List of Sample Student Comments by Topic

The following is a list of 1,000 randomly selected comments provided in answer to the following question on the 2012 SFU Undergraduate Student Survey:

“If SFU could do one thing to improve your experience here, what would it be? (Please describe only the single most important thing.)”

The comments are separated by topic. In cases where a student discussed more than one topic, the comment is counted under the first topic addressed. Topics are listed in order based on the number of students who discussed them (with the exception of the “Other” and “No Suggestion” categories, which are listed at the end.)

An analysis of these responses is available in Appendix C of the full report, available at: http://www.sfu.ca/irp/surveys/ugss.html

Facilities

- A main SUB for students. More frequent or more buses coming up the mountain. More businesses such as restaurants, movie theatre, or pubs, for students to hang out in.
- Access to better equipment for completing coursework.
- Add color and life to the school!
- Adding more bathrooms and teaching profs how to teach.
- Adding more quiet study areas (individual seats and desks) to AQ.
- Aesthetics of buildings
- Always have chairs at the study booths. They seem to get moved around/stolen a lot.
- Better housing arrangements
- Better lighting in the older buildings
- Better living accommodations, cheaper residence.
- Better phone reception still. Some places in the campus are still cut off from the mobile service.
- Better seating areas with outlets
- Better study facilities
- Better toilet paper! I feel like I'm wiping with tissue paper! Also this school costs far too much to attend for the education I am getting.
- Better washrooms in the AQ. Especially on the geography side
- Better washrooms! With more frequent cleaning and things to make them smell good (womens)
- Better wi-fi access
- Better wi-fi connection throughout the school, as some places don't have it
- Bigger Gym! It's too crowded!
- Brighter lighting in aq
- Build a large, main study/cafeteria area.
- Cleaner study areas
- Create a dedicated space for an informal, forum-like space that invites conversation between complete strangers, like a library that encourages lots of conversation, games, music, and self-expression. Like an artsy coffee shop, but free!
- Create more "meeting places" or general places for people to hang out. Obviously the school should be a place of learning, but the downtime feels really dull unless you just walk around and there feels like there is no room to really "hang out".
- Create more study space at SFU Surrey campus
- Create more study space easily accessible like SFU Surrey.

1 Comments are reproduced exactly as written by students, except that profanities and references to individuals at SFU have been removed. Altered text is in [square brackets].
Create more study space! It is so difficult on a weekday to find a place to study.
Exclusive Beedie School of Business building with swipe card access.
Expanding the university bigger. Everything could be expanded in terms of faculties, graduate studies, the campus, improving the aesthetics of the university, more facilities including gym's and SUB's.
facility improvement
faster internet (sometimes it takes about 2min for a page to load)
Fix the internet issues
Fix the road the SFU 145 bus takes...it's too bumpy. I have back problems and by the time I reach class the pain gets so bad that I can barely focus in class because the ride is so rough.
Get better toilet paper.
Get more lecture halls with padded seats
Have better residences- renovated townhouses, different residence handling system.
have better studying areas where places are cleaner and have more comfortable seatings
Have more group study tables in maggie benson
Have more study rooms or a better library!!
Have more washrooms and water fountains
Having more comfortable couch areas to lounge around
Having more study areas
Honestly more comfy chairs in lecture and tutorial rooms. Many times you can be in those chairs/seats for hours and being uncomfortable makes it hard to concentrate properly on lectures
I go to SFU Surrey, the main thing that I believe should be improved is space. Finding a place to sit down and study can take a lot of time mainly because many students who come to study in the evening are not SFU students. If classes were open later students could have much more space to study at nights and looking for a place to study wouldn't be so hard.
I would put more study spaces in the Burnaby campus, and have plugs in lecture halls because there are always only like 4 around the walls and some are even too far from the seats to use. Also in the Surrey campus it's awesome how they have plugs in some of the smaller lecture theaters, but I wish they had that too in the big lecture theater.
If more plugs can be provided in the study area, that would be great!
Improve Gym equipment, get a billiard table.
Improve the experience at the campus. This means having the washrooms cleaned more regularly (the ones in WMC are always gross) and having a larger variety of food places.
Improve the look of the older buildings at SFU. Especially the Library in the Burnaby Campus. The study group rooms show the age.
In my opinion, the addition of more study rooms/seating areas would improve my experience at SFU. When I go to study with friends, we spend an extremely long time just trying to find a place to sit down,
Increase seating in the AQ
Increase study space and reduce food prices
Increase the availability of WiFi in lecture halls and classrooms. Many rooms either have extremely weak WiFi signals or have none at all.
increase the speed of wifi
It could improve the amount and variety of study areas.
It may be that I am just not aware of it yet but an area for older students, perhaps 30+ years to gather whether it is to study, talk to others their age about shared experiences etc. would be wonderful.
Keep the areas clean.
Keep up with the renovations at the Burnaby campus (maybe renovate classrooms and just building interior in general)
less walking from rez to classes
Library is really small, we often cannot find place to study.
Make it stand out by adding beauty in rooftop gardens, murals on the bland concrete, colour, banners, and public spaces open for student art.
• Make more available study space with outlets. That's one of the biggest problems I run into.
• Make more places with tables and seats magically appear with nearby power outlets and ethernet ports.
• Make the AQ nicer. The main halls are so dark and depressing. More and better lighting and artistic decor would go a LONG way. The best places to study are Blusson/Saywell Hall, the library, or the new chemistry study areas. AQ needs attention!
• Make the campus look more cheerful and inviting—especially on cold and gloomy days where literally everything is one of 50 shades of grey. That's not supposed to be punny. Has the school considered painting some of the walls?
• Make the space in the lecture rooms greater, it is very difficult to sometimes stretch or move.
• Make the surrey campus more interesting.
• Maybe to have a place to organize study groups.
• More and better study spaces that are HEATED, have good lighting, comfortable and aesthetically pleasing (not broken, torn, ripped or shabby looking) which are welcoming to students. A space id actually WANT to study in.
• More clean, accessible and convenient study areas.
• More comfortable study spaces. Too many cubicles, not enough couches.
• More computers and study areas.
• More group study spaces around the burnaby campus.
• More outlets in lecture halls.
• More outlets throughout the school.
• More places to sit/study.
• More places to stay for those of us who don't have great financial support.
• More power outlets at study stations.
• More power outlets in lecture halls.
• More printing areas with more available computers and studying areas.
• More PRIVATE study spaces. Less bumpy roads leading to SFU, easier to study on the bus.
• More quiet comfortable study space.
• More QUIET study areas !
• More quiet study areas with outlets.
• More room.
• More seating areas for students who have group meetings or just relax in between classes.
• More secure and comfortable study areas.
• More space for students to hang out and study...
• More space for students, especially a space for all the unions.
• More spaces to study, more buses, cheaper food options, more TA's.
• More student space would help create a better community, and provide incentives for students to stay at the university longer than necessary.
• More study area for groups! Perhaps a interactive room full of tables for group projects and another room full of tables for friends to study together yet still be able to socialize quietly.
• More study area with outlets.
• More study areas and food places.
• More study areas are needed.
• More study areas with tables.
• More study areas/benches to sit and eat.
• More study space.
• More study space.
• More study space.
• More studying space.
• More Team Rooms at SFU Surrey.
• More/better eating areas that also support laptops (with outlets).
• Need more group study space (rooms).
• One thing that would improve my experience at SFU is if SFU heated the buildings better! Sometimes when I'm in lectures during the winter I am so uncomfortably cold!! I even bring extra layers just for during lectures.

• Overall atmosphere is just so gloomy. Renovation would be excellent to liven it up.

