

2007 Graduating Senior Survey Student Comments Peck School of the Arts

| If you had it to do all over again, would you choose to attend UWM? | Why or why not? |
|---|---|
| Definitely | Before attending UWM I was very confused in picking a major where I would be happy working with my degree. With the help of professors and advisors at UWM I feel that I was able to choose a major that fit my interest and working desires. |
| Definitely | Close to home, good school |
| Definitely | Good music school. |
| Definitely | Great classes packed into a small campus |
| Definitely | Great film program. |
| Definitely | Great professors and resources |
| Definitely | I didn't have to move out of my house when I started going here, so I didn't have to worry about rent and they offered the types of classes that I enjoy. |
| Definitely | I enjoyed the UW film program because it wasn't commercialized like Columbia College (my first choice). Campus is great and in a good location. |
| Definitely | I had a great experience here. I had a great opportunity to learn and play in all of the musical ensembles. My harp teacher was fantastic, and I feel this school was a great match for me and what my goals were and are. |
| Definitely | I have really enjoyed my experience at UWM. I have met amazing friends and enjoyed not only the campus, but living and working in the City of Milwaukee. |
| Definitely | I have really enjoyed my learning experience and the environment at UWM. The faculty is excellent and very helpful. |
| Definitely | I like the art program here. I like how you have to be an art major to take the art classes. |
| Definitely | I love the culture of the university and the city of Milwaukee. I immensely enjoyed my time here, the people I have met, the professors and teachers that have aided me in my personal and academic growth and the activities I participated in. I don't think I could have gotten such a well-rounded experience at any other UW School. |
| Definitely | I love this city and I enjoyed all my experiences here. |
| Definitely | It is the closest university near my home that has graduate programs. |
| Definitely | It was fun |
| Definitely | It was great. |
| Definitely | It's so close to my home town, the education and staff were great, and it's right by the lake. |
| Definitely | The art program is a very good one. The faculty and staff at UWM are more helpful and friendlier than my friends tell me the faculty and staff are at their schools. The campus size is a big plus. I like the idea of a small campus in a large city. |
| Definitely | The Dance faculty at UWM are some of the best in the country. My financial situation made it necessary that I stay in the state, but even without money as an issue, I would come to UWM |
| Definitely | the dorm experience was great. Many of my art teachers were amazing- more in the 200 and 300 level. I love the city and east side living. only downside is parking but i realize that happens in a city based university. |
| Definitely | The experience of being in a city as diverse as Milwaukee has taught me more than any university could have. It's my home. |
| Definitely | The experimental film program was worth attending. |
| Definitely | The film department is on the experimental media map, bringing both acknowledged media artists as well as emerging filmmakers. The professors are artists, some celebrated internationally, and they are accessible to the students. |

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| Definitely | The film program here is unique compared to most other programs throughout the country. I have been drawn more to the experimental and documentary field versus the traditional narrative structure. Here, students were taught at least the basics in every major aspect of the field: equipment operation, lighting, sound, composition, and writing. |
| Definitely | The Film program was more geared towards the kind of filmmaking that I wanted to do then my previous school UW-Oshkosh. |
| Definitely | The in state tuition and great regional theatre program and re the greatest factors. The staff is also very good. The facilities are comparably good too. |
| Definitely | The people at UWM made me feel welcome and like part of a community. I feel like I have grown so much in the last 4 years, and that I have many fellow students, contact folks, and professors to thank for that. |
| Definitely | The photography program at UWM as well as the printmaking program is very strong and offers students a lot of opprotunities to learn the processes. |
| Definitely | The professors in my department were very good, and helped me to push myself. |
| Definitely | The PTTTP was a wonderful experience. |
| Definitely | The quality of faculty in the voice department is extremely high--UWM's voice department is a sort of "diamond in the rough" to me, because it is not a well-known school, but the quality of our education is extremely high. |
| Definitely | The structure and community of the campus is meaningful to the learning process. |
| Definitely | The teachers and methods of teaching are more formidable to my ability to learn. |
| Definitely | This was a great experience for me and I learned a great deal. |
| Definitely | UWM has a very strong Graphic Design program. |
| Definitely | UWM has the best art department in the UW system |
| Definitely No | I was accepted at UW-Madison. My originally intended major was Music Performance, not Music Education. For performance, Milwaukee is a stronger school, since you're dealing with professional performer-teachers. Madison is a stronger Ed school, and I would have attended there. |
| Definitely No | The advising offices have cost me extra time and money, taking classes I didn't need and also not taking the time to fully explain vital information to me. Graduation has been illusive. |
| Definitely No | The graphic design program is deplorable. The professors are not competent and the program lacks anything pertinent to real world experience. The cirriculum consisits of projects treated like high school art projects rather than creating an environment wherein design students operate in a context with client-related projects as one would encounter in the field. |
| Definitely No | The programs offered are closed minded and confined. |
| Definitely No | The University of Wisconsin Milwaukee needs to acquire the practice of investing/hiring true dedicated educators, who not only invest in their students but demonstrate great knowledge of the subject they teach & most of all love teaching. From my experience, I have seen more professors who teach/act as though there dictators than educators and that is a problem, especially when your paying for an education. |
| Probably | because I like my professor |
| Probably | Best film program in the midwest |
| Probably | Close to home, had a good experience, |

