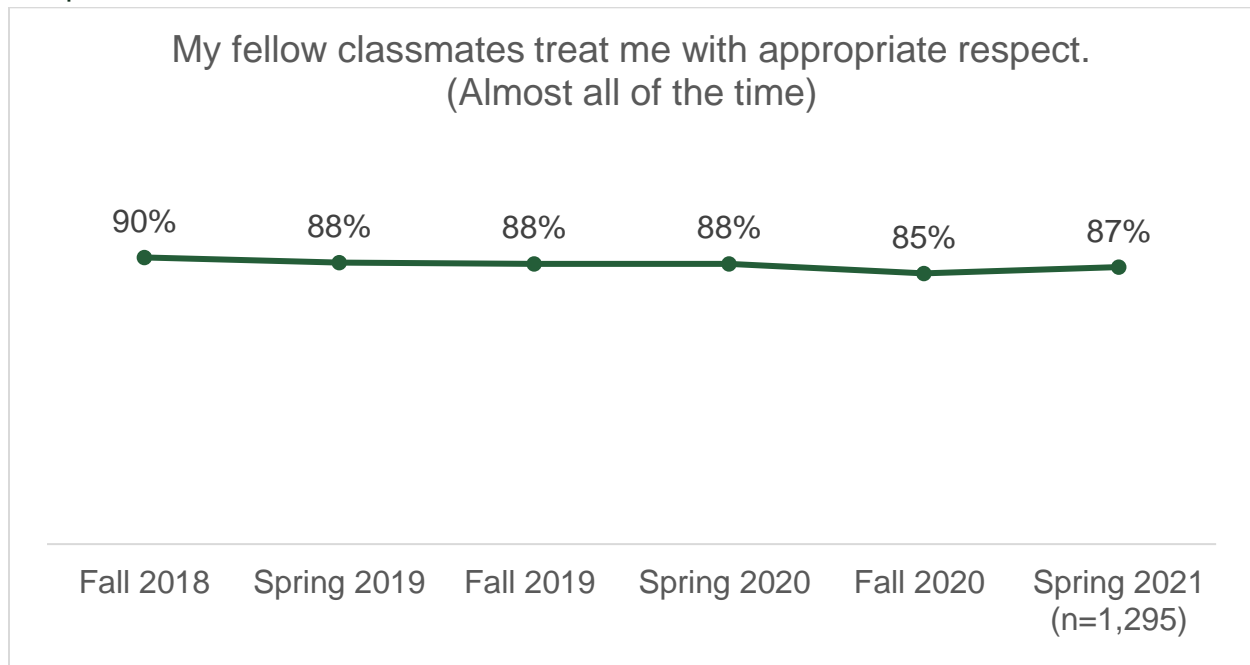


Figure 3

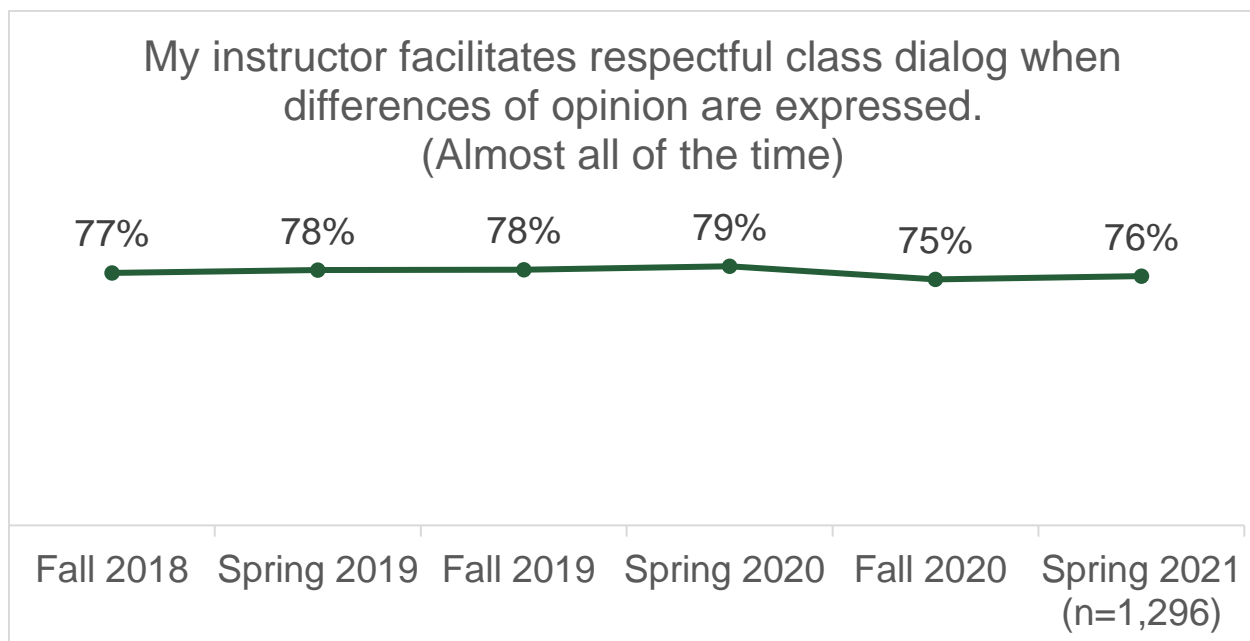


Figure 4

## Student perceptions

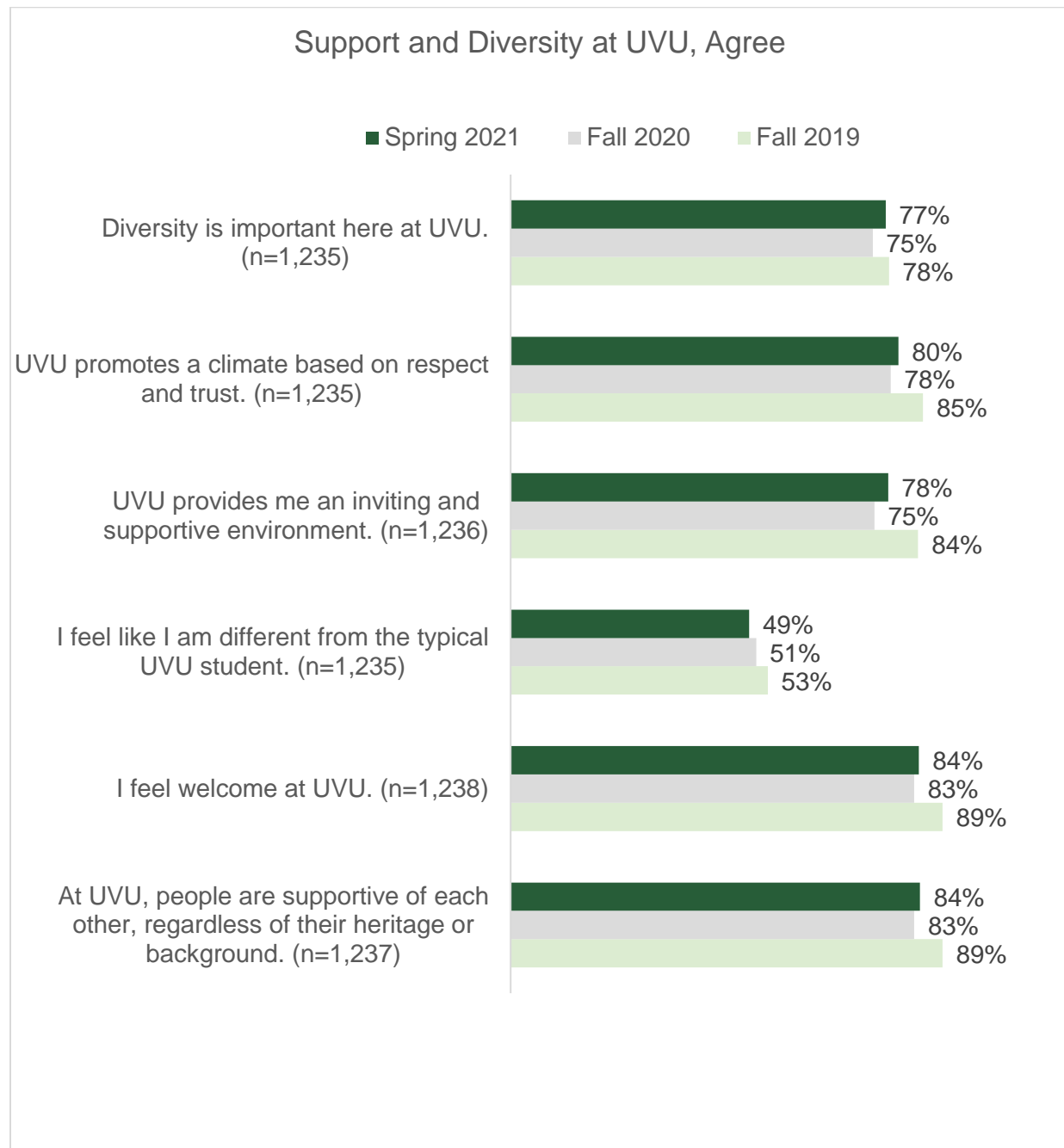


Figure 5

## Connectedness

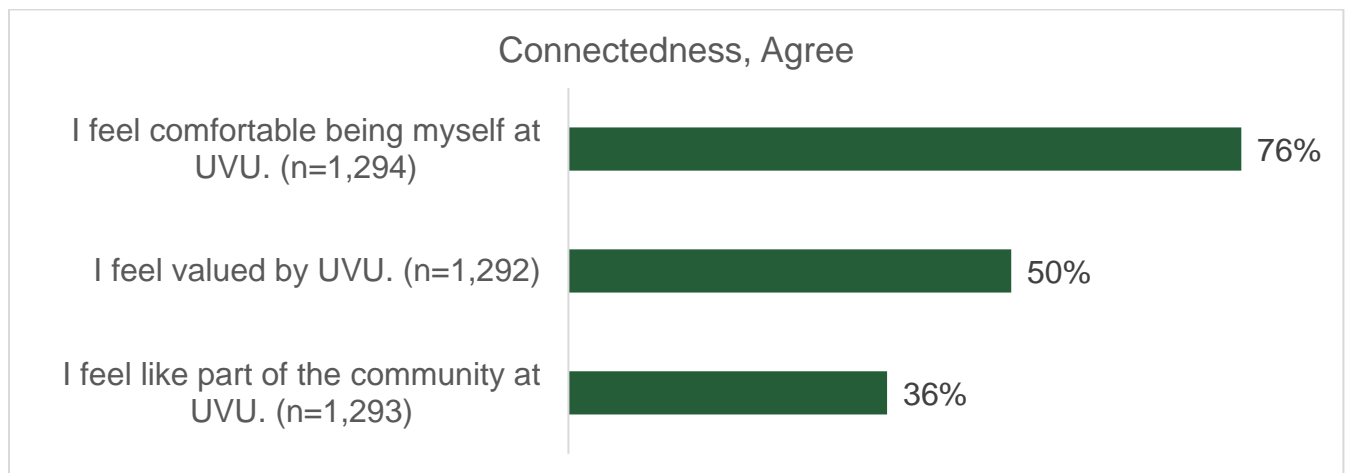


Figure 6

## Course scheduling and registration

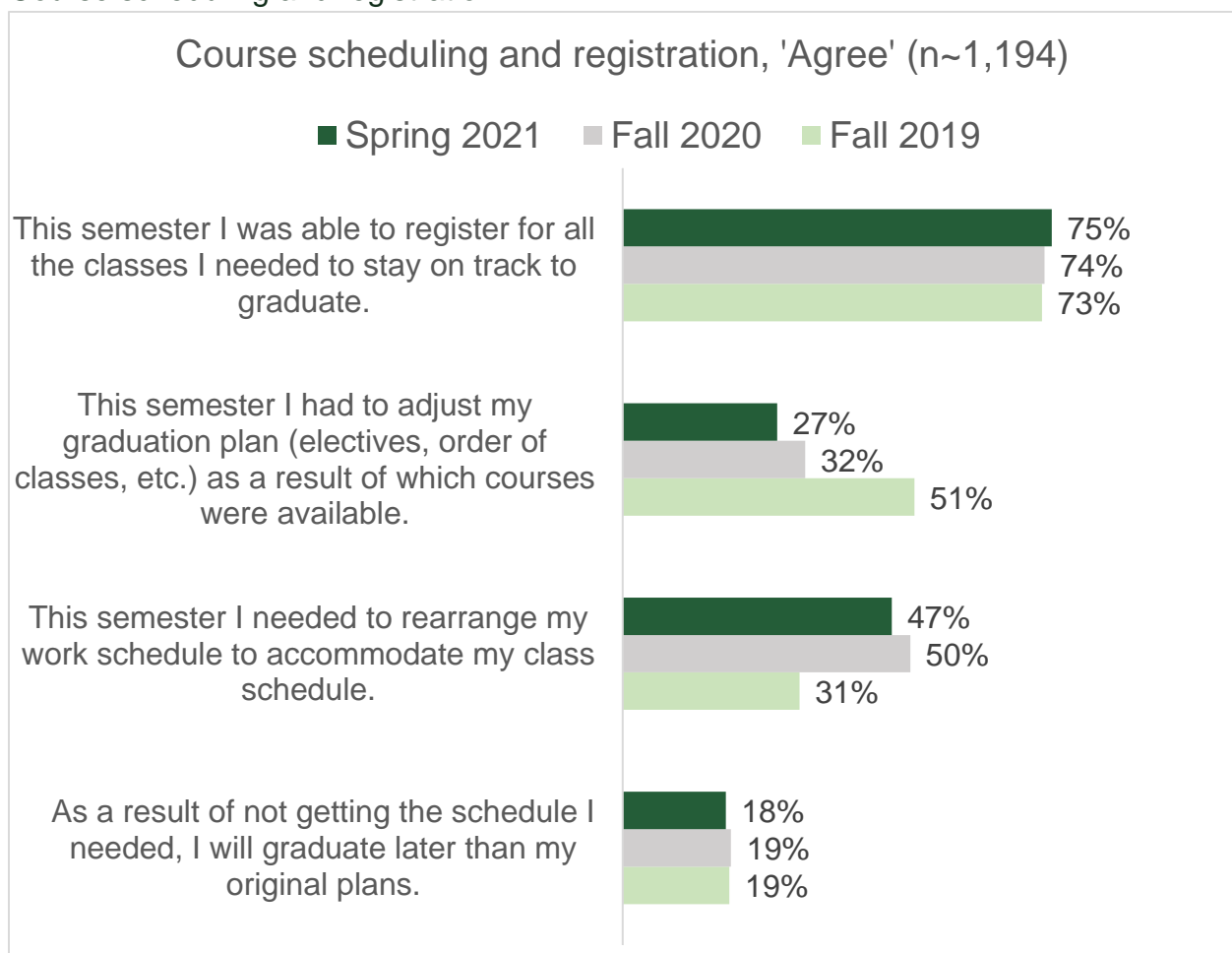
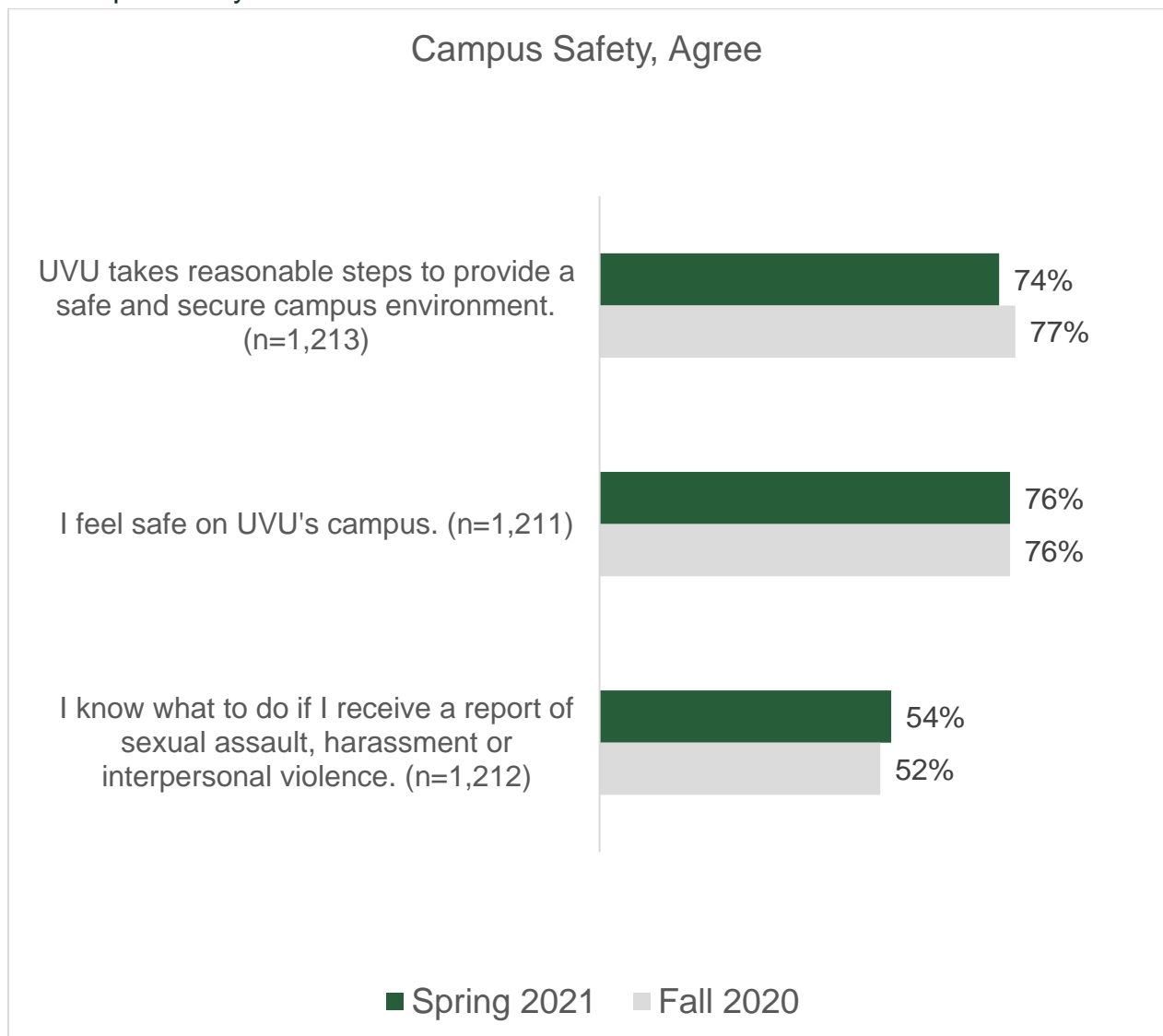