• physical appearance of the hallways and buildings

• Please increase the number of places to study. Whenever I am at the Burnaby campus in the afternoon, I can't find anywhere to sit down and study.

• Provide a better space for student's to interact with one another/do group projects.

• provide affordable housing in campus

• Provide more access to undergraduate student lounges that have microwaves and hot water tanks. Not everyone can afford to buy a coffee/tea and a lunch on campus everyday.

• Provide more seating around the mackenzie cafe. During peak class hours (11-2) there is hardly any room on the whole third floor of the AQ for people to eat/study. If it's raining, I'm not sitting outside.

• Provide more student study space around the university

• Provide more study space.

• Provide more study spaces, with cubbies and chairs. Ideally near windows instead of in some dark basement area.

• Provide some family housing that allows small pets. I would have loved to live on campus, but since my wife owns a small dog we were unable to apply for student housing!

• Put clean microwaves in select locations so people can heat food up that students bring to school. It's not cool AT ALL!

• Renovate westmall building including the washroom

• SFU doesn't have practice rooms, or even lecture halls with pianos open 24/7. It's been really bothering me, as regular practice and loud experimentation in music is what really keeps me interested in being driven and creative.

• Shortcuts through the quadrangle so students don't have to walk around the perimeter to reach the other side for classes

• Something to lighten up the campus and make it less dreary during bad weather.

• Sometimes I don't get cell phone reception in certain areas

• Technologies in lecture rooms should be improved since it's very hard to listen to instructors

• The AQ floor is really annoying if something is being wheeled on it. It's far to noisy. There should be better pianos in the education building. Healthier food choices. Events that bring people together. There are many foreign students it would be nice to make them feel more included in SFU.

• The carpets in LHR should be changed... I think they're originals. It looks pretty gross.

• The lecture rooms in the Harbour Centre require more electrical outlets for laptops etc.

• The only thing that SFU should improve on is having more group study areas for people to go since most of the common study areas and always occupied.

• The West Mall badly needs renovations in all areas (classrooms, hallways, washrooms, departments, outdoor sitting areas) including a food/beverage option that doesn't involve waiting in horribly long lines at Tim Hortons'.

• This is probably not the most important thing that will be listed here but I'd appreciate (if any new classrooms ever get made) that we don't get the chairs in the auditorium classes to recline. Personally, it puts me further away from the table and it takes up some room in the row behind. There's a chance that you might be leaning on someone's bag or legs. This is not an urgent matter, but I'll just note it here anyway.

• too old to use classroom equipment, poorly managed

• Update the interior of the buildings. More modern flooring, lighting etc.

• Update the seating in the older lecture halls of the burnaby campus, such as AQ lecture halls. In some cases it is a real struggle to access seats in the middle of the room when seats at the aisle are already taken and the legroom while sitting is incredible tight, uncomfortable. It negatively affects the learning environment, especially for classes that are 2-3 hours long.

• Upgrade the classroom technology
- Upgrade your lab computer monitors.
- We need more computers in library.
- Well I’d love it if SFU could fix the flooding problem with a portion of the stairs near the upper bus loop. It floods every year and I never see any maintenance workers trying to solve the issue. Countless students either walk through the lake of water or around the edges which holds back student traffic going up the stairs. The location of this area is near the upper bus loop, where the stairs split off west and east under the Rotunda (where that tree is north of the security office). As you go up the stairs on the East side it reaches the second level then up the next flight of stairs is the third level where the fountain is. On this second level there is always a massive lake of water. It is obvious a drain is clogged or damaged or just can’t handle the flow of water. I’d love it if it could be fixed so no one would slip and break their neck when it freezes over during the winter. Also to note, I notice once and a while there are homeless/beggars going through the different levels of the library begging for money. I never seen library staff ask them to leave or call security to have them removed. Please do something about this.

**Course Availability, Variety and Scheduling**

- Improving the class selection process; as a CRIM student I find it incredibly difficult to get into classes that are required for my degree. Perhaps the school should go off CGPA merit as well as credit amounts enabling students who work harder to get first priority
- Add more classes as it’s hard to enroll into the classes I need.
- Assist me to get into my courses when needed. Every semester I have difficulties in getting into my classes. I do not think SFU should make it mandatory for students to pay for dental, medical and for athletic or gym, these things should be optional. I am married and a mother of two boys and do not have the time to go in the gym, so why force me to pay for something that I do not have the time to use. I strongly think this needs to be reviewed.
- Be able to get into all the classes I want in the semesters I want
- Better access or way of picking classes, by the time I got to pick classes they were all full
- Better access to classes
- Better chances of getting into needed classes
- Better class availability for necessary courses.
- Better class availability. It is hard to get 5 classes that all work together in a schedule.
- Better class schedules. For business classes they seem to be MWF or TuTh and always at conflicting times. I don’t want to be driving up the mountain five days a week when I only have two classes.
- Better class times, better funding
- Better course availability
- Better course registration system and class planning. I was the victim of a class cancellation that results in the alteration of my course planning, and for the majority of the time in my 3rd year was not able to take the course I wanted.
- Better course scheduling
- Better course selection. It’s always a nightmare trying to get the right courses, time, and campus. I’ve never actually managed to do it.
- Better selection/availability of courses
- Better system for class enrollment. Every semester, I have trouble getting into classes I want to take. For example, with courses restricted to faculty majors, it should clearly state the date the restriction will lift. I tried getting into a HSCI course (I am an MBB major) and for weeks it would not let me. I tried contacting the HSCI adviser but nobody ever replied to my queries.
- Certain scheduling conflicts, i.e. most upper level classes seem to be often all scheduled in the same/incompatible time slots.
- Class availability. I am struggling to get my degree because classes are full, there is an ineffective wait-list system, they are on limited days, they are at different campuses, they are only available for certain terms, and they are at sporadic times. It is incredibly frustrating.
• Class enrollment, it's difficult to get into the classes that I do want to study or graduate on time, due to late enrollment dates and limited number of classes offered each semester/large number of students trying to get into the same course.
• Class enrolment/registration - more classes availability and better schedule timings (e.g. some subjects have many evening classes not really tailored to undergrad students)
• Classes availability
• Course offering schedule
• Course selection improvement.
• Create more flexible Spring and Summer course offerings.
• Crim classes seats are too limited
• Easier entrance into classes...I seem to be on a wait list to much!
• Easier registration process that would actually allow you to get the classes you would like.
• Filling lecturer positions for core courses scheduled for a particular semester
• Get into my classes easier!
• Getting into the classes
• Have a greater choice in classes offered each semester. Quite often all the mandatory ones are completely full. And certain classes are only offered every two or so years.
• Have more class choices
• have more classes for upper division Health Science - Arts courses avaiable
• Have more sections of the mandatory classes and have priority for the students under that specific faculty
• have more than one class of a particular course.
• Have specific, upper level classes be available more often.
• Having language courses at the Surrey campus would be wonderful.
• Having more class options & priority for those in certificate classes to have access to the classes necessary to finish the certificate.
• Having more variation in the music department with more available courses
• I am a PDP student and just finished my course work semester. I had to settle for courses that I did not want to take because my desired courses were full by my registration date. Perhaps surveying student preference for courses prior to setting the courses would better serve the needs of the students. I felt like I was paying for a service that I did not necessarily want (but needed) to meet the requirements of the program.
• I am a psychology major and I wish courses were twice a week, two hours each instead of a long three hour lecture once a week. I find that courses that happen more frequently tend to be more interesting and keep me on track. Say for instance if I decide to skip my psychology course, I've essentially skipped the entire week. However, if there were two lectures a week, I still have another option to go to the second lecture and not get left behind.
• I will not be able to graduate in the spring as planned because of one course not being offered. This course was offered in the fall semester but I could not take it due to a scheduling conflict with other courses/ my work schedule. This has been an ongoing problem throughout my undergrad experience and it should not be something that keeps me from graduating. Either more information on how to properly organize my courses or offering the courses more often would be the one thing I would like to see improved.
• If SFU could do one thing to improve my experience here, it would be to make course enrollment more convenient, and offer more courses during the summer semester for those people who want to get ahead.
• I'm interested in branching into some of the arts, however most of the courses that I'm interested in (ex. screenwriting, filmmaking I/II/III) are at the Vancouver campus and it's difficult to fit those classes into my schedule taking into account the commuting time back to and from the Burnaby campus. I think having some performing arts classes at the Burnaby campus would be convenient.
• Improve availability of classes.
• Improve class selection. I can't even begin to tell you how many friends have broken down and had to extend years into their bachelors degree because class's were either full or unavailable that semester
• Improve course selection times. Many courses have inconvenient times and a narrow range of time slots. Also sometimes I wanted to choose a class but couldn't because the course final exam was on the same date as another course I wanted to take.
• Improve SFU Surrey CMPT course selection. Over the past year or so it seems to have gone significantly downhill. The lower division course selection is good, but there are very few upper division courses offered. In addition to that the upper division courses are mainly targeted at 3rd years forcing 4th year students out to burnaby in order to complete the software systems degree which is marketed as being based in surrey.
• Improve the amount of courses offered during the summer.
• Improve the courses available by expanding the sections offered to accommodate for the popularity of specific courses. E.G. COGS 100 always fills up, I've been trying to get into that course for 3 years now to no avail (that is, for the one competent professor teaching the course).
• Increase class availability
• Increase class sizes, or offer more sections for a class.
• Increased frequency in upper division Linguistics courses and increased number of seats.
• it is so hard to select ECON courses, wish there could be more seat for that:)
• It would be really awesome if there was more class availability and we could see what classes would be offered and at what times for the whole year (which we currently can't always do). When you are trying to plan out a degree, particularly when in your last year, not knowing what will be offered and when can add a lot of unnecessary stress. Related to this, wait lists for courses should be brought back in all departments.
• Limit the number of labs/tutorials in first-year classes. Every class does not need a tutorial, and I have witnessed many wasted hours of teacher and student time. It would be a sound idea to assess and cut down on tutorials and labs that are unnecessary.
• Make Courses available in every semester e.g Physics Courses
• Make courses easier to get into, and available more often
• Make it easier for students to take 5 classes per semester.
• Make it easier to get courses in the Linguistics department
• Make it easier to get into courses. The reason there are 5th and 6th year students isn't because we want to take our time. It's because nobody can get into enough courses each semester to graduate in 4 years except for the scholarship students.
• Make more classes available at the surrey campus
• Make the class availability better. I have to take certain courses in a semester, and I find that they are always at the same time, making it very difficult to take the classes I need in the right semester.
• Making enrollment in classes less stressful. I am part of SFU's golden key honors society and have very good grades, yet I am still getting late enrollment dates every semester aside from my very first and finding it difficult to get any of the classes I want and many that I need at appropriate times. I hear many of the same complaints from my fellow criminology students, with this semester all of the upper level crim courses filling up before open enrollment date even came! In my opinion, that is completely unacceptable and SFU was not willing to open any more classes. I become more and more frustrated with this each semester to the point where I have even considered transferring to UBC.
• Making the registration process easier in regards to class availability.
• More availability for popular courses.
• more available seats for classes
• more class options (academic planning is complicated by a lack of offerings ie. courses only available in winter session or every 2nd year etc. More classes would also make the student/teacher ratio more attractive)
More class selections, its tough when school only offers one lecture time for a class a semester and then doesn't offer it till the next years term. This is very conflicting. Next would be more room on campus for studying, there is never any room!

