

2007 Graduating Senior Survey Student Comments College of Engineering Applied Science

If you had it to do all over again, would you choose to attend UWM?	Why or why not?
Definitely	I enjoy the campus life, and the Computer Science degree.
Definitely	I had a very memorable experience here, and I am confident that I have taken sufficient knowledge from my education at UWM.
Definitely	I thought it was a great program
Definitely	It was a better educational experience than the small private college experience I first tried.
Definitely	It's not a huge campus that a person could get lost in. It's a nice campus in a great city.
Definitely	Location
Definitely	Maybe the Basketball team would be good again that year unlike this year
Definitely	Most of the professors i had were very good teachers and encourage me to keep on pursuing in computer science. The classes were very interesting and I learned so much.
Definitely	<p>My scattered thoughts:</p> <p>The overall experience was fantastic. It is great that at least part of the campus is beautiful (Downer) but unfortunate that my major is housed in a pile of "Brutalist"-style concrete. The architecture is one of the biggest weaknesses of the campus, in my opinion, even though we have the remarkable Downer buildings. Architecture and landscaping is the first thing noticed by visitors, and concrete is not the most inspirational building material.</p> <p>I had positive interactions with the chair of both my major (civil engineering) and minor (political science) departments. Alan Horowitz (CE) and Marc Ethridge (PS) clearly respect students and have always been willing to take time out of their busy schedules to help a student with a question. The University should thank each of them for serving the students so well.</p>
CONTINUED	<p>The civil engineering major is a bit painfully-mindless. It is a training course for Milwaukee-area engineering firms, providing a very poor base for students uninterested in working for Milwaukee-area engineering firms. The major addresses none of the social, global, and political aspects that are a reality in civil engineering. The major sends civil engineering zombies marching into the ranks of engineering offices, unable to comprehend the larger picture of the social impacts, sustainability, and indirect costs associated with their actions.</p> <p>Trying to have a real conversation with other civil engineering students can be, at times, disappointing due their complete lack of understanding of these issues. On the other hand, I have frequently been impressed with the quality and maturity of some students. A professor once said to me, and I believe it to be true, that UWM's finest student is at the same level as Harvard's finest student. The difference is the range from the top student to the bottom student - UWM, of course, weighing much more heavily on the side of "less-fine" students.</p>
CONTINUED	<p>I had positive interactions with professors highly skilled in undergraduate instruction for the most part - Chris Papadopoulos, Joel Rast, Hector Bravo, Hani Titi, Alan Horowitz: UWM's finest. I unfortunately also had a few unbearably-terrible instructors, including tenured professors. The strongest instructor I've ever had, Chris Papadopoulos, was denied his tenure; another disappointing reality of UWM. I entered UWM with no appreciation of small class sizes, thinking they were completely unnecessary and wasteful, but I'm leaving considering them to be one of the most beneficial aspects of my education. I think the small class sizes had more to do with low enrollment in my area of civil engineering (water resources), but having classes with ten students to one professor was an unexpected gift for which I'm very grateful.</p>

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CONTINUED	<p>Chancellor Santiago has been an inspirational and appreciated addition to UWM during my time. His clear belief in the potential of UWM and his business-backed policies are finally allowing UWM to rise up to its true position. It is unfortunate that the Board of Regents do not value UWM so highly.</p> <p>Shared governance is a strength of UWM, but teetering on the edge of a steep slope. I had the opportunity to serve on several committees, and found the degree of respect and acceptance of student members by the faculty members to be fairly reasonable - there are of course UWM professors who think UWM students are the dredge of the Earth, but they are generally the minority. The involvement of students on committees is great, though something needs to be done to stabilize the Student Association. Perhaps holding a "summit" with University Administration, and local legislators to convince SA to create rational rules with real accountability. One ridiculous weakness of UWM is the unacceptable amount of email SPAM.</p>
Definitely	Overall a knowledgeable caring staff of professors.
Definitely	Professors are very helpful
Definitely	The electrical engineering faculty was for the most part quite outstanding. Only issue is too much theory, not enough practical instruction.
Definitely	UWM is a great university.
Definitely	UWM offers great Professors to spur the students curiosity in their field of study.
Definitely	Yes because like the small school atmosphere.
Definitely No	Poor quality of education (numerous professors whom either couldn't teach or didn't know the subject material), insufficient tutoring available for majority of classes, and registration and scheduling for classes within program requirements is extremely frustrating due to the lack forethought on the part of class availabilities, sizes, and times
Definitely No	The instructors barely speak english, are not willing to go out of their way to help, office hours are terrible, classes aren't available for working people, exam material doesn't match coursework for majority of classes, you get nickel and dimed at every turn.
Probably	Close to home.
Probably	Finicial considerations, convenient location
Probably	Good school, good city. The faculty is very helpful in most cases.
Probably	I attended UW-Platteville for my first couple years of schooling and I felt segragated from the rest of the world. I grew up in West Allis, I am from Milwaukee- I am much happier here.
Probably	I enjoyed the experience
Probably	I had not applied to any other university that had an engineering program and things had worked out well for me here.
Probably	I initially came here for Architecture, not because I thought this was a good Engineering school. I may have chosen Madison or Platteville otherwise.
Probably	I love the urban setting of which UWM is a part. Marquette and MSOE are way too expensive so UWM is the best option. I do wish we had a bit higher standards and better equiped labs.
Probably	I may have chosen a different path at a later time.