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| Probably | Coming from a smaller city, the experience of a bigger city combined with the college life was interesting. |
| Probably | dance department was not fully what was expected, but still good |
| Probably | Familiarity of the campus and the academic program. |
| Probably | Honestly, my hesitation is because of the hostile neighborhood. I'm just trying to get an education and the local residents surrounding campus were very rude and disrespectful. Which brings me to my next point. Parking! I probably spent so much on parking tickets and vandalism that I could have paid off my student loans! I spent a lot of time during classes worrying about my car instead of focusing on what was important. |
| Probably | I am living in Milwaukee and UWM had a solid film program. |
| Probably | I am very pleased with the art department, especially the painting and drawing area. I have enjoyed being a part of the artistic student life here. As for earning an education in Wisconsin, UWM is my first choice for an art school. However, for my ideal career choice to pursue animation, attending school out of state would be my ultimate preferred decision. |
| Probably | I didn't plan on entering UWM as a photo major, and now that I am and have started my own photography studio / business, I feel I would have benefited better from more studio lighting / portraiture classes similar to those offered at any 2 year Tech college. |
| Probably | I enjoyed my experience. |
| Probably | I enjoyed the overall experience. |
| Probably | I enjoyed the size of the campus and it's location being just outside of the city. But at the same I wish I had gone to a larger scale college. But I may not have gotten the attention and help that was offered at UWM at any larger school. |
| Probably | i feel the art program here is the best in the state, especially the metals program. what turns me off about uwm is the amount of tuition and all of the little additional charges that students have to pay. the fact that additional tuition doesn't necessarily go to the area of the students concentration. and that we have to pay an additional \$40 just to apply for graduation..... |
| Probably | I have enjoyed the city and it surroundings, and I like the fact that UWM is a part of a bigger city and not what makes up the city. |
| Probably | i like milwaukee and the art/film departments. |
| Probably | I like the city and I heard good things about the school |
| Probably | I liked my instructors and the classes that I ended up taking. |
| Probably | I live in Milwaukee and I feel that the program is good. |
| Probably | I love the city of Milwaukee! Since I began my college career at UWM the campus has really developed and offers even more today! |
| Probably | i met a lot of amazing friends and professors and learned a lot about myself. |
| Probably | I might try to attend a private university with a more specialized program so that I could get a degree IN graphic design instead of an "emphasis." |
| Probably | I really enjoyed and learned a lot through the art program. |
| Probably | I really enjoyed the program, because it was very versatile and efficient. |

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| Probably | I transfered from UW-Stout, a large portion of that decision was the number of credits that would have transfered versus going to a school in my hometown. |
| Probably | I trasfered from Milwaukee to Madison and then transfered back to Milwaukee because UWM does a better job attending to students individually than Madison. |
| Probably | I wanted to complete my degree in NM but I could not afford to finish there. |
| Probably | I was able to work with fine instructors in the Music Department who were invaluable to my learning. |
| Probably | In state tuiton is cheap, yet a more career orientated placement program within the film production program would have been beneficial. |
| Probably | It is conviniently located, and it provides a wide range of studies. |
| Probably | It is in state, and close to home |
| Probably | It was a good experience |
| Probably | it was easier to stay home for school since i live in the area. Also the dance professors here are excellent. they have all come from some big dance company and have a great knowlege of the technique they teach. |
| Probably | It was more affordable. |
| Probably | It's close to home, instructors are great. |
| Probably | Its film studies program is small enough to concentrate on the individual, eclectic enough to offer a solid, diverse education, and free enough to foster individual taste instead of constricting students with set rules/techniques, etc. Milwaukee doesn't offer the most plentiful film opportunities, but the staff is great for the most part. I wish other film studies students would take it more seriously. |
| Probably | location |
| Probably | Location & Price |
| Probably | My only reason not to would be to experience living in a different city. |
| Probably | Otherwise my life might not have gone in the direction it has. |
| Probably | Problems with some of the faculty |
| Probably | The academic program of my choosing was great, but housing around the University is scarce and expensive. I had to commute to school, and after a while, it became a hassle. Also, I might have prefered to attend a school with higher academic standards. |
| Probably | The dance faculty at UWM is outstanding in talent and knowledge. The Arts advisors were also very helpful in helping me achieve my goals at UWM. This is why I would probably choose UWM again. However, in my degree there are lots of great schools out there and I think Milwaukee isn't the greatest location for expansion and exposure to dance. |
| Probably | The experience was wonderful but I would choose to attend a college out of state next time I attend a college. |
| Probably | The film department is excellent. |
| Probably | The film program did not live up to all my expectations, however UWM has an affordable price for college and the program will at least give me a good starting point. |