More classes available. There were times where the classes I wanted to enroll in were full, not available, or conflicted with my schedule.

More classes offered

More classes, so I can get the courses I need to graduate on time.

More classes. Every class that I want to take is full by the time I try to sign up for it.

More course availability.

More course availability; it is. Frustrating experience not being able to get into classes.

More courses for online students. When waitlists are full consider offering a second course

More courses offered in the semester of a single class.

More courses/access to courses

More film study classes.

More sections of popular classes offered

More summer courses

More upper level courses

more useful classes

Move the science faculty to Surrey, or have more courses related to science, health science in particular, available at the Surrey campus.

Not having to worry about being able to get the courses I want.

Not offer a course on Friday nights from 530-820! That is absolutely ridiculous.

offer courses more often instead of just once a year.

Offer courses more than one time a year

Offer different options for courses - When it is a course you need and only one section is offered semester after semester with the same professor at the same time it is difficult to get them done.

offer more bigger class sizes or more classes, so that we can get in the classes we need to graduate

Offer more class sections or more distance education courses in the Business faculty

Offer more classes each semester because I always have to wait to take something and then it doesn't fit into my schedule.

Offer more courses

Offer more education courses at the Surrey campus.

Offer more in-disciplin diversity in regards to times courses are offered.

offer more upper division courses so that time of graduation is not a concern

open more available seats for econ courses

Open more course sections, especially upper economics course.

Perhaps more flexible course hours because a lot of the time when I'm trying to enroll into a course, there's a conflict between time slots.

Priority class seating for students enrolled or intending to declare in a certain major. Or just more class space.

Provide more classes in Surrey or provide better transportation up the mountain from production station.

Provide more courses in 3D modeling and animation as part of the SIAT program.

Provide more seats for upper LING courses - it is so hard to get into them!

Provide more sections for required and popular courses.

register into econ201

SFU can improve on offering more courses year round. Quite often, courses are at times offered once a calendar year and I've found that course availability is an issue.

sfu could offer more online courses.

Siat following the restriction guidelines for classes. All classes were full by the time the restrictions lifted for open siat major registration

some major courses provide very little spots for students which caused late graduation.
Stop showing a course as being offered the next semester and then cancelling it. I've had to rework my schedules and miss out on courses because of this. It makes it impossible to properly plan out a degree.

That there would be more availability of kin classes (class sizes need to be bigger and classes offered more than once a year)

The course offerings for upper division Biology have been very slim and not spread out. This makes it a bit of a challenge to get all of the courses I want, and be able to do that without having to take only 1 or 2 a semester. I would love to see a wider range of course offerings; or even the acceptance of transfer credits from Thompson Rivers.

the enrollment problem due to insufficient course sections.

The popular classes fill up so fast that most are full by the time the average student has their registration date (especially 2nd and 3rd year students)

THE SINGLE MOST IMPT ISSUE IS PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE COURSES FOR STUDENTS.

There needs to be more time selections and larger space for courses. Many required courses tend to occur at the same exact time while other courses are almost always full.

there should be more seat of class for us to take.

To allow more students to get into the classes they need- sometimes too difficult and frustrating to register for classes.

Upper division course offerings limited, bad scheduling

upper level courses need to be offered more frequently

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Summary of Main Concerns

- Accessible courses
- Course offerings
- Class sizes
- Course scheduling

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Student Life/Campus Community

- A clear calendar of important events/activity days.
- A unified community and better class alignment.
- Advertise events more.
- Be more involved
- be part of more clubs/activities
- better professional events for FCAT students
- Better sense of community
- Build a greater sense of community on campus.
- Build awareness about events and groups on campus and how to become involved.
- Build the atmosphere where people can connect and make friends.
- Building a better sense of community. I have been here for over three and haven't made any friends that last more than a semester. Moreover I barely get to interact with students outside of my faculty. This is extremely disturbing because in my opinion a good university experience should encourage a shared academic experience from people of all fields. I think a better sense of community can be established by constructing a 24 hour common student space that would allow for more intermingling.
- Campus does not represent a true campus feel
- Campus social events.
- Ccreate more community with surrey campus
- Coming into university I think having “frosh” on campus and not just for your faculty or some welcome activities other than orientation would have been nice.
- Create a community
- Create more of a community on campus I feel like I don't know any of my peers outside my inner circle of friends.
- despotic community
- find out how to make more friends, be more social, and know that others will actually show up to events.
- For varsity athletics to be recognized more throughout campus. Here at SFU barely half the student population even knows we have varsity teams at this school. In the states, varsity sports are celebrated and shared amongst everyone within the university community, I wish the same
could happen here at SFU - especially so that we have way more fans in the stands support us as well as our school!