Figure 7

## On-campus safety



*Figure 8*



## Academic Calendar

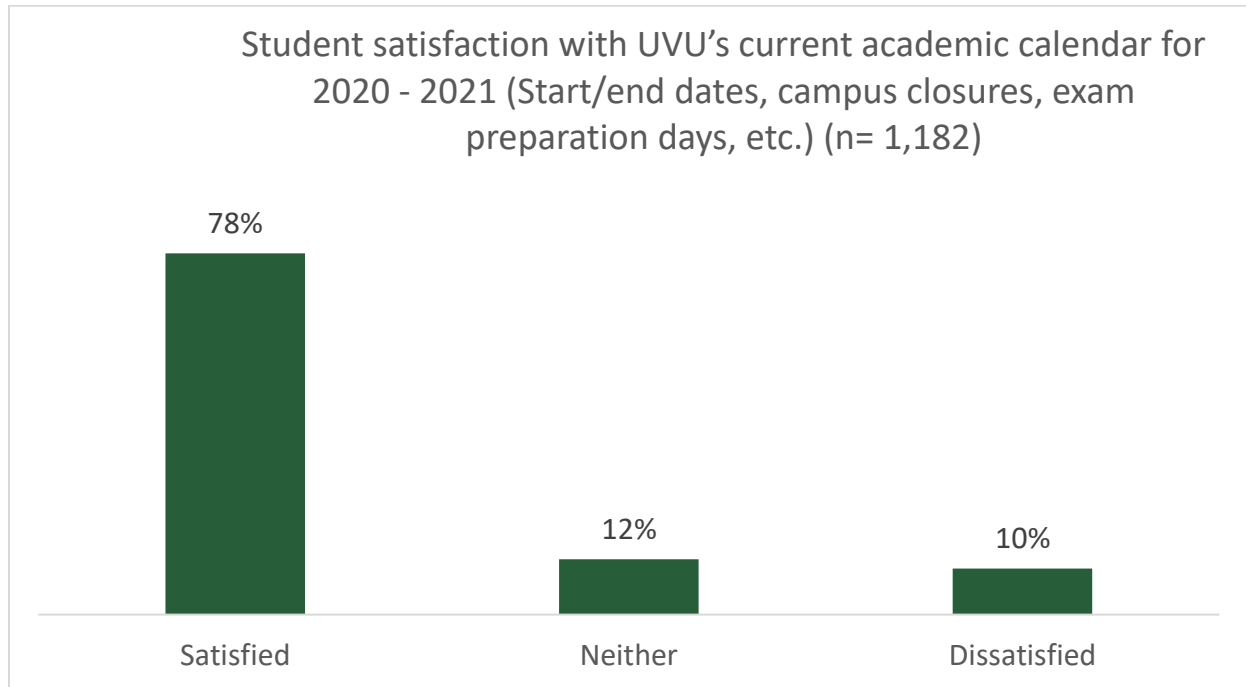


Figure 9

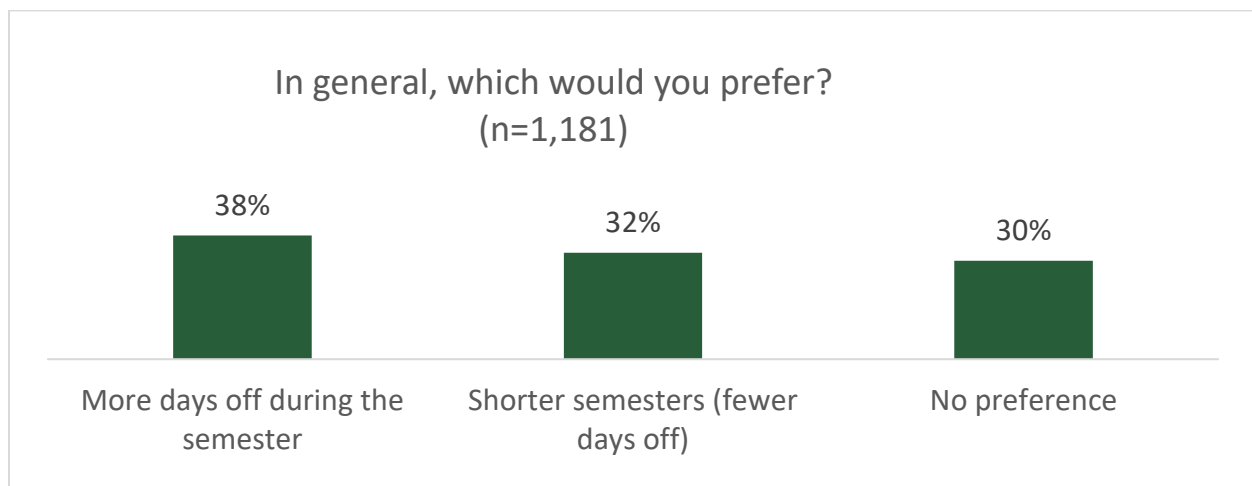


Figure 10

Which of the following Fall semester options (set to begin in 2024) do you most prefer? Please rank in order of preference by 'Drag and drop'; 1= Most preferred schedule, 5= Least preferred schedule.

