

Name

Anonymous

Date of Submission

December 9, 2020

Relation to Maritime College

Student

In general, how has COVID-19 affected you as a member of the Maritime College community?

Concluding my first semester of college at Maritime, I feel that because of COVID-19, my experience was quite one-dimensional. As a result of the coronavirus outbreak I was limited in activities I was able to do. First of all, the online classes made me less motivated to work hard and also made me retain information worse. Also, my parents were strict on regulating what I can do and who I can hang out with. As a result of this, on the days where I went to campus for class, all I ever did was just go to class and leave. This limited the amount of friends I was able to make and the amount of non-academic college experience I could have. Early in the semester when I first realized how my college experience would be, I was definitely upset that I wasn't going to be able to have my expectations met. However, I eventually got used to it and just focused on schoolwork and grades. My plan is to just wait it out and hope this pandemic can come to an end soon. I would like future students and researches to know that this pandemic has caused so many issues and problems that any student right now would beg for everything to go back to normal. Also, if any students in the future who doesn't have online classes thinks they would be great, I would say they are mistaken. Prior to the pandemic I thought online classes would be great. Once I realized that I wasn't learning properly, had barely any motivation to attend my classes, and barely made any friends from school, I quickly realized that in-person class is certainly the way to go. For researchers, although everyone wishes the pandemic could be gone, Maritime did a fantastic job at keeping some in-person classes available as long as possible. Maritime gave clear protective guidelines that students followed and teachers enforced. Overall, this first semester experience certainly didn't live up to expectations of college, however, Maritime allowed us to have the best possible experience which I greatly appreciate.

What was it like to transition from learning or teaching in-person to online? Did you find it difficult to adjust? Why or why not?

My transition from learning in-person to online was definitely a struggle. Online learning doesn't have nearly as many benefits as in-person learning. While being in-person, my attention was strictly on the teacher and nothing else. I also found it way easier to maintain my attention towards the professor because being in a classroom certainly has a better learning atmosphere compared to my home. It also was easier to maintain attention because the professor has much more potential to be captivating when they are face to face with students. I felt that when I was learning online, there wasn't much the teacher could do to make the class interesting for students. Although professors definitely tried to make classes more endurable while online, it still wasn't

as enjoyable and effective as in-person. Additionally, learning online takes away motivation to work hard in a weird way for me. When I know that I'm online and all I have to do is wake up and move 5 feet over from my bed to my computer, I feel so lazy and unwilling to do anything. I think it takes a lot more determination to give attention to an online class rather than an in-person class. Overall, the transition was difficult because online learning is less entertaining, captivating, and motivating.

At what point did you begin to worry about how COVID-19 would impact your semester at Maritime? How has your timeline to graduate or complete projects at Maritime changed?

These responses were pulled from questions on a Google Form sent to students, faculty, and staff of Maritime College in May 2020. The purpose of the Google Form was to collect stories from the Maritime College community to be included in the "Documenting COVID-19 at Maritime College" archival collection.