- Foster a fun-ner and more social atmosphere.
- Foster better community spirit.
- Frats
- get students more involved, whether theyre in clubs or not.
- Get the word out more about events and volunteering and how to find out about them.
- getting more involved with the students in a club
- Have more engaging departmental student groups
- Have more school events for the pleasure and enjoyment of the students. I know there isn't much time for SFU students to do fun things with the amount of studying with have to do, but every now and then it would be nice to go to a fun, free event with friends. This is particularly true for people living on the mountain, as SFU can cause quite a bit of seclusion for a lot of people, especially those without cars and who have a lot of homework/studying and so do not have a lot of time to get off the mountain.
- Have more social events.
- Have more student events that work for commuting students
- Have the school more involved in athletics
- Having more events throughout the year would make a better experience for me at sfu. This will be a beneficial way to relieve some of the stresses that we as students experience everyday.
- Help integrate people who are commuters, not only those who live on campus.
- Hold more campus events for students to participate in and make memories plus meet new people in the process.
- I have never been on campus. I am part of the AHCOTE program (professional teacher training) taught on the Northern Lights College in Fort St.John. I appreciate all the support from SFU that you provide the AHCOTE students, but I still feel slightly distant from the SFU community.
- I have only been here a couple months. Nonetheless it seems that academically it is very rigorous, which is not a bad thing. My one issue is that there does not seem to be much of a community. This may be because it is a commuter school, but I have been up on campus on weekends and at night and it is like a ghost town. Improving a sense of community and/or nightlife on campus
- I think if I could improve my experience in school, I would say being involoved more in school activities. For example, join a club or participate in a sport.
- I think that SFU was not very welcoming. Not enough was done to make students know how to be involved on campus.
- I wish SFU were less of a commuter school and had a better student involvement. For instance, it is rather sad that there are very few people that attend sporting events, and yet our school is the only Canadian school in the NCAA. We also should have a stadium. I also really think the SUB will greatly help in encouraging student involvement.
- I wished there were more clubs to participate in. I've joined a few clubs but some had meeting times that conflicted with my schedule. In the end, I was stuck with 1 or 2 clubs.
- I would increase the amount of campus ran social activities. I feel like I don't know 90% of the people I interact with.
- I would join a pre-med club for sfu students, currently there isn't an active one on campus
- I would join more clubs
- I would like to be a volunteer for SFU
- I would like to suggest organizing more activities for international students.
- If possible, allow clubs or conferences to post any information of events around campus or a certain area that students can easily see. Sometimes it is difficult to keep track of any interesting events.
- Improve campus life (more on activities and things to do)
- Improve the community feeling
• Improve the sense of community among SFU students. The only time I’ve ever felt truly proud to be a student at SFU (aside from the fact that it's a well-renowned school) was when we were doing the lipdub.
• Improve the social experience at SFU, particularly the pub. Also, make the lecture halls/classrooms more technology-friendly. Need more plug-ins, better wifi etc.
• Initiatives to build a stronger sense of community within the student population
• It would have better pubs, a Student Union, the surveys that are submitted pertaining to the each professor/class at the end of every term would be open to student access, and more of a student life in general.
• Just very tough to be here psychologially - lack of communication and friends (people are very closed from my view), very hard material and tons of homework and it gets even worse and worse. (Too much material has to be covered over a short period of time. I want SFU to arrange a studying scheme such that it would be less stressful.
• Make athletics of bigger part of the school experience. We need to advertise sporting events better and try to get students more into attending school sporting events.
• Make first year students' engagement opportunities more accessible. Mandatory orientation sessions.
• Make it easier to connect with faculty and be involved with research opportunities.
• Meeting more people
• Met more members of the opposite sex.
• More "engagement" with the student body, community.
• more campus life
• More campus life. Have more engaging & fun events for students. Holding concerts, competitions etc.
• More community activities. The school is split into three main schools across the lower mainland. There lacks a sense of community, especially at the downtown campuses.
• More community centred events in the convocation mall
• More community events to engage everyone.
• More engagement with students on daily basis.
• More engaging extracirricular student life
• More events
• More events that weren't all pub nights
• More events to help undergraduates feel more welcomed, that way they can adapt to university life.
• More information on extra curricular activities. I didn't know where to get my information on the Dane club because I want able to check out the booths in the convocation hall in the first week
• More interactions between students! Most people don't seem to talk to each other
• More Interactive events to get students more involved in the community.
• More interactivity on campus with students, athletics, residence.
• More of a connected campus life and more support for the athletic teams at the school.
• More open workshops or events on the evening time.
• More Parties!
• More personal encounters
• More school community.
• More school spirit and reasons to stay on campus after class.
• More school spirit and student involvement!
• more social events
• More social opportunities/events
• More student events to add, it would make the campus more welcoming - allow more networking and make the campus appear more connected.
• More student involvement. A better sense of community within the school. more food options. more/nicer study space(ex, 6th floor library study area)
• more student life
• More student networking activities during daytime. not evening.
• More volunteer opportunities for art students, hope students in art faculty could be more connected to the main campus, because main campus is fun!
• Need to improve the campus experience (like UBC’s)
• Not many events.
• Offer more events in the convo mall
• One thing to improve my experience here would be to implement a physical activity group/club, where students who would like to participate in sports activities around class time can.
• Perhaps create a way for undergraduates to get more involved in the first week of the semester - a longer frosh week/orientation?
• Provide a place for creative output of students who do art and science (I.e. I am studying sciences currently but my passion is for fine arts and it is hard because it feels like no one else has the same situation of loving both fields passionately) A place/club where people can do art and science in surrey would be really great (there are clubs for video games, religions, etc but not much for fine arts) Additionally, for students that were not able to attend orientation, it is very hard to hear about frosh activities and meet people as the ones that were able to attend seem to feel that only those that attended orientation can participate (which is not very welcoming)
• Provide involvement opportunities to transfer students. I found it difficult to get involved after i transferred in the last part of my second year.
• Provide more activities.
• Provide more events for students to get to know each other that are fun like partying and go late but start a bit earlier.
• Provide more information about clubs all throughout the term, not just during Clubs Week
• Provide more opportunities for student engagement so that students feel as though they are having a true university experience and not just attending a 'commuter school'.
• Provide more social options for part time students
• School Spirit
• Should better advertise and make aware of the activities available or offered
• Shrum Bowl
• Some kind of schoolwide activities which all are encouraged to attend and highly publicized through more than just "clubs"
• Student/university community events at campuses other then Burnaby - I study at Harbour Centre and there is little in the way of community
• Table tennis game!
• There needs to be more events to meet new people.
• To advocate a better sense of community by bringing all faculties and clubs together during orientation week to welcome new and returning students.
• To be more social
• To have more facilities in SFU Surrey because even for club interviews and meetings, students have to go to Burnaby just to attend it. It would be better to have the clubs’ offices here at SFU Surrey.