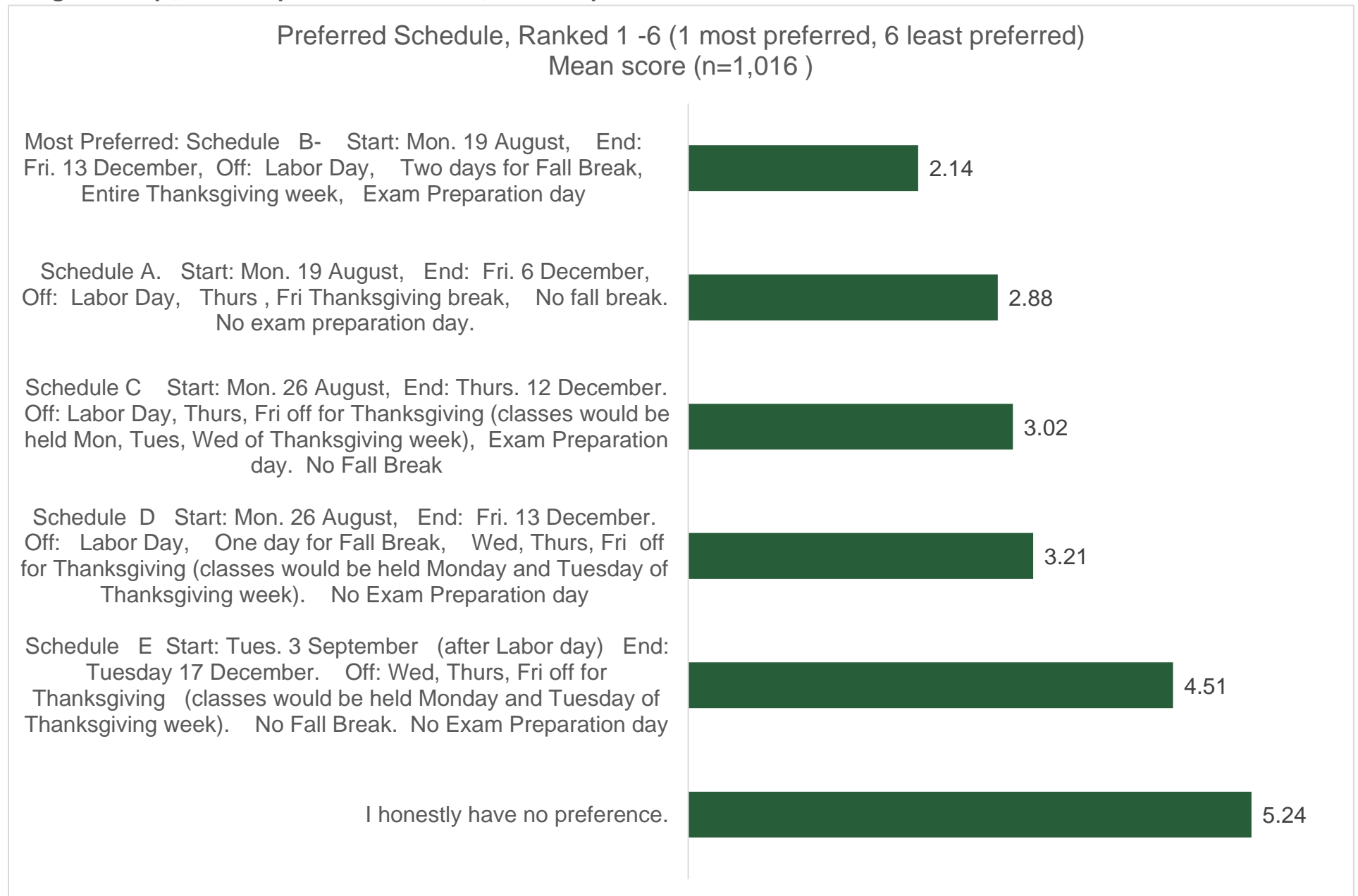
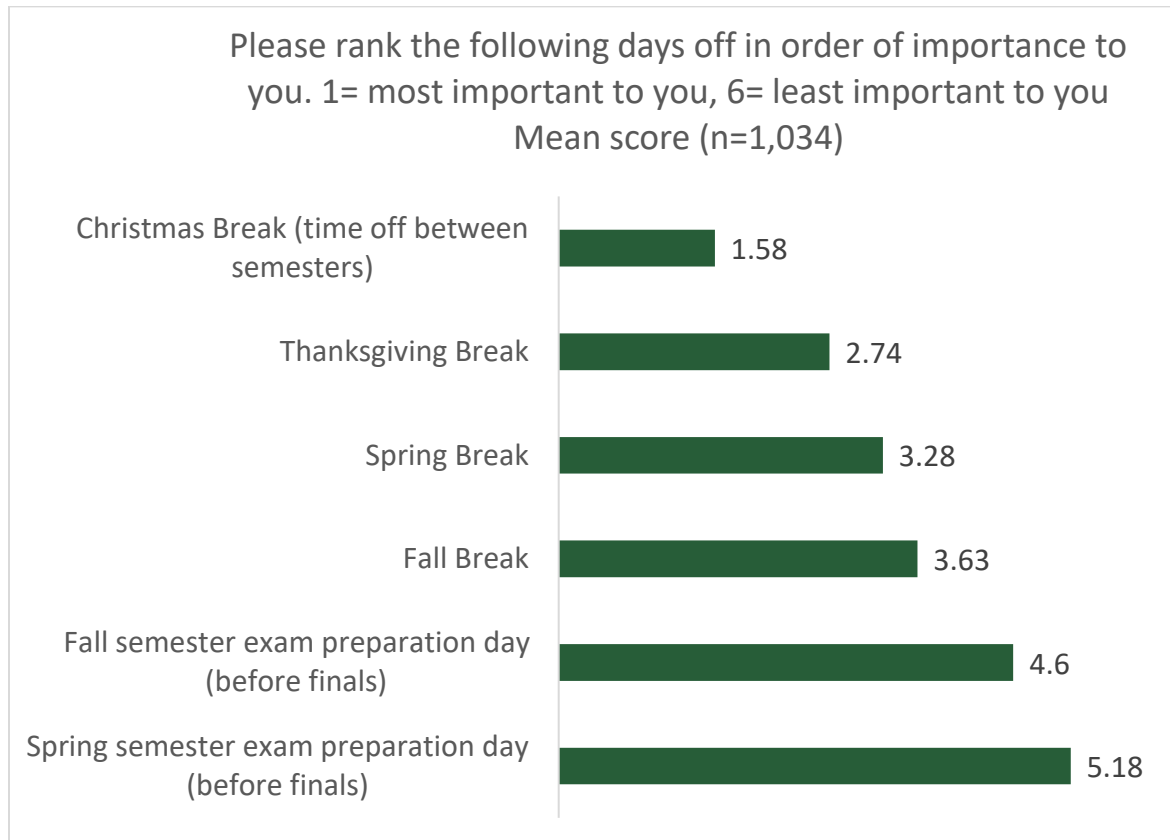


Figure 11

**Please rank the following days off in order of importance to you. 1= most important to you, 6= least important to you**



*Figure 12*

**Please rank the following options for Spring semester (beginning in 2025) in order of preference by 'Drag and drop'; 1= Most preferred schedule, 4= Least preferred schedule.**

