

De Anza College Office of Institutional Research and Planning

To: Enrollment Advisory Team

From: Ola Sabawi, Research Analyst

Date: 10/30/2019

Subject: Dropped Course Survey – Fall 2019

The dropped course survey was distributed to students who dropped one or more of the courses they were registered in during fall 2019. 790 respondents completed the survey.

Reasons why Respondents Dropped a Course

- 28% (224) of respondents dropped the course to enroll in a different course.
- 16% (124) of respondents reported that the course day or time no longer fit their schedule.
- 10% (76) of respondents dropped the course to enroll in another section of the same course.
- 7% (57) of respondents reported personal issues outside of school.
- 7% (52) of respondents realized the course was not needed for their major or goal.
- 6% (51) of respondents were not satisfied with the instructor.
- 6% (49) of respondents chose to submit an open ended response.
- 5% (42) of respondents reported their job schedule did not allow them enough time to be successful.
- 4% (33) of respondents found it hard to spend time on their class.
- 4% (30) of respondents had financial issues making them unable to stay enrolled.
- Other reasons for dropping a course were cited at rates of 3% 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	224	28%
The course day or time no longer fit my schedule	124	16%
I dropped the course to enroll in another section of the same course	76	10%
I need to take care of personal issues outside of school	57	7%
I realized the course was not needed for my major or goal	52	7%
I was not satisfied with the instructor or method of teaching	51	6%
Other	49	6%
My job schedule does not allow enough time to be successful in the class	42	5%
I found it hard to spend enough time on the class to be successful	33	4%
I had financial issues making me unable to stay enrolled	30	4%
I needed the course to be offered in a different format e.g. face-to-face hybrid or online	21	3%
The coursework was more challenging than I anticipated	10	1%
I fell behind in the coursework and could not catch up	8	1%
The commute to and from class was a challenge due to the amount of time involved	7	1%
I would need additional assistance and support in order to pass the class such as tutoring, workshops, or attend more office hours	6	1%
Total	790	100%

Open-Ended Responses Grouped into Themes:

Theme	Respondents	Percent
The course was cancelled due to low enrollment	19	44%
Was on the waitlist for the course and decided to drop	11	26%
Received inaccurate information about the course	5	12%
Decided to take the course at Foothill College	2	5%
Decided to take the course at their 4-year university	2	5%
Technical difficulty during website registration	2	5%
Class environment was uncomfortable with no air conditioning	1	2%
Was told to drop the course by the instructor	1	2%
Total	43	100%