University Administration/Policy Decisions
• I would make the administration more competent in their work. It took me over a month to enroll in classes. When I was accepted into this university to take my second degree in economics, none of your staff transferred over any of my credits (or seemingly even looked at them). I had to chase people around and spend hours on the phone trying to get into classes. I was sent to a total of 12 people, 2 of which did anything. Nice to see where my tuition dollars are going. Eventually (about three weeks into my quest for enrolling in courses) I was told I needed to take a semester of electives before I could get accepted into the economics program, and take economics courses. Nice little trick, waiting until I move across the country to screw me over. Now even though I hold a history degree, plus elective credits from Capilano University and transfer credits from Vancouver Community College... I am taking philosophy (2nd year), History
(2nd year, and yes I already have a history degree, and Archaeology because your RETARDED
("To hinder or to impede progress/efficiency)staff did not transfer my credits properly, so I could
enroll in courses that we at my level...you know, courses that I moved half way across the country
to take and paid you thousands of dollars for. Furthermore, even though I have taken BC's
math assessment test and have courses in Statistics, Economics (x4), and Mathematics for the
Social Sciences... your RETARDED staff insists that I am RETARDED and need to take first year
math again. Oh wait, not even first year, they suggest I go back to grade 12. How insulting!
Lakehead University recognizes my credit "Mathematics for the Social Sciences", it was even
required to get my degree. It is on my transcript. Do you really think that "Mathematics for the
Social Sciences" is extremely different than your "Calculus for the Social Sciences"? Really? Do
you have some kind of superiority issue over Ontario schools (which would be innaccurate by the
way) or is your staff just lazy, incompetent, RETARDED, and doesn't care about students
whatsoever? In either case, you clearly only care about my money. At Lakehead University I
entered as a student in the history program, with credits from some credits transferring over from
Capilano University and Vancouver Community College. I talked to ONE (let me stress this,
ONE!!!) person. They looked at my transcripts and ensured that I was able to enroll in courses
required for my program at the level I was at. One person was more competent than 12 of
your staff. How much is their salary exactly? You spend $500,000 - $1,000,000 in salaries for
these 12 incompetent employees. It is obvious that all you care about is my money, and will
do as little as possible in order to get it. You don't care about my success, you don't care to treat
me fairly. You don't that I put in seven years of university. You don't care that your customer is
satisfied. So let's talk about the one thing you care about; if I am screwed around after this
semester again, I will take my $15,000 in tuition that I would have been paying over the next two
years, and give it to an Ontario University instead. I will also be certain to express my discontent
with your university to any prospective students I encounter in Ontario. I suggest you take the
small monetary loss out of the wages of your incompetent, pointless, RETARDED administrative
staff. Feel free to email me, should anyone actually read this. Given the track record of my
experience with your university I doubt it will count for anything. I bet you have only put out this
survey to give the illusion that you care about your students. 

- more efficient administration help and processing. It took the administration 6 months to process
my application for graduation- ridiculous. - i had my IB credits transfer over from highschool as
far as my arts courses went- yet every single time i had to signup for courses that had a W
component, I had to go through the faculty advisor, the administration MANY emails and phone
calls in order to be enrolled for the class -i was signed up for Kin courses and it said i was
enrolled fully during course selection, however come september i was bumped to waitlist because
I am not a kin major- i needed those courses to apply for physio. this now means that I have to
wait an ADDITIONAL YEAR to apply. UNACCEPTABLE! -coop advisors were more or less
useless

- A longer or extended deadline for dropping out of courses? I was unable to this semester for a
course I wanted to drop (although I will admit it was entirely my fault). I missed it by 1 day.

- A more cooperative environment between faculties. Even within faculties. With Woodwards, a
building built to help collaborate between FPA majors, there is very little.

- Actually have a department for marine biology instead of just having courses for it. I really wanted
to major in marine biology.

- Allow more retakes 5 retakes is like one bad semester.

- Another Campus in richmond

- At this point, I can only ask that the application process be easier (I was accepted VERY late in
the game).

- Be less beauraucratic and difficul to deal with - requests through SIS or URecords or SFU Tech
Support or the Registrar's Office or ANYTHING take forever, require weeks of back-and-forthing
and jumping through hoops... this is a school, not a business! Students already have enough to
deal with without the added stress of SFU being impossible and illogical and finicky.

- build a richmond campus

- Care more for students.