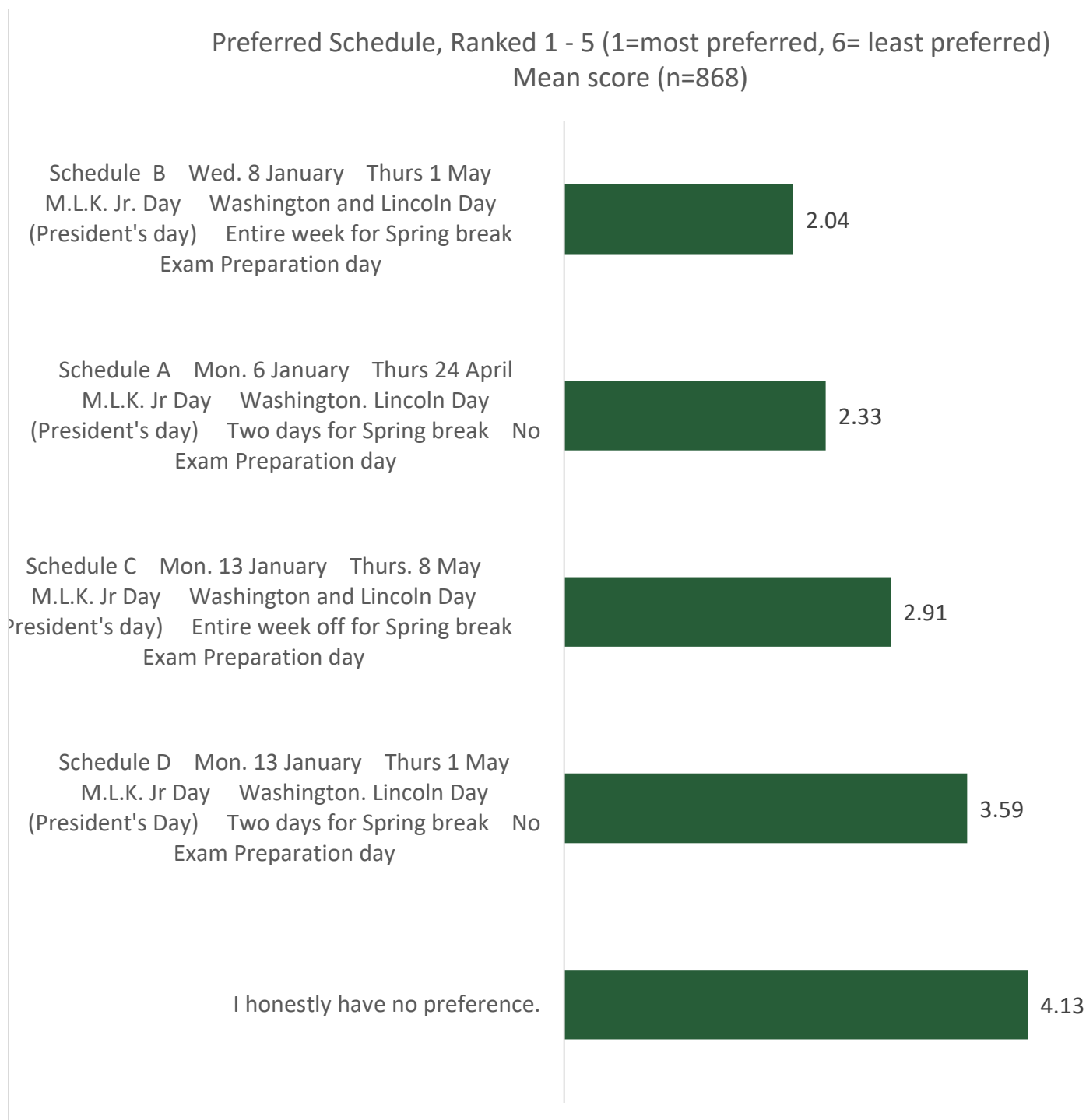


Figure 13

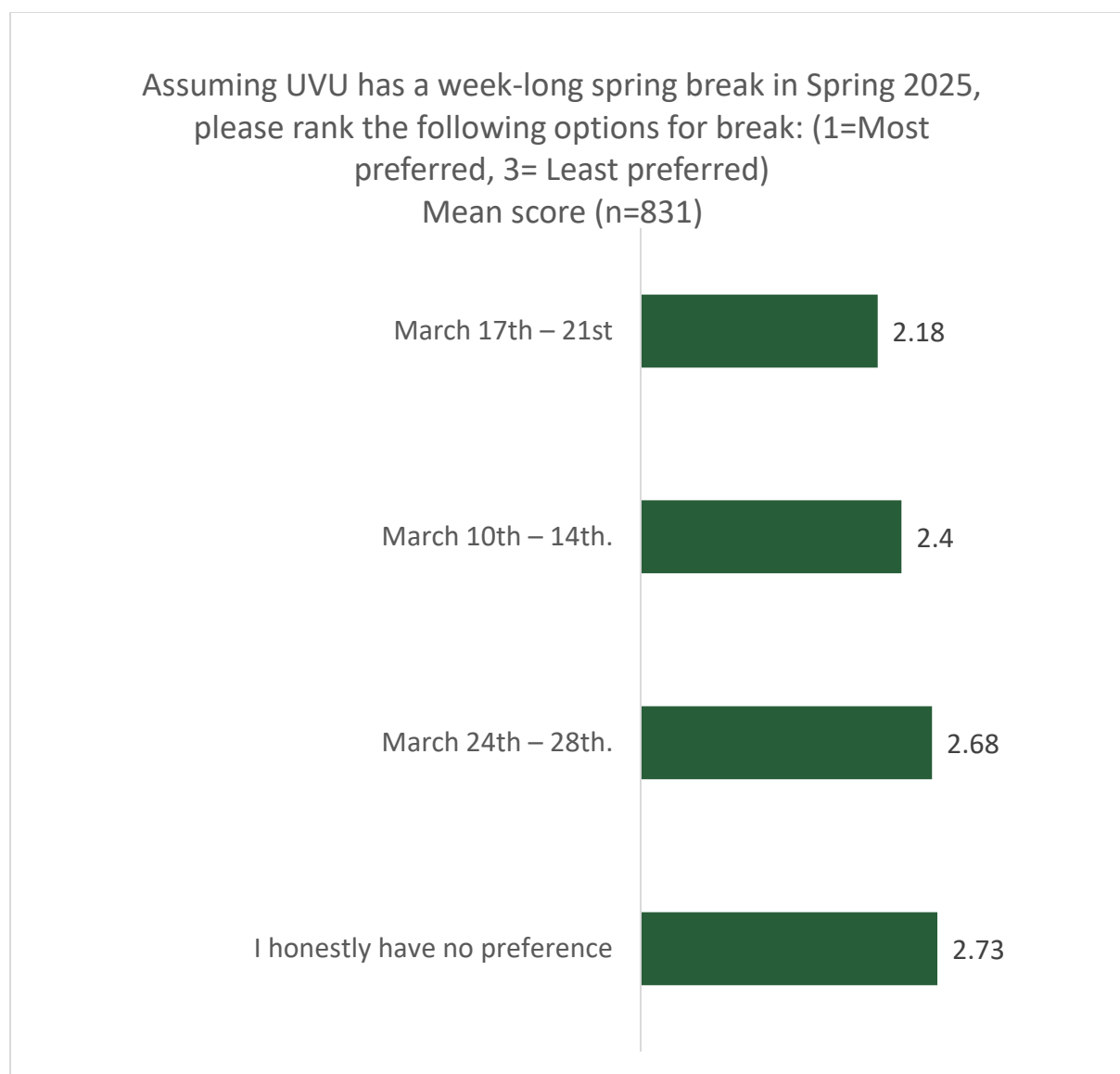


Figure 14

If you could change anything about the academic calendar, what would it be? (n=1,001)  
[809 'No comment' 192 suggestions summarized below.]

|   | If you could change anything about the academic calendar, what would it be?  |
|---|--|
| 1 | I would make a policy or something that teachers cannot require exams or tests or assignments due on break days. I have three online classes this semester and I was told we would have an exam during spring break. This almost ruined my vacation plans, however the professor was kind and changed it because many of us contacted him. I heard of others who had this happen to them and were not as lucky. Online classes should still comply to break dates. |

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 2  | No matter what break we even had, teachers still assigned the same, or more homework so it wasn't like there was even a break. So 'breaks' didn't mean anything this semester.   |
| 3  | Have all assignments due when a break starts, not the day we get back.   |
| 4  | Extended withdrawal deadlines  |
| 5  | I would change the withdraw deadline. I think it is way too early in the semester and it has caused me trouble this year. I also think the add drop deadline should be later as well.  |
| 6  | I would give students a bit longer maybe a week (?) to get a full refund because of waitlisted classes. (Right now it's about 2 weeks after classes start, but if a class is waitlisted you may not get in until the end of the first week). Even if one week was added, it would be super helpful! Thanks.  |
| 7  | End fall semester and have grades post ASAP so that my employer tuition reimbursement doesn't miss the deadline and have to be the following fiscal year. SLCC ends sooner and is more ideal for a coworker of mine.   |
| 8  | Have tuition be due a little later than it is currently. I usually have the money to pay it each semester, but you have to pay it so early on compared to other institutions.  |
| 9  | Releasing what classes will be available for the academic calendar year earlier  |
| 10 | Align spring and fall breaks with the local school district so families could be off at the same time.   |
| 11 | Coincide with local district schedules to accommodate parents.   |
| 12 | I would line up spring break, winter break and thanksgiving break with Alpine School District! Childcare is expensive when they don't match!!!!  |
| 13 | Matching spring and fall break with local k-12 school calendars better. As a parent, my spring break was 2 weeks before my children's. My boss has 2 kids at UVU and 1 in high school, and the high schooler had to miss class to make the spring break plans with the family.   |
| 14 | For those of us with younger siblings, it would be nice if we had Fall and Spring Breaks at the same time as other local school districts.   |
| 15 | ....Fall and Spring breaks. There would be two weeks where all classes would be virtual and/or hybrid rather than there being one week where there's only vacation. University of Utah just recently did this during the Spring semester of 2021 due to the pandemic. They called it a circuit breaker.  |
| 16 | A longer break between fall and spring semester  |
| 17 | Colleges are extremely inefficient. I would do anything I could to condense the semesters into the shortest timeframe possible. Spring and fall break do not matter for the majority of students that have jobs because they will continue to work through the supposed "time-off". Create a faster and more efficient way to get people graduated.  |
| 18 | For the fall semester, I loathe going late into December. Ideally, we'd be done with finals the first week of December. Of all the times to be studying for finals, a week or two before Christmas is awful. I don't care at all about "reading days", because there's no reason for them. This is my second degree here at UVU and I rarely had courses on Friday. Remove the reading day and give us a longer break or a shorter semester. |

|    |   |
|----|---|
|    | For the spring semester, I prefer starting a bit later. This year, we started on the 11th, and I liked that. I don't mind going into the first week of May for finals. I would like Spring Break to be a bit later in March. Or even in early April. A break before that final month of classes is huge. It lets me recharge before the last big push.  |
| 19 | Having shorter semesters. BYU gets out much sooner than we do and it get's frustrating at times, especially when trying to job hunt and they essentially get first picks because of their availability.   |
| 20 | I don't mind having fewer or less breaks, but one issue I have is when the same class keeps getting missed because of holidays on that weekday. For example, this spring semester I started the nursing program, and some of the classes follow parallel paths about what body system they cover. Because one class was on a Monday which has multiple holidays in spring, the content of the classes later I'm the week have been affected because we didnt have the knowledge we needed from so many skipped classes. I think having breaks is important for students mental health, but I think some sort of balance needs to be found so classes aren't being short changed. A similar issue happens in fall with Thursday and Friday clases. |
| 21 | I rather have a shorter semester and take out the breaks. During spring break and fall break, I do school work anyways. It hasn't been much of a break for me. So just taking it out and ending a week earlier would be my preference.  |
| 22 | I would add Juneteenth as a holiday for the summer semester.  |
| 23 | Hold in person classes like we paid for   |
| 24 | There's a lot of Monday's off and that resulted in a lot of missed periods of a very important class for me. Could have used more class time.   |
| 25 | make it so spring break is right between first and second block instead of having a couple days of second block before spring break   |

*Table 1*

Do you have any other suggestions for improvement of the academic calendar? (n=997) [936 'No', 61 suggestions summarized below.]

|   | <b>If you could change anything about the academic calendar, what would it be? Representative comments</b>  |
|---|---|
| 1 | When students have breaks, those breaks should be exempt from all school - including homework. Having assignments due during breaks essentially makes it so we don't have a break at all. |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 | Emphasize to faculty and staff that a day off for the mental health of students is just as important as a day spent learning. Too often this semester has a day been "off" only to find assignments due during this time.   |
| 3 | Uvu shouldn't be able to charge full tuition for online classes. I'm getting 1/3rd of the experience and paying full price, it's BS.  |
| 4 | Please try to remember that student burn-out and depression is very common for colleges and universities. Breaks from schoolwork are one of the best ways to prevent it. If the university is planning on reducing break days, please take mental health into consideration as well.  |
| 5 | Please take into consideration the move-out days for off-campus housing are largely based on BYU's schedule. I have had Final Exams during "homeless week" multiple times, and that adds undue stress. I don't even really care how many days off I get during the semester, but I want to be able to take final exams before I have to be out of my apartment. . |
| 6 | Make finals fall on the same day and time as class is normally scheduled  |
| 7 | If you do a Fall break, please align it with local school districts. Many UVU students have students in school. Having breaks at the same time would make a huge difference for those families.   |
| 8 | I only wish the calendar was more accessible for students. It is hard to find on the UVU website.   |
|   |   |