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| Probably | The financial aid office is not run well. I studied abroad and was displeased with the abroad office's way of letting students know which steps to take. My UWM email frequently didn't work corrently. |
| Probably | The location and size of the school in just about right. Also, where the University is trying to go interets me, within academics and athletics. |
| Probably | The people I met and UWM and the some of the professors are great. I don't see my life without them. |
| Probably | The professors I had keep in close contact with me and help me if I have questions. Allison Cooke has been especially helpful throughout my stay. |
| Probably | The theater program has been good to me here, I have seen a lot of change and I think it is for the better. I wish I would have started this year instead of three years ago for some more opprotunities in the department of the BFA track. |
| Probably | There was some disorganization and times I wish I would have known about things earlier in terms of how to go through my degree. |
| Probably | UWM is my third school and I think it was the best fit. It allowed me to experience many things that the smaller schools I attened would not have allowed. |
| Probably | UWM/Milwaukee has an outstanding facilty and dance community that supports the development of the dedicated artist. I couldn't ask for more support |
| Probably | With regard to my ceramics major, i was very satisfied with my experience here. As far as my art education major goes, I was not very impressed with the art ed methods classes. |
| Probably | Yes, I enjoyed studying within an urban environment, yet each department had a personable, individualized feel. I think that's important! |
| Probably No | Better programs to fit my needs elsewhere. |
| Probably No | I wanted to attend a more diverse school. There are too many issues with this school regarding race relations and equal opportunity education. |
| Probably No | I was frustrated with the low level of student involvement/commitment, and many of my classes were not as rigorous as I had wanted. |
| Probably No | I would like a program that emphasizes your chosen major, not an education track that offers so many general requirements that they ultimately distract from your given major. |
| Probably No | I would probably try and attend a university that had a more robust program for the inter-arts digital field that I am interested in. |
| Probably No | Im sort of in the middle of what i would do. more than likely i would go to school out west. |
| Probably No | Many freshman come to this school completely bewildered and "out of the loop" regardless of all the support programs. Introverted kids who do not quickly seek out answers through the complicated and confusing bureaucracy of different people and departments will probably not succeed. When I am forced to constantly contact 3 or 4 different offices or talk to at least 5 different people to get things done its easy to see why a shy freshman who lives off campus would have trouble. Having said those things UWM is a wonderful school, with many great people, you just have to look for them. Once I learned the ropes I was always pleased with how helpful everyone was, and I really enjoyed my time here. |
| Probably No | My advisors were no help to me at all for the first three years. I finally got a helpful advisor when I was a Senior. |

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| Probably No | My program, which at first led me to ideas of what it means to be a top ranked program, was a terrible let down. The description, advertisement and promotion of the program did a miserable job accurately describing what the program actually consists of. Myself along with countless film students have been turned off by the surprise of the true nature of the program. Most people change majors because of this. As far as being prepared for a career in my field, I feel about as prepared as when I had graduated high school. From my four years of being here, there was one class one semester offered on the business of filmmaking. Does a nationally acclaimed program leave it's students in the dark with the information taught? I know I'm not the only one that feels this way. In fact, it's an idea all film students come to quickly comprehend as I've discovered from countless conversations with many different students on the topic. |
| CONTINUED... | UWM overall does not feel like a campus to me, rather simply a school, and I classify them as two distinct things. College has atmosphere, energy, community and a vibe, which UWM has virtually none of, a depressing idea considering the student body is 26 thousand and change. I understand it's a commuter campus, but it doesn't detract from the fact atmosphere is no where to be found. |
| Probably No | Program was not what I expected. |
| Probably No | The Graphic Design Department is very strong in the area of faculty; however, its not very resourceful (i.e. print labs, printing press, career/internship guidance.) |
| Probably No | The photography program doesn't aim to teach you technical skills. The photography department does not help students get connections in the real world nor do they present very many student opportunities to get our work out there. I think I could have received just as good of an education from a 2 year school. |
| Probably No | While I feel the two arts programs I attended were outstanding the other requirements need some attention. I "finished" in 1993 and am currently working to finalzie because of the math requirement. I have been a professional woman for the last 15 years, managing budgets of \$500,000 and NEVER have I needed algebra. It is not a real world need and it is insane to require students to take this course. I would have been much better served with an accounting course or small biz course, or even persional finance. |