- Choose courses more than one semester ahead.
• Close communication department
• Complimentary print cards with 100 pages (or more) pre-loaded. Good for a semester. Updated at the beginning of every semester.
• Consider the GPA of transferring students for registration dates. I like I wasted a lot of time and hard work in my final two semesters to get my GPA very close to 4.0, as I was unable to get any of my choices (not even top ten... Or top thirty) for an upper division elective to ensure I had at least 4 courses. I would have preferred 5, but I literally exhausted all of my options.
• Course registration.
• Do not make it mandatory for Dance and Arts students to have to have the Fanx99 credit. It is not necessary for a student who will never use math in their academic career to have to take this course or struggle to gain the credit.
• Ensure that the study spaces at SFU Surrey are be used only by SFU students so students who actually attend SFU have the spaces needed to study during midterms and finals
• Explain to us the way that course registration dates are assigned.
• For the most part I am quite satisfied, but I do find that the program I am in (PDP) is rather unorganized which makes it difficult for me to feel organized.
• Get rid of the ridiculous curving system as it screws all SFU graduates over by being overly competitive and ruining everyone’s chances at attending a good post-secondary school. Seriously, there’s no benefit at all to having everyone suffer a bad GPA. The best schools in the US have been inflating their grades for years now and the best consulting, finance and accounting positions in New York City and Toronto now have unbelievably high standards for GPA because of these schools. And hence, that is why there is not a SINGLE SFU graduate that is working at McKinsey, Bain, Boston Consulting Group, Goldman Sachs I-banking and such. Also change GPA system to be out of 4.0, being ‘unique’ and ‘special’ doesn't mean its useful.
• Get the TAs to give us our grades!!!!!!
• Give the TA’s a raise. Please end the job action its a pain for the students.
• Have consistency in departments, and actually care about the students instead of screwing them over. Make registration easier (take a look at Douglas College’s registration system)
• Have more D.S.U. funding
• Have resources allocated more efficiently and effectively
• Higher admission standards, require students to have better English proficiency
• I barely have any, but since I am a Christian it is a little hard to hear professors go on rants about the flaws of the Christian faith. The religion is not perfect in any means, but it would make my already very satisfying SFU experience even better if the flaws of any religion were not mentioned in lecture.
• I believe SFU can improve my experience here by having maximum of five withdrawal courses instead of three. This is due to lack of understanding of the regulations of withdrawal courses, I panicked, especially, in the first year and drop two courses in order to have a good gpa. Therefore, I will highly appreciate if my concern will be considered.
• I really appreciate that SFU made considerable efforts towards bringing in campus-wide composting plus fresher and healthier food choices. That has considerably improved the SFU experience. However, I would really like to see more respect from the university towards TSSU and CUPE workers. I’ve had many TAs go the extra mile for us lazy students, often working overtime if only because they want to see us succeed, and I would like to see that effort recognized. Offering 0%, 0%, 0%, 0% over 4 years in a contract is not at all respectful. These workers are integral towards making the overall SFU experience and should be paid as such. Thank you.
• I think SFU students at large would benefit greatly from workshops explaining SFU’s institutional structure, including the role played by the SFSS in mediating these interests with those of students. Aside from matters of personal circumstance, my guess is that many (if not most) students are disconnected from campus life because they are not made to feel like they are adequately represented, nor that they can contribute to campus politics in a meaningful manner. In my opinion, creating an engaged student population at this point is less a matter of improving or creating new spaces, and more a matter of facilitating access to information that will enable students to take initiative on their own terms.
• Improve English language standards for international students.
• Improve SFU International.
• Improve their environmentally conscious programs, such as starting composting in the Towers building.
• Introduce a dress code for professors.
• Less emphasis on GPA for programs and more on learning and applying knowledge
• Less traffic in the hallways
• Make first-year blueprints session mandatory and simply include fee in first semester tuition. I did not attend and thus did not learn the importance of planning my schedule. I am now in my fourth year at SFU in my undergrad degree and still have at least a year to go. I truly believe that if I had better tools to plan my degree I'd be much better off.
• Make it a University policy to ensure every student has their mobile phones/devices turned off during class lecture. It is very very distracting when the student right next to me, in front of me and behind me are giggling or busy facebooking when some of us would actually like to learn.
• Make it more comfortable and easier for transfer students from other Canadian Universities
• Make the TA and TM postings more central so that people can apply outside their faculty.
• Make undergraduate experience more geared toward future employment possibilities.
• more attention paid to the interest of Undergraduate students. it feels as though you are not as important to the University unless you are a MA or PhD student.
• More canadian students.
• More Cohesion
• More transparency with the grading process.
• No curve, get the grade you earned!
• Not stiff me on the recreation pass for Vancouver students. Why are 4 credits required to get a rec pass for SFU vancouver students, and only 3 for Burnaby students?
• Pay the T.A.s so we can get our marks.
• Pay your TAs.
• Place less emphasis (lower grade requirement) on BUS 360W for entering Accounting Honours.
• Put an end to the TSSU strike, make amends because all the money spent on SFU is FOR THE STUDENTS, and nothing is more important to the students than their teachers, not always the professors. Our education, the education that we are paying for, is suffering because of the strike.
• Reconsider the requirements to qualify for a work study. Even though I receive no financial help from my family, because I live with them I do not qualify, and it seems odd that that prevents me from getting work-related experience on campus.
• Resolve the issue with the TSSU and other administrative staff issues. Please respect what they are asking for.
• Resolve the strike issue.
• Resolve this job action/strike with the TAs.
• SFU should make students their number 1 priority.
• Sit down and have an open serious discussion with the TSSU. They deserve to be paid more and the problem is just getting ignored. Grow up SFU, the problem will not just go away.
• Smokers all over the place violating the non-smoking rules. Those rules are not being enforced at all. Sucks.
• Somehow make it less crowded. I don't really know how to be specific about that because I know that enrollment can't really be reduced but it feels like it is always so busy on campus. There is nowhere to study, the halls are packed when class lets out, the lineups for food are so long, the buses are always full. There are just too many people and not enough amenities and space.
• Sort out the stuff with the TA's, it is painful for students and it is affecting our education. They just want 'normal' and 'fair' working conditions, and I bet if the people who are opposing their requests were working in similar roles they would except the same changes to be made
• Stop giving athletes priority to pick classes even if their grades aren't that good. Sports shouldn't be a priority, it should be ACADEMICS
• TA's to not go on strike
• that would be doing 2 semester per year and a summer break instead of 3
• The academic structure & curriculum delivery.
• The enrollment process. The order of enrollment and how it is determined is extremely complicated, and it often makes it so that good students who may not have declared, etc. don't get the classes that they want and need. There are many waitlists and the entire process can be extremely frustrating.
• The most important thing I would say to improve my experience is make some IAT courses more than 3 credits. For example IAT [****] and other 300 level courses. Because those courses occupy more than 2 times of time than courses from other majors, and more than 2 times of difficulties to get an A.
• The single most important thing is for the strike to be over so students can receive their grades on papers, exams, assignments.
• The three-term setting disenables International students to come back to their home country often or just a short stay for a couple of weeks in a year. And we do not have enough time with our families.
• To do more marketing about SFU worldwide and increase international coop links
• Treat all employees with fairness. Stop the bullying tactics in collective bargaining.
• Treat its students more like individuals and less like dollar signs. Lower tuition and the cost of books, more affordable student housing.
• Very displeased with my marks being held from me. I am paying thousands of dollars a year to study at SFU. In order to learn and improve, I need to know how I am doing so I can improve. I understand that it is the not the decision of the university, however the administrations lack of communication with the TA’s to get this problem resolved is showing a lack of care and respect for their students. I always loved and raved about SFU prior to this, however now I feel that money is the priority of the university and not the well being of the students. I am now looking to make a permanent transfer so I will no longer attend the school

Services/Advising

• - provide transition from graduation to attaining a job. There isn't enough of a follow-up with grads to help them make use of their degrees with the "right" jobs. Connections with larger firms need to be stronger where students are given opportunity to meet more potential employers. There is such a focus on CA recruits in Beedie.
• A more varied/flexible rec/drop in program.
• As a first year student.. I think it would be really helpful if maps of the campus could be given to students during welcome week...it was hard to get around the first week especially not knowing the name of all the different places.
• Better communication between student services departments. Also, make sure undergraduate advisers actually know what they're doing.
• Better organization and method to acquire information about prerequisites, classes and days off. Like for one of my courses, for some reason, I am not on the e-mailing list and I know a few other students are too so we are missing information about classes half the time.
• Better resources for students entering third year or higher.
• Blueprints and guides for first year students
• clear breakdown of requirements upon admission acceptance (in terms of breadth/humanities/quantitative etc)
• Extend library operating hours at all time. Compared to other universities, sfu lacks the area that student can study quietly.
• Extra educational support.
• Give better orientation about the installation and services available, as there is a wide range of them and have proved to be a great asset during my stay, but most of them I have found them by myself or through friends
• Have free agnedas!
• Having the agenda/passbooks for students available.
• Hope the advisors can be more kind and helpful to students, and the departments seems totally disconnected with each other, and it is very difficult for students to do some cross department document works. Therefore I hope the university can be more cohesive rather than fragmental
• I have enjoyed my experience at SFU very much but have had some frustrating experiences when dealing with the advisors to my [****] degree. I know that they are overworked and busy, however, a little more courtesy could go a long way with a student who is feeling overwhelmed and lost when they are new to the university
• I wished I was better prepared on how to use my degree after graduation in terms of looking for employment. None of the courses tell you where to go from here.
• I would encourage more help to the international students.
• I'm a mature student and there appear to be no resources specific to mature students
• I'm interested in applying for NSERCs, but unsure regarding the best way to proceed. Maybe offer workshops for this?
• Improve on academic counselling and provide more information regarding graduation/degree requirements.
• Improve the quality of the advisors.
• Increase fitness centre hours, especially on weekends.
• It would be helpful if there weren't such long lines at academic advising as most students need to speak with someone on short notice when they realize something is wrong with their schedule or the like. I realize long line ups are almost inevitable at the start and end of the semester, but still it would be helpful to have quicker access to this resource.
• Lifestyle balance for engineering students. Every workshop, tips, hints for being a well-balanced university student seems to evolve around students who don't have the same course load as this program.
• Longer office hours. Sometimes I come to SFU directly from work, but I can never make the office hours.
• longer(more) available time for academic advising
• Make academic advising more accessible, its very confusing where you are supposed to be to get certain questions answered.
• Make it easier to locate classes for first years in the first week of school. Have temporary signs maybe.
• Make more times available for rec sports for students with full course loads. Most of the times are during classes.
• Make the rooms in the Robert C Brown hall easier to find.
• Making it easier to find classrooms, labs, offices and such.
• More accessible and descriptive maps.
• More advisors for classes.
• More effort in clarifying neccessary processes to graduate for each individual faculty.
• more services for international student
• More student benefits and opportunities to meet others and socialize.
• More visible course planning
• More workshops for courses. Need more resources. Sometimes it's difficult to use office hrs or ta's and prof's.
• Need 24 hour study areas, especially for Vancouver campus, which none exists now.
• Offer more help in math workshops
• offer us more academic help
• Open gym (basketball) for students who are on campus late.
• Orientation should possibly include assisting student that attend with the locations of their classes prior to the first week.
• Provide better support for students struggling in courses when they seek help - better tutors within departments, more hours for TAs (with better pay so they actually care about their jobs).
• Recommended resources for students to access when they are trying hard to find alternative ways to study, learn, and understand material - OTHER than the Student Learning Commons, which doesn't have a structure that suits everyone.
• Provide more information and guidance to new students. Such as through dedicated orientation leaders and mentors, as well as more advisers.
• Provide some opportunities to help us improve our English.
• SFU could provide me the lots of work practices.
• SFU should have paper agendas. They seriously help organizational skills.
• SFU should promote workshops that are similar to BOT course to allow students to smoothly transition from high school to university.
• Sometimes, when I want to ask advisors some questions, I have to wait a really long time.
• Streamline advising
• To detail possible paths towards upper-level degrees (masters, doctors) at the very beginning of even an undergraduate degree.
• To have a Student Disability Center Located at SFU Surrey campus.
• To have advisors that are actually helpful.
• To help international students communicate with others properly
• Vastly improved support for transfer students from within the department. The lack of knowledge and confidence by my undergraduate advisor has constantly led me to find alternative routes to find out information pertaining to pre-requisites, course availability, course planning, field schools, and interdisciplinary programs, etc.
• When I first applied, I was told by more than one advisor that it would be no problem to complete a computing science degree through the NOW program. As it turns out, very little of the CS degree program is available through SFU NOW. The single most important thing would be to improve your advisor’s understanding of the programs offered by SFU to prevent misinformation from leading people down impossible paths.
• With regards to the PDP program, I would have been beneficial for me to know that I was situated in Maple Ridge for 2 semesters rather than thinking I was up at SFU Burnaby for the First semester. This would have allowed me to find a more appropriate residence since I live in Kelowna.