*Table 2*



## Demographics

### Gender identity

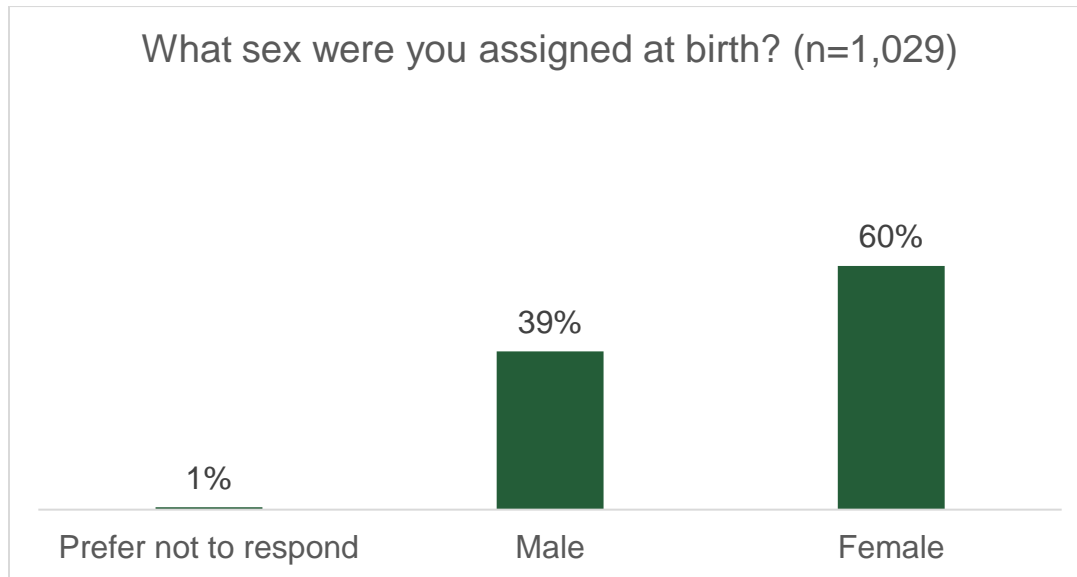


Figure 15

| How do you currently describe yourself? (n=1,029)                             | %     |
|---|-------|
| Female  | 58%   |
| Male  | 38%   |
| Transgender   | 0.29% |
| Genderqueer/non-conforming  | 1%    |
| Do not identify as a female, male, transgender, or genderqueer/non-conforming | 0.39% |
| Prefer not to respond   | 2%    |
| Total   | 100%  |

Table 3

## Employment

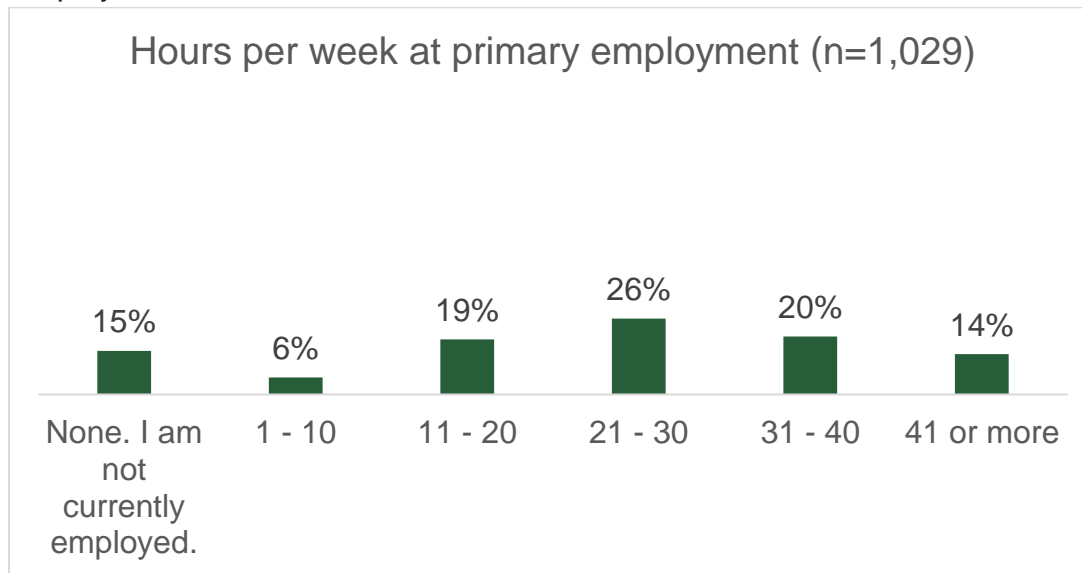


Figure 16

UVU Students Employed 21+ Hours per Week = 60%

| Hours per week at primary employment      |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
|   | %    | Count |
| <b>None. I am not currently employed.</b> | 15%  | 155   |
| <b>1 - 10</b>                             | 6%   | 60    |
| <b>11 - 20</b>                            | 19%  | 196   |
| <b>21 - 30</b>                            | 26%  | 269   |
| <b>31 - 40</b>                            | 20%  | 206   |
| <b>41 or more</b>                         | 14%  | 143   |
| <b>Total</b>                              | 100% | 1029  |