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Probably	I ultimately chose to go to UWM because of the cost and convenience of living near my family, and those reasons are still important to me.
Probably	I wish a college of engineering had been closer to my hometown, such as an addition to the UWGB. Otherwise everything has been outstanding.
Probably	I wish the Engineering program had more advanced classes.
Probably	It is a very good school all around
Probably	It seems that with my grades coming out of high school, UWM would have been the best place for my degree.
Probably	It was an easy commute from Racine.
Probably	It was close to home and allowed me to work at my job from high school. I was able to meet the admission requirements. It is a decent university and taught me most of what I need to know.
Probably	Its close to home, I like the class sizes.
Probably	Much of UWM's lab equipment and available technology was outdated when I was initially looking at colleges. Since I've been here, a portion of the equipment has been upgraded and while it still has some way to go, it is definitely a step in the right direction.
Probably	My experience at UWM has been good overall however, higher ranking or more well known universities may have provided me with more options after graduation...
Probably	Professors and students made a comfortable learning environment. I liked the classes and programs that are offered.
Probably	Teachers are helpful to students, but there are several poor teachers at UWM. Very little financial support for engineering related student organizations.
Probably	The major I went for is very good at UWM and I'm proud to have taken the Industrial Engineering major at UWM. The only down side I found is the campus is a little to big for my tastes.
Probably	The only other school I would have attempted to get into would have been UW Madison. I choose milwaukee because it was easier to get accepted and because it has an engineering program.
Probably	There are other state colleges, such as Madison, that offer this same degree for about the same price that have better resources, more qualified professors, and a better reputation. My tuition increased almost 50% in the years I was here.
Probably	There is a wide range of educational programs and majors to go through. Additionally the staff is a lot more accessible than another college I attended.
Probably	Uwm suits me well since it is a commuter school. The only reservation I have is about the availability of some elective classes, but I suppose that is due to the small size of the Civil Engineering Department, which I like.
Probably No	Because the Computer Science program is antiquated and too heavily based on its theoretical mathematics basics, and when these criticisms are raised professors and advisors merely respond that these courses are a right of passage. After attending University of Minnesota, and speaking to students from MIT, Berkley, Cal-Tech, Virginia Tech, and Georgia Tech, I can confirm that all computer science curriculums have a basis in mathematics, but the level to which UW-Milwaukee carries it is absurd, and it leaves undergrads poorly prepared.

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Probably No	Encountered a lot of problems with the professors and don't feel I recieved the highest quality education. At this point, I feel I should know more than I do about general topics covered in my major.
Probably No	I believe that I would have attend a school with a heavier concentration on Engineering such as Michigan Tech or Plattville
Probably No	I was accepted at UW-Madison and left in good standing for personal reason. I then needed to pursue my degree at night and UWM fit my schedule. I would rather have graduated from UW-Madison. In addition, UWM's college of engineering has two problems - 1) I wanted to graduate with a degree in biomedical engineering, which isn't offered and 2) the courses offered in the CS program have been shrinking in number and interest for me.
Probably No	I'd complete my degree at MSOE
Probably No	Just didn't like the campus life. I have visited friends at other campuses and there seems to be a lot more campus activities.
Probably No	Just to be farther away from home.
Probably No	Lab facilites (Engineering Computer Labs) could use a lot of improvement. Instruction was easier to grasp at other universities I attended. Difficult parking situations.
Probably No	Lack of applicable tech electives. A leg into programing would be helpful for anyone entering industrial automation or robotics. DC frequency control has become an industry standard for servo motor control and is part of the core classes taught at MSOE and Marquette. The lack of tech electives useful for a wider variety of careers has made the majority of my 21 technical electives nearly useless. I would like to know why I can take 6 credits of low level science classes for class B electives, but I'm unable to take computer science classes, that would be more applicable to my future career?
Probably No	My family moved from Chicago to Milwaukee, so I had to move with them too and start school here. I would probably go back to Chicago to live and get an education there because I really like that city.
Probably No	Not nearly enough attention is given to the engineering program, I definatley feel I could have gotten a better quality education elsewhere.
Probably No	The Engineering department does not have much hands on learning. Also they are under staffed, Some new teachers should not be teaching yet they have no replacements for them.
Probably No	The lack of english speaking professors in the Engineering Department. The inadequate lab and lab equipment.