Instructors and TAs

• Improve your staff and hire teachers that can at least explain what they are talking about and not just read off the power point slides. Open up more class space so students are not forced to wait forever to complete their required courses and change their majors because they cannot get into classes. Encourage the profs to broaden their scope of research and not only talk endlessly about how great only their research methods are. Teach the staff to be more student friendly. If there are no students, profs won’t have their jobs.
• Better education quality in terms of more experienced and qualified professors and teaching assistants
• Better instructor/TM support for CODE courses - the instruction provided falls considerably short of what is provided through campus courses therefore making it considerably harder on the student. I am in my third and fourth CODE course and have found this problem to varying degrees in all of them.
• Better professors Better bus service during the winter Grading scale is too high (90% is the minimum for an A??) Bleak atmosphere
• Better professors for SIAT.
• Better professors who give better quality feedback
• Better teachers in International Studies especially.
• Ensure professors adopt newer forms of technology. Overheads are a thing of the past and should not be used in higher learning institutions.
• Evaluate the quality of professors.
• Give direction to facilitators of online courses as to how to best use this platform and the types of assignments that work/ don’t work in an online environment.
Go to more efforts to make sure that teachers are better teachers. Twice I have had professors who were terrible lecturers.

Have better access to TA's and Profs

Have better professors because some professors really don't care about teaching. I won't say all prof's are bad I have had wonderful prof's as well. But one thing I would want is that for the hard classes there should be the best prof's who are interested in teaching.

Have more consistency in Teaching Assistants and more one on one contact to facilitate learning. Also, offer more of the core courses required for Arts Degree programs so that students can get their degrees completed in a timely fashion.

Have more ta training, sometimes tas are unable to help with science homework because they haven't studied what we are learning for a long time

hire better professors!!!

Hire professors that don't waste students money but canceling class every other week

hire TAs that are adequate and know how to help students pass their course and assignments.

I feel that students would benefit from more instruction from their professors. I feel that there is not enough done by teachers to ensure that students understand the material. As a customer of the university, I am not totally satisfied with what I'm paying for.

I really hope the professors post up their slides online

I see profs with not so much experience in the rated field they are teaching and even profs you can even feel how uneducated they are on what they teach.

I would be amazing if you could make it mandatory for professors to have teaching degrees. That way they could be more then knowledgeable about their subjects.

Improve TA services to better my learning experience

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Improve TA services to better my learning experience

Improve teaching skills. Saying university doesn’t ‘hold your hand’ is an excuse for poor teaching skills.

Improve the teaching instructors, many and actually most of them do not seem like they have any desire to teach at all. This makes lectures in most cases uninteresting due to that fact that the teachers do not care enough to want the students to fully understand the concepts and reasons of the materials required in the courses. The teachers make hasty slides which do not help much with learning students to have to learn the majority of the material at home; and this of course is a big deal because in engineering one takes many courses and work piles up rather quickly. So, if there was perhaps better instructors or actual care put forth by the current staff I believe that many students, not just I, will have a far better experience at SFU as well we would acquire far greater knowledge from our courses to help us succeed in the future and in our coops.

Increase availability of teachers and TA's.

Meet some of the professors

More consistency with instruction, professors and TA's. Many TA's don't know what's going on and there's professors whom cannot teach.

more engaged professor

More lecturers that can effectively teach material to students in a way that students can understand.

More student-teacher interaction

more TAs to monitor during midterms/exams

More training in lecturing skills for professor's.

Not changing instructors last in the last moment

One of my professors this semester has declined to set up an alternative time to meet outside of their office hour and there is no TA in this course. I am unable to attend this office hour because I have a weekly commitment at this time. The school policy should attend to this, it is currently written in a vague manner. As it is currently written teachers have the discretion to turn down students who require extra support if they require it outside of their weekly office hour in my case.
• Professors and TAs better able to instruct in English.
• Professors would not "radically" change courses in the time between the posting of an online syllabus to the actual course presented on the first day of class regarding: grading percentages, content, books required, assessment criteria, prerequisites and the dates/times would be accurate and consistent with the student information system. In other words, I expect to be taught by professionals who have given forethought to what they are teaching!
• Recruit more qualified professors, sessionals, and offer more courses (for the long term) in the Political Science department
• TAs that are competent at English. There is no greater pain that trying to explain your troubles or confusion to a TA that can barely understand you nor explain the solution to you.
• Teacher assistant improvement. Sometimes the teacher assistants ends the tutorials early.
• The intellectual atmosphere is not particularly stimulating. We need to be able to invite better intellectuals to our school instead of second rate scholars.

Food

• A bit more of a discount on food for full time students.
• Another Tim Hortons on the opposite side of the campus would be nice.
• As funny as it seems, a Starbucks would be nice.
• Better food
• better food in a centralized place
• Better food options, more convenient transportation during peak hours.
• Better food/campus life.
• Better variety of food
• Bigger variety of restaurants
• Cheaper food places and more variety
• Cheaper Prices for student menus
• Definitely the food. There are alot of options but they are still overpriced. I would appreciate it if they could reduce some of the prices, but also that the food is edible and yummy. Seems like even that is too much to ask for :*( (Also there needs to be more desks around campus and in the library to study. It is always crammed during midterms and it's not fair that students can't find places to study here just because they weren't fast enough.
• Food options are limited. No Starbucks coffee. Engineering coop semester would be better to be in summer and courses offered are not enough. Withdrawal dates are too early!
• Foods are so expensive in campus.
• Get cheaper food on campus
• Get more food options :) and more student discounts
• Give out free lunch everyday
• Have variety of restaurants. Lower Tuition
• I hope in the winter SFU can provide some hot water, it is so cold to have the freezing water if I do not want to by some coffee.
• I hope there will be hot water machines.
• I live in residence and I wish there was a more flexible meal plan that would allow students to eat anywhere on campus without having to pay more than we already do.
• I would like some improvement for the availability of types of food on campus (Burnaby).
• Lower food price in cafeterias.
• Make food less expensive!
• Make the plates of dining hall more clean!!!!!
• More affordable food options.
• More food options on campus! (more variety)
• more food restaurants
• More options for food
• More places to eat
More variety and diverse food selections
Not sure yet... I've only been here a couple of months. Right now, my biggest issue is finding coffee during off-hours, like late Saturday.
provide free hot water.
SFU can make food cheaper.
The milkshakes for Triple O's should be made available during summer and spring, not when its fall and winter time. That experience would make me my experience at SFU very satisfying.
They should put a McDonalds on campus!
We should have a 7 Eleven store on burnaby Campus since all of the stores are closed we can’t find anything to eat during night outs.