Table 4

## Marital and parent status

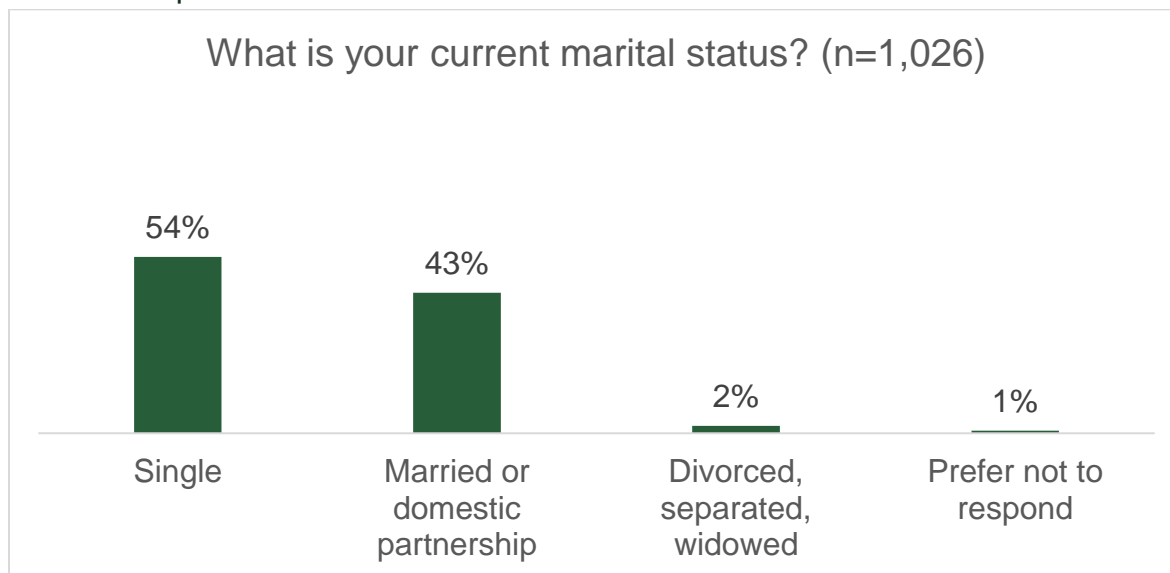


Figure 157

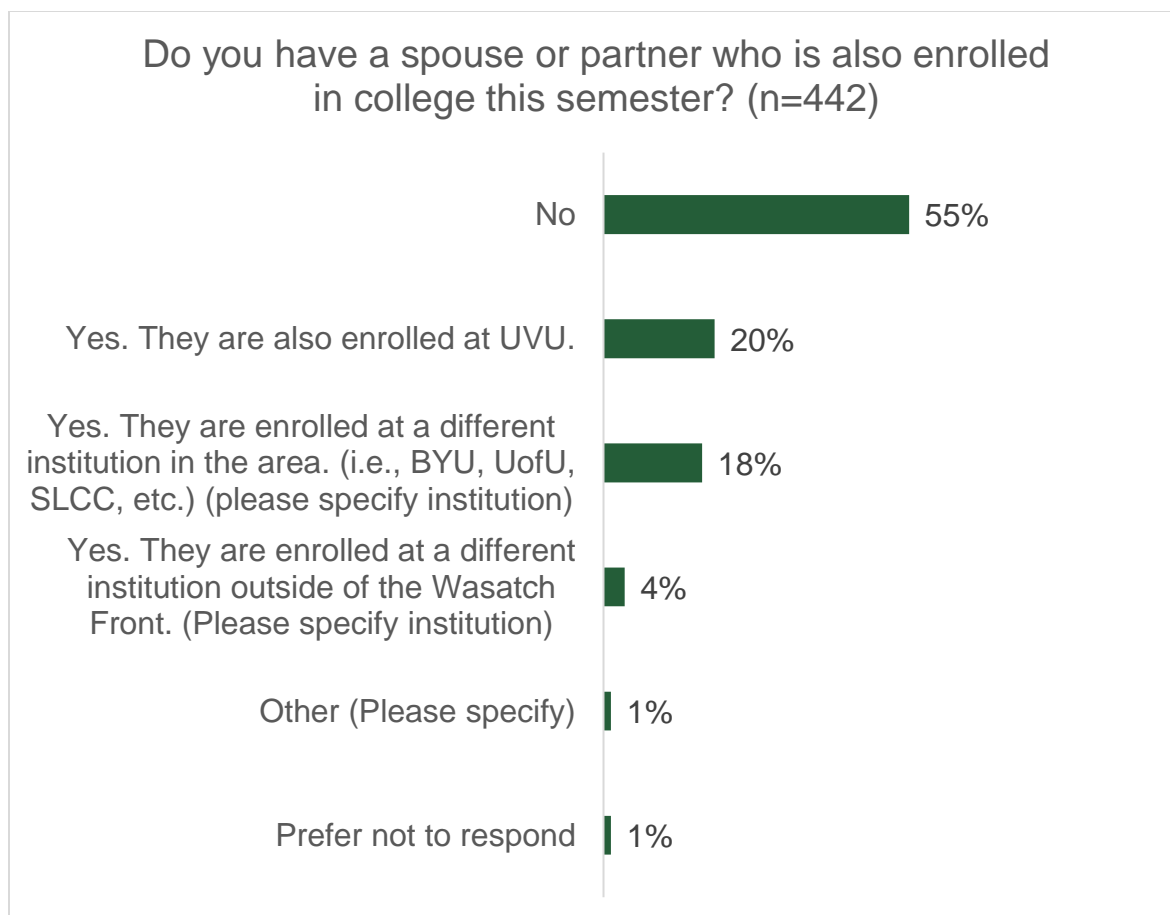


Figure 18

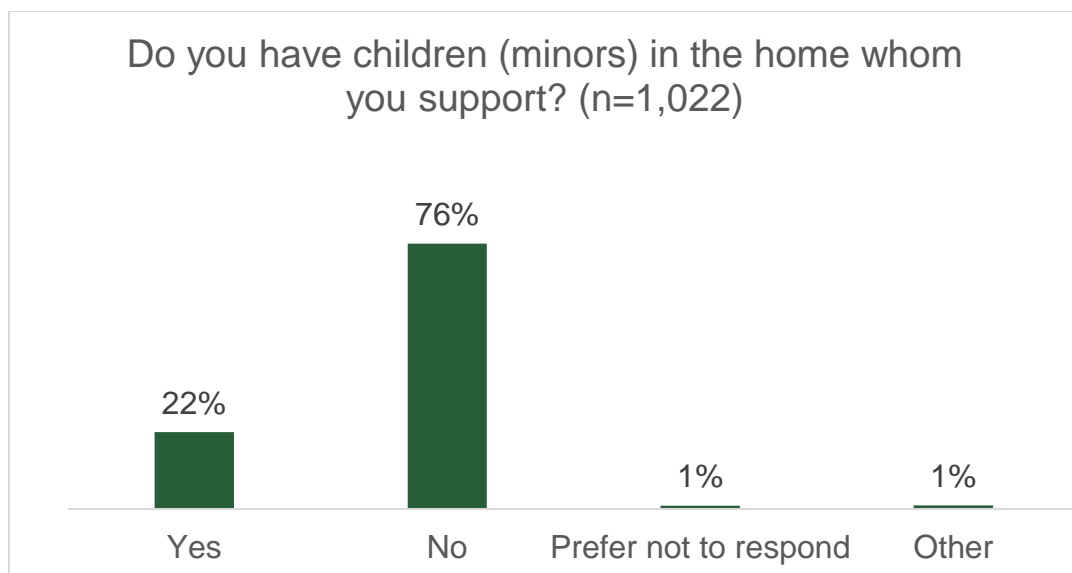


Figure 19

Other: I'm a caregiver for other relatives

#### Volunteer work

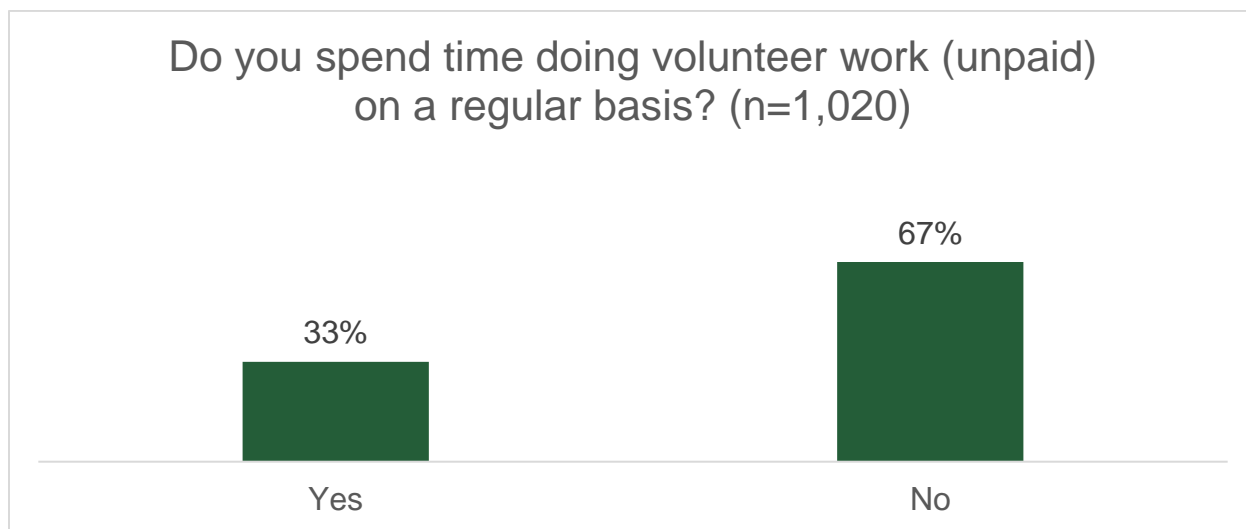


Figure 20

## Religious identity

| <b>Regarding your current worldview, with which of the following descriptors do you most closely identify? (Select all that apply) (n=1,046)</b> |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Agnosticism</b>   | 9.75%  |
| <b>Atheism</b>   | 9.18%  |
| <b>Baha'i Faith</b>  | 0.19%  |
| <b>Buddhism</b>  | 2.10%  |
| <b>Christianity, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints</b>   | 68.36% |
| <b>Christianity, Non-denominational</b>  | 3.44%  |
| <b>Christianity, Orthodox</b>  | 0.19%  |
| <b>Christianity, Protestant</b>  | 0.76%  |
| <b>Christianity, Roman Catholic</b>  | 1.34%  |
| <b>Confucianism</b>  | 0.29%  |
| <b>Daoism</b>  | 1.15%  |
| <b>Hinduism</b>  | 0.38%  |
| <b>I prefer not to answer</b>  | 3.54%  |
| <b>Islam</b>   | 0.38%  |
| <b>Jainism</b>   | 0.10%  |
| <b>Judaism</b>   | 0.19%  |
| <b>Native American Tradition(s)</b>  | 0.48%  |
| <b>None</b>  | 2.58%  |
| <b>Non-religious</b>   | 7.84%  |
| <b>Not listed/I prefer to self-describe (please specify)</b>   | 1.63%  |
| <b>Paganism</b>  | 1.91%  |
| <b>Secular Humanism</b>  | 0.86%  |
| <b>Sikhism</b>   | 0.10%  |
| <b>Spiritual</b>   | 5.64%  |
| <b>Unitarian Universalism</b>  | 0.19%  |
| <b>Zoroastrianism</b>  | 0.10%  |

Table 5

Languages spoken

| <b>Which languages do you fluently speak? (mark all that apply) (n=1,023)</b> | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| <b>American Sign Language</b>   | 7.33%    |
| <b>Arabic</b>   | 0.78%    |
| <b>Chinese</b>  | 1.66%    |
| <b>Creole</b>   | 0.29%    |
| <b>Danish</b>   | 0.20%    |
| <b>Dutch</b>  | 0.20%    |
| <b>English</b>  | 99.90%   |
| <b>Filipino/ Tagalog</b>  | 1.27%    |
| <b>French</b>   | 3.23%    |
| <b>German</b>   | 1.27%    |
| <b>Hindi</b>  | 0.39%    |
| <b>Italian</b>  | 0.78%    |
| <b>Japanese</b>   | 2.83%    |
| <b>Korean</b>   | 0.88%    |
| <b>Mandarin</b>   | 0.59%    |
| <b>Mongolian</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Navajo</b>   | 0.20%    |
| <b>Other (please specify)</b>   | 2.15%    |
| <b>Portuguese</b>   | 3.81%    |
| <b>Russian</b>  | 0.88%    |
| <b>Samoan</b>   | 0.20%    |
| <b>Spanish</b>  | 20.92%   |
| <b>Swedish</b>  | 0.39%    |
| <b>Thai</b>   | 0.29%    |
| <b>Tongan</b>   | 0.39%    |
| <b>Urdu</b>   | 0.10%    |
| <b>Vietnamese</b>   | 0.59%    |
| <b>Total</b>  | 100%     |

Table 6

## Native language

| <b>Which is/are your native language(s)? (select all that apply) (n=1,021)</b> | <b>%</b> |
|--|----------|
| <b>American Sign Language</b>  | 0.39%    |
| <b>Arabic</b>  | 0.49%    |
| <b>Chinese</b>   | 0.39%    |
| <b>Creole</b>  | 0.20%    |
| <b>Danish</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Dutch</b>   | 0.10%    |
| <b>English</b>   | 94.91%   |
| <b>Filipino/ Tagalog</b>   | 0.39%    |
| <b>French</b>  | 0.49%    |
| <b>German</b>  | 0.20%    |
| <b>Hindi</b>   | 0.29%    |
| <b>Italian</b>   | 0.20%    |
| <b>Japanese</b>  | 0.20%    |
| <b>Korean</b>  | 0.20%    |
| <b>Mandarin</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Mongolian</b>   | 0.10%    |
| <b>Navajo</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Other (please specify)</b>  | 0.29%    |
| <b>Portuguese</b>  | 0.29%    |
| <b>Russian</b>   | 0.29%    |
| <b>Samoan</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Spanish</b>   | 5.09%    |
| <b>Swedish</b>   | 0.10%    |
| <b>Thai</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Tongan</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Urdu</b>  | 0.10%    |
| <b>Vietnamese</b>  | 0.29%    |
|  |          |

*Table 7*

## Comments to share with UVU administration

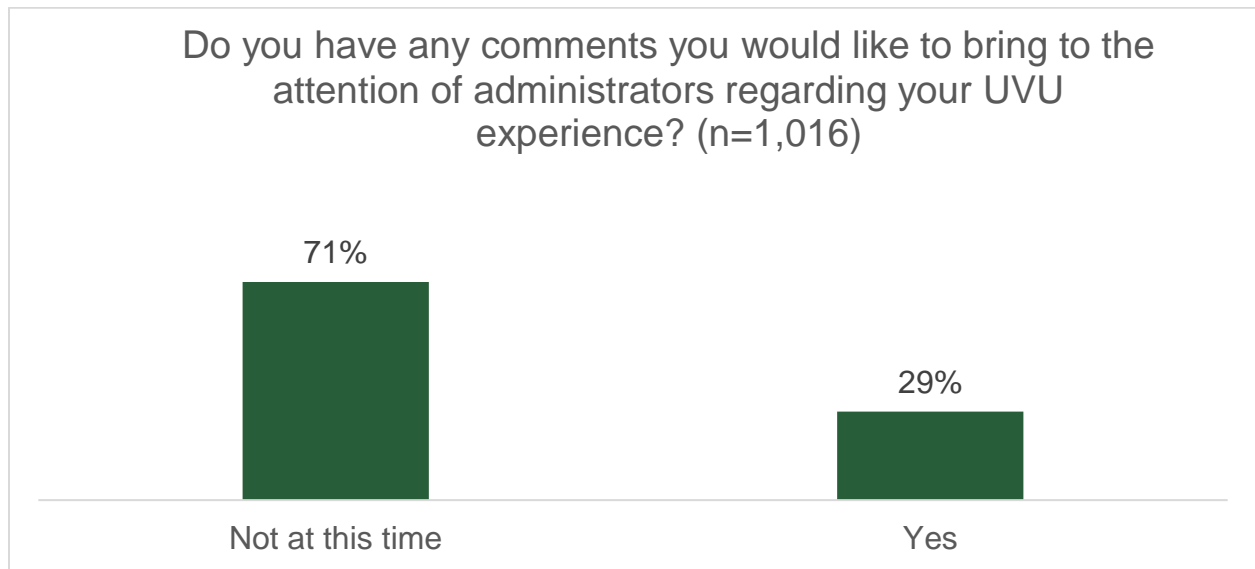


Figure 21

**Yes (Text; topics mentioned) (n=293) (some comments mentioned more than one topic) Top 10 most mentioned topics**

| Frequency | Topic                  |  |
|-----------|------------------------|--|
| 65        | Online Course Delivery |  |
| 53        | Instructors            |  |
| 33        | Misc.                  |  |
| 23        | Scheduling             |  |
| 22        | Financial Concerns     |  |
| 18        | Diversity              |  |
| 17        | Program Concerns       |  |
| 17        | Suggestions            |  |
| 15        | Advisors               |  |
| 10        | Masks                  |  |

Table 8



## Representative Responses by topic

### *Online Course Delivery*

- 1 The online academic learning method is a failure. I know this is a result of covid but I feel more relief should be given as a result of such a drastic change and hardship. For example, because of online learning I have had to rethink the way I do school resulting in the inability to learn and loss of motivation. I just ask that the UVU staff looks to be compassionate in a time where the world has forced so much change and difficulty upon us. I wish to continue proudly at UVU and hope that I can keep the generous scholarship award I have been gifted. I look forward to attending UVU like normal. Thank you for your consideration. :)
- 2 I do not feel that some of the online classes are up to standard with in person classes. I know it has been a crazy year but many classes I feel that I am paying for class then paying for a book and teaching myself all of the material.
- 3 Distance learning has been incredibly helpful for me. I would like to suggest that distance options are continued post-pandemic for as many classes as possible. Live-streaming classes and interacting with them is a great option, especially to prevent the spread of common illnesses (like the flu or common cold) during the school year while allowing students to attend classes anyway.
- 4 The flexibility of being able to view video recordings has been invaluable, especially for my highly technical classes.
- 5 Remove discussions on Canvas. They are a waste of time.
- 6 I think that there should be more options for online. Especially during the summer, it's hard to (be employed) and attend school.

### *Instructors*

- 1 Professors need to be more closely monitored. Students should have opportunities to provide regular feedback about their professor. You should have 1 or 2 days each semester where an appropriate supervisor visits the class, with the professor absent, and they listen to feedback. Some teachers have ridiculous grading schemes. Some professors have totally unfair tests. Some professors are extremely lazy. But as a student we feel powerless to do anything about it. It frequently feels like your GPA is as dependent on how your teacher decides to run the class as it is on your hard work.

- 2 I have had plenty of professors at UVU that have impacted my education and future for the better. However, the administration needs to be aware of how professors interact with students, particularly those who are pursuing their BA or a higher degree on campus. I have had an experience where a professor, who is teaching within my BA program, has expressed to me that (he/she) considers us "friends" and "feels responsible" for the decisions I make in both my professional and personal life. This professor has asked me and several other students many times if we would like to come over to (his/her) home to "hang out", which for all I know could mean anything. This professor has joked in class several times that "it would be much better if there were fewer and fewer students here", and none of us feel comfortable in class when these words are shared because we all worked very hard to be accepted into the program.  
The way this professor interacts with students within the program, in my opinion, is uncalled for and inappropriate. There needs to be a better form of communicating with, checking in on, and evaluating professors who have worked on campus for many years- more specific questions need to be asked and the administration needs to hold professors accountable if they make students feel unwelcomed and uncomfortable.
- 3 Regarding spring Break I think it is a great thing to have. I didn't have a spring break (because) my Professors still had things due at the beginning and ending of my spring break, So I had to keep to my normal schedule.... so what is the point in having it?
- 4 I feel very unsafe in (one of my) class(es) and am constantly feeling indirectly attacked because of my own political opinions. Our teacher is extremely vocal about what he believes in and every reading assignment and homework assignment is extremely biased. This is no longer a [removed] class and now is a class that is centered in trying to shove and pressure the students into believing what our teacher believes. I have not learned anything about [the course subject] and have only learned that our teacher thinks I am immoral and unjust due to my beliefs. I do not have extreme beliefs, my political opinions are the same as about half of the country's belief and so I feel very attacked and unjustly been told that my beliefs are wrong immoral. I think it is important to see both sides of the argument and to learn about opinions that I do not believe in, but this class is not balanced and is showing the biased material as the only reasonable opinion and that anything else is wrong.
- 5 Honestly some of the professors are quite un-involved in ONLINE COURSES. They grade slowly or fail to engage with the class via lectures, announcements, etc. I'm not sure how often you check in with professors but I feel like that could be helpful. Also, my graduation date got pushed back because of lack of classes available which was frustrating
- 6 Some of my teachers over the course of the pandemic have been hard to get in contact with. I do not think this is a good thing because the students need help from teachers especially since we are mostly online.

### *Misc.*

- 1 I know that because UVU is open enrollment, the graduation rate is pretty low. This semester has been especially hard for me with some personal things, and I think it would be helpful to have more support from the university to help us stay on track to graduate.
- 2 I had a difficult time getting accommodations for my disability. The school and disability office need to learn more about ADHD and specifically how (each individual disability) works, as it can be a paralyzing experience. Accommodations for this particular experience are not available, and I was only able to access the accommodation I need

- because I have additional diagnoses. I seriously considered transferring to a different school over this, because other schools offer the same accommodation for ADHD.
- 3 There are many places outside that are really unsafe. When I reported them as unsafe it took weeks of effort and work to get that changed. Much of the exterior of this campus is UNSAFE when it is dark. Honestly, I am nervous walking on this campus when it is dark. Lights don't work or there are none. Construction has only made this worse- it has been a NIGHTMARE and really UNSAFE. UVU should be ashamed at how awful that campus is at night.
  - 4 We need better education about sexual harassment, abuse, and assault. Particularly what behavior is actually appropriate to expect from professors etc. and what is explicitly not. Many transfers and freshmen don't know what is inappropriate... or exactly who to go to to talk about any issues.
  - 5 There needs to be a vent or something in the liberal arts building bathrooms; the air stagnates and smells terrible. Another note on bathrooms: I had a friend who often had to tote their infant around school with them. Hardly any bathrooms have a changing station, and she would have to walk quite (a long way) to simply change a diaper. I'm glad to note that breastfeeding stations have been put up, but I feel that more diaper-changing stations would also be great to have (for parents of both genders) .
  - 6 I would like administration to be more aware and alert for bad weather reports. There have been times in my education process that I have been required to (commute to Orem) even in terrible conditions. A snow day should have been called strictly for safety reasons.
  - 7 The new wifi UVU has is so bad that I refuse to come to campus anymore to study.
  - 8 My biggest complaint from Spring 2021 (as well as Fall, 2020) is purchasing books. With Book Match, I have purchased unnecessary books and wasted much time and energy trying to figure out which books I actually need for my courses. It would be extremely helpful if students were given accurate information about which books to buy directly from the professor with plenty of notice so students are not left to scramble at the last minute to get course materials. On another note, it would also be helpful if all the (announcements of) events UVU offers were located in the same place. I was able to attend many events this semester, which I loved, but it was often hard to make sure I wasn't missing out on other events since I had to check multiple places to find out about events.

### *Scheduling*

- 1 My biggest complaint is not having classes for my major more available after work hours (past 5 pm). It makes it challenging for me because my job requires I work full time and doesn't have a lot of flexibility with my taking classes in the morning or afternoon. I would say the way schooling has been handled during the COVID-19 pandemic is a step in the right direction because while the professor has a scheduled time for their classes, they have also included class recordings so in case I'm not able to join at the meeting time, we can go back and watch the session and gather any notes we need from there. When life gets back to normal after this pandemic, this would be a good thing for professors to continue to do.
- 2 I find it frustrating when I have registered for a certain course delivery method and professor, but then the day before the semester starts it suddenly changes the professor and platform.  
I also find it annoying that a large majority of the math and science classes for summer semester are mostly all at 10am (all at the same time), and a few online. I don't have the option to take more than one class (like I need to) for the summer

- 3 Offer more degree specific classes in the evenings (after 4pm) for career working individuals. And offer them more frequently than once every other year.
- 4 It's frustrating how there are practically no art classes available during the summer semesters. It would be wonderful if there was at least the option to take Independent Study classes during the summer to work towards graduating and still continue to learn if we have the desire to. I certainly would be interested in that, but my teacher informed me that he wouldn't be interested because he isn't paid to do Independent Study during the summer semester.
- 5 They further you get into a degree the harder it is to find classes that you need to take that work with your schedule, especially electives. If there was a way for students to build their planned schedules several semesters out and/or request classes be offered in advance that might allow for the school to better prepare what classes will actually be filled.

### *Financial Concerns*

- 1 UVU has underprivileged students who are homeless (couch surfers, etc.), food insecure (cannot get food without an address), and more but does little to assist other than telling them where to go for resources. YET, when UVU is running at full capacity on campus, food is thrown away due to red tape. UVU could consider working with a local charity to help students by donating a nearby building or house to another foundation to help. How can students do well when their basic needs are not met?! I have personally known 9 students who were in this situation, yet out of 9 students--only 1 graduated (albeit delayed). The other 8 dropped out. I believe that UVU seems to see this area as gray & not their problem... but nonetheless, it does affect their completion rate.
- 2 Please consider giving students more time to pay tuition. I don't make a lot and the monthly payments are fairly high.
- 3 I think music students have been completely underrated and underappreciated. Most of the student fees go towards the sports department and that is completely unfair to the arts. I hate how we as music majors have so many extra fees that we have to pay in addition to our semester. We have to pay \$500 for a required course 6 times in our degree (Private Lessons), we have to pay \$225 per semester as an "Accompanist fee" as well as so many more required fees throughout the rest of the semester. How is this fair that we are required to pay over \$800 more in fees per semester when people on sports teams get free things handed to them left and right. They get a free meal every single day, free equipment, etc. Both the sports teams and music students are having to stay after school for practices, rehearsals, etc. However we are the ones struggling with fees slapped onto our program. This is ridiculous and completely unfair and no one from the UVU administration seems to care. That is my biggest issue with UVU.
- 4 Advisors need to make sure students are aware of tuition amount change with increase of credit hours. The emergency fund at UVU needs to be more easily accessible to students who need it.
- 5 Give us tuition breaks. This online learning is detrimental to our overall education. I'm paying thousands of dollars for YouTube videos and subpar education.

### *Diversity*

- 1 Help - I am a lesbian woman in the [removed] program. I feel indirect homophobic attitudes and some sexism but I don't know how to ask people to understand or be nice without offending my classmates. I need help but I don't know how to get it!
- 2 I feel like some of my beliefs and ideas are not accepted on campus. Acceptance can't only go one way.

- 3 Also, there are so many programs and diversity movements that sometimes I feel less comfortable because I am white. Diversity is good, but sometimes people need to remember that diversity doesn't mean minority. I don't feel as important or wanted at UVU because I don't fit the "ideal person" that UVU so obviously seeks to find. Maybe diversity and inclusion needs to include EVERYONE (go figure) instead of only minorities.
- 4 The administration talks big about 'diversity and inclusion' but rarely acts in a way congruent with those values.
- 5 Please remember we are a public university and have a fairly diverse population. Consistently having commencement speakers that have (high-profile) positions within a certain church does not demonstrate a commitment to diversity and people of different backgrounds.

### *Program Concerns*

- 1 I would like the DANCE dept to be able to share a calendar with important concert/due dates so everyone is aware when of the busiest weeks- every teacher I talk to has no idea what the other teachers are planning/what ballroom/ballet/modern is doing and it is exhausting the students.
- 2 UVU's trade programs are being neglected, and I would like to see more support for development of those programs. Overall, I think UVU administration would benefit from taking students and professors advice on what they need to further their programs
- 3 Overall, as a transfer student I miss the school pride I felt at my previous institution. The school as a whole, fails to make me feel involved or important. I would appreciate opportunities to do collaborative projects with other departments within the school of the arts. I would appreciate university activities in which different departments are involved to help feel a sense of school unity and inclusion amongst the different programs.
- 4 As a student in the visual arts department at UVU, I've found there is a dire need for non-male educators, specifically within illustration. My classes are majorly made of non-male students, yet there are no professors who reflect this perspective within the department. I've had one female art professor at UVU, but she was only part of UVU faculty for a short time. I'm disappointed in this lack of diversity.

### *Suggestions*

- 1 I was driven out of the [removed] program due to lack of gender diversity, as well as sexual harassment from students and a professor. Additionally, MAKE A BETTER EFFORT (to deal with) SEXUAL HARASSMENT. last weekend, a [UVU] employee was arrested for sexual harassment. I was told by (another UVU student) that she and her peers were told by faculty members to keep the situation quiet. Waiting to take action until an incident has occurred is never enough. Title IX/student conduct faculty should give seminars to ALL CLASSES. Or have semester reviews where students can fill out a survey for each class on their safety. It is scary to ask for help, I am glad I did, but I did not get the support I (deserved). This is far more important than any (other survey questions). UVU has a lot I am grateful for, and I know this is a topic they try to do well at, but please, make a priority to keep improving
- 2 Some teachers aren't very easy to work with. Students should be taught what to do in these situations. I also think that a class for freshman should be required where they learn about all of the opportunities on campus and how to get involved. If not a course, the orientation courses should be updated and improved to help freshman transition better. Also, I think that textbooks are pointless in most courses. I've bought textbooks that I haven't used and gotten an A in the course. I now can't find anywhere to sell back these

- textbooks so I can get my money back. If a textbook is required it should be provided by the school the McGraw online textbook or some other online format.
- 3 During the semester it would be nice if polls or reviews could be taken on professors and the way the class is going throughout the semester so that things can change if need be before finals.
  - 4 Please put blinds in the hallway between the GT and CS Building. We can afford new garbage cans on campus, but can't accommodate students in one of the busiest hallways on campus? All other buildings with study areas and views facing West have blinds. By all means, please visit that hallway during the sunset hours. Most of us students who study in that hallway have all invested in ball caps, and the faculty whose offices reside in that hallway often express how unfair it is to be blinded every afternoon while trying to study. Put that CARES money to good use.
  - 5 There needs to be better signage by the main roads stating where the paylots are located. There is no signage in the Rebecca Lockhart building hallway stating the location of classrooms 217 to 228, or 115 to 145. I couldn't find room 221 at all, and finally an hour later, someone knew where it was... Not Cool! Post a darn sign in the hall!!!!
  - 6 Add a larger Wolverine statue in the middle of the roundabout near the business building. The current statue gets over taken by the flowers and people don't even know it is there. I like all the UVU things that are going up and I feel like school pride is going up as well. By adding another monument to the school in a place where most people enter from would help a ton!
  - 7 This comment is truly for the benefit of students wanting to pursue graduate school--I wish there was a more developed infrastructure to obtain internships and or have a more connected alumni network for graduate school or internships. I felt like I was really on my own, and was envious of other neighboring institutions like BYU or the University of Utah for their more established internship programs and networking alumni events. Maybe UVU can establish this in the near future?

### *Advisors*

- 1 The advising program at UVU needs to be considered. I have spoken to many UVU students who have had a bad advising experience from planning their entire schedule on their own to not being made aware of changed requirements, etc. I believe that something needs to be changed and the needs of UVU students need to be better addressed.
- 2 I had a really bad experience in the beginning of the semester with my advisor. I had a meeting with [them] wanting help picking classes that I should take this semester. It lasted about 3 minutes and [they] said that I should take all of the classes that I was suggesting and said that they were perfect for me. However, half of my classes were dropped because I was not qualified for them. I did not notice that I needed a class that I had not finished yet for one of the classes, and the other I had not properly matriculated into. The second class did not say the classes I needed to be properly matriculated, so I had no way of knowing I was not qualified. ***I expected my advisor to tell me these classes would not work because I asked exactly that. This put my financial aid in jeopardy as I quickly needed to fill these empty credits with classes that would qualify me for my aid.***

- 3 There have been multiple times I have emailed my counselor and not had a response. When this happens, I'll call but they haven't answered. The most recent time this happened was during COVID-19 and my counselor didn't answer because she was working from home. I had to call the counseling center and speak with a secretary and she was able to connect me with my counselor. This is very frustrating, especially when it's about registering for classes that will quickly fill up if I don't have the necessary information or need prior approval to add the class.
- 4 Hire more advisors. I have had many issues with the advising at UVU and I think that could be remedied if there were more so each student could get more attention and help.
- 5 It would be nice to choose your own Academic Advisor (one your comfortable with) and have them assigned to you on your dashboard.

### *Masks*

- 1 Remove the requirement to wear masks, makes class impersonal and difficult to understand the instructor. I am almost done with the semester and the only people that I know are the ones that the instructor assigned in the group and we met after class in person. virtual groups remove accountability. If masks are "necessary" offer mask and maskless classes. I did not transfer schools to have a poor school experience, I moved states and have yet to meet people through classes or clubs because nobody is on campus and those who are on campus do not want to interact with others. We are adults and we should be allowed to manage our own risk and be accountable adults.
- 2 No more masks! At least while in the wellness center. Its making people sick and unhealthy!
- 3 The social aspect of in class attendance sans masks is important to the development of a well rounded student.
- 4 Please get us in person and out of masks as soon as possible! Receiving a [performing arts] degree over zoom is near asinine!!

### *Pandemic*

- 1 I would love to see UVU students treated as students instead of liabilities again. COVID brought so much pressure on UVU faculty and staff to worry so much about student's "safety" but it made most of us feel more threatened, brought about many mental struggles, and a distrust between administrators and students. Had we been treated as educated adults instead of kindergartners with cooties and limited freedom, my respect would have been as high for my school when I ended as when I began.
- 2 I have very few complaints about my treatment over the last 3 years at UVU, but all stem from the last 2 semesters. The instructors you hire, who teach in your institution, represent you. I have been told to "kiss my wife and daughter goodbye, you will see them at the end of the semester". I have been questioned and threatened when bringing up V.A. appointments to professors due to attendance policies. I have been told to "manage my expectations" when I voiced concerns about managing my home life with school. This administration preaches a new way forward, one which helps those disadvantaged at birth and yet it hires instructors who do not share this view. Over the course of the last year I have seen this university become just another wheel in the cog of systematic oppression. If you are born poor you are not worthy of an education. If you are not an 18-24 year old with financial support from a family member than you are not deserving of a good grade, or even a chance at graduate school. I can honestly say I once held pride in this

organization. Spend more time speaking with your student body, the people who make your university matter, and remember why you are here.

- 3 Nearly all of students attending UVU in person choose to be there in person when there is an online option available, and nearly all of us are in the low risk category when it comes to Covid-19. I would highly recommend following local guidelines and dropping the mask mandate when the time comes.

### *Parking*

- 1 Please make parking free
- 2 The parking situation is a joke, and more stalls are reassigned or bulldozed every year. This is a commuting school with increasingly tighter options to commute.
- 3 Make parking at EE building free or cheaper purple lot.

### *Face to Face Courses*

- 1 We are paying full price for tuition and the online classes are very ineffective as we are usually teaching ourselves. Bring back face to face classes.
- 2 Please have more options for in-person classes. I love that there are online options for students that need that. But I would hope that going forward there is always an in person option for students that prefer that way of learning. I personally don't like having online as my only option. I could pay a lot less to another college to take online classes. I don't feel like I'm getting the full value of my education.
- 3 Please let us go back to class in person. We've been online long enough and it is trying extremely difficult to stay motivated when everything is online.

### *Mental Health*

- 1 Please provide clear direction and way to access help as a student struggling with mental illness. i reached out to the accessibility office unsure if that was even the correct way to go about it, and was denied. being denied absolutely hurt me and only further perpetuated feelings of isolation and extreme despair. i felt like i didn't know what to do with my school work that semester. i was seeking therapy through a private practice. i just needed someone to help me and advocate for me over my inability to make deadlines for school work and lack of attendance because i was in such a dark place. i needed someone to professionally contact my professors and grant extensions or leniency. i had an issue with one professor not believing me when i mentioned my extenuating circumstance (which was scary and hard to even say in the first place) and that has stuck with me to this day. i really hope that uvu can make it clear how students can get help and that uvu has our backs and cares for its students. i hope no student in the future has to feel lost and in complete despair because they didn't know who to turn to for accommodations for school work that is being impacted due to their mental health. students who have mental illness and choose to attend school are absolutely brave and need to be supported and protected.
- 2 Many college students deal with mental illnesses. Some professors have been very understanding of this and other have not. I believe that professors need to be more aware of mental health and the struggles that those of us with mental health illnesses go through.
- 3 Please please PLEASE bring back normalcy to UVU. I'm tired of conforming to wearing a mask and socially distancing. Before the pandemic I never struggled with depression or anxiety, now it's a daily battle. I miss sitting in a class learning from a teacher and interacting with my peers and BREATHING AIR. I miss having connections with people.



The problems the regulations this pandemic has caused is much worse than the pandemic itself. I beg to whoever is reading this with my LIFE. Please bring normalcy back, we may not be suffering from COVID but we are suffering from this lifestyle and I think hell might be a more comfortable atmosphere.

### *Non-Traditional Student Concerns*

- 1 I do not feel that UVU supports the non-traditional student. Each semester I struggle to fill my schedule with class times that will work with my employment schedule. I will not be able to take classes next semester because there is only 1 online class available and it is completely filled (obviously there is demand). It is very discouraging, because I am already taking longer than my classmates since I work full time and go to school part time and my degree keeps getting prolonged. Please consider offering more online courses to support non-traditional students. (My degree is Computer Science.)
- 2 I don't feel like the international student services care to reach out and explain things to international students. Some of them appear to think international students don't speak English and they brush off questions in a rude tone.

### *Good/Thanks*

- 1 To the UVU administration, I know this past year has been challenging because of the pandemic. I just wanted to take this time to say thank you so much for all your hard work. I know there are students out there that complain about certain things, and don't know what happens behind the scenes, so thank you for all your work and countless hours all of you have devoted to trying to keep us safe. Thanks for all you do!
- 2 I love UVU. The Returning Wolverine Grant saved me and helped me graduate. Thank you so so much! The Public Health professors are the very best! I love you UVU!!!
- 3 I have worked with the Title IX office this year on a recent domestic violence relationship I was able to survive. I am grateful for UVU's Title IX office and the student health services. Thank you for this survey opportunity!

### *Scholarship Needs*

- 1 Please provide more scholarship opportunities
- 2 I wished that getting financial aid was a bit easier to obtain or there were more resources to help find the needed information to better fill out forms. Having more unique scholarships would help students like me that have to have two jobs to pay rent and go to school. Scholarships that could include topics like sexual abuse and domestic violence as it is an experience that was out of our control. Having more resources to find support groups for people that deal with these trials and support groups and therapy for transitioning from faiths or religious abuse. If there are, providing more information on where to find these resources.

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