Tuition/Fees and Financial Aid

- Cheaper student service fees, and only charge recreation fees to those who are using recreational services.
- Cheaper tuition
- Cheaper tuition
- Cheaper tuition
- Decrease the tuition fee of international student.
- Decrease the tuition fee. Rent out gym space for free. The burnaby recreation pass doesn't give much.
- Do not increase the tuition fee for international students to ridiculous amounts.
- First and foremost, there is no affordable way to both attend university and live anywhere near it. Residence housing is virtually the exact same price as standard Burnaby rent costs, which makes it impossible for anyone with limited income to live on campus, or in the immediate area. I understand the Vancouver region is obscenely expensive in terms of property, but there has to be some way for students to live and go to school without being born into the “silver spoon,” or rely on fickle scholarships or student loans, which offer very little funding and are difficult to get.
- Hopefully to decrease the tuitions or stop raising the tuition fees
- I know that many outside factors contribute to tuition costs, but if SFU could lower it's tuition costs, that mean more students have more time to focus on their University experience (instead of outside jobs), and my hope would be that this helps lead to more student engagement. I know for myself, I've had to sacrifice a lot of opportunities at school because of having to work as much as possible outside of school time in order to afford school.
- I think the most important thing is allowing students to pay their tuition in installments during the months they attend. I work and go to school and have a car and pay for everything and its hard to lump sum my tuition.
- I wish students major in social science had more chances to get scholarships.
- Increase financial aid
- Lower fees for international students
- Lower fees for international students.
- Lower fees.
- Lower the cost of printing/photocopying!!!
- Lower the cost of tuition, it makes it incredibly hard to enjoy your present and plan for your future when you are worried about payments bursaries, and loan payments. Besides, instead of working in an area related to your field, or doing an internship, you have to give that up sometimes for an average job elsewhere; gaining no relevant experience, and conflicting with your study time.
- Lower the cost of tuition.
- Lower the tuition fees for international students
- Lower the tuition for international students i know you are not going to do that but this is what i have to say. Get more engineering options here like civil or/and automotive engineering options.
- Lower tuition
- Lower tuition
- lower tuition fees!
- Lower tuition fees.
- Lower tuition fees.
- lower tuition please!
- Lowered residence and housing costs
- lowering tuition would enable me to more participate in and enjoy the university experience beyond the classroom... including the services that I pay for such as the fitness centre.
- More affordability for mature students.
- More financial aid available for international students.
- Please decrease the tuition! It's putting a really big burden on most students!
- Reduce student fees (I don’t even use the gym, and don't know where the rest of the money goes to)
- Reduce tuition cost.
- Reduce tuition costs - to pay for four courses alone, students have to work around 18 hours per week with minimum wage to break even, and that's ON TOP of studying, going to class and doing homework. It makes for a very stressful school experience.
- reduce tuition fees.
- Tuition

**Transportation**

- better coordination with Translink, more buses during peak hours
- Better parking services, help arrange faster transit to and from campus
- Bring down prices for parking, food and drinks.
- Bus wait times
- Easier commute
- Finish fixing the road up to campus (assuming that SFU wasn't determined to do so soon already). A smoother road would eliminate the underlying stress of coming to campus, as well as save money on tire replacement costs...
- Get more buses.
- Give us choices of whether to buy Upass or not. Like I'm leaving Vancouver on Dec. 11th. Then why should I bother to buy the Upass just for 11 days?
- Have buses run more often
- I live in Southern Burnaby and rely on the 144 Metrotown/SFU transit bus to commute to and from Simon Fraser University. Outside of peak times this bus runs only every 30 minutes and can cause issues getting to classes on time.
- I wish when I come up to SFU Burnaby, the overall price of things were cheaper (parking especially, food, coffee etc.).
- Improve bus service
- Improve parking services. Reduce fees for parking passes and reduce parking rates. This would help open the campus to students and allow individuals more freedom of mobility. While the U-pass helps students commute to campus, providing more affordable parking will greatly improve the ability to stay, remain, commute on/off campus
- Improve the transportation to and from SFU.
- improve transit
- Improve transit up to campus in burnaby
- Let students make the choice to purchase a UPass or not.
- live closer
- Live on campus
- More buses coming towards sfu from production station.
- More parking and cheaper parking tickets for visitor parking lots!
- My experience would be improved if parking wasn't so expensive. I believe parking passes should be more accessible as well.
Parking permits are too limited and every year the price rises exponentially. Providing more opportunities for student parking is an important issue which must be addressed.

quicker, easier transportation to and from Richmond
road conditions to improve public transit experience going to and out of the campus
Roadwork!
The bus that I take to SFU is absolutely terrible. I take the 143, which I have had to take for the past four years, and the service is consistently very poor. Often it is rammed full and I can't get on it, or the bus driver doesn't try to fill all of the space on it and drives by, or the bus just doesn't show up at all. I have been forced to drive to class and pay for parking when this happens, and it is very expensive to park for the day. I am forced to pay for a Upass, and this has been an increasingly frustrating issue for many students.
The only problem that is consistent is the bus service. Usually the bus is so full in the morning that it just passes me.
The parking is quite costly and managing the uPass is not very flexible in terms of opting out.
To have an easier commute from Langley.
Transit services - need more routes
transit system, enrollment courses system
transit, and services (day planners!)
transportation

Course Content, Format, and Workload

"The grading at SFU is way too tough compared to most Canadian universities." I can't draw this conclusion but 100% of my local and international classmates agreed with this statement.
A greater knowledge by profs in regards to other classes examination times and major projects. Far to often do I have a 3 week lull and then 5 things from 4 classes due all at once.
A little bit more explanation of MLA and APA citation before we are expected to use it - I'd never heard of either before my first assignment, they were not introduced to us at my high school.
Clearer course descriptions
Create more interactive learning environment like that of Semester in Dialogue. This is instrumental in getting students to talk to each other and ultimately, build a campus community.
easier grades
Extend the deadline of assignments
Give easier marks
group project
Have a more hands on experience during lecture.
I think more time should be dedicated to tutorials, because students are able to interact with each other, and learn better in a small classroom. The bond between the students and TAs is strengthened as well, and students become more motivated and eager to learn.
I would light up on course load and join club activities.
Improved synergy of courses in the SIAT program. The courses right now are really related, and do not necessarily prepare you for advanced, upper-division material.
In MBB: Less lecturing and more doing. Even if a course isn't a lab course, we could still "do" by doing problems. Designing, thinking, writing, solving and talking. Fuel the creativity of gifted minds. I have been sitting through courses where every class was PowerPoint lectures flashing until the midterm. On the midterms, we are given problems, which we don't do or don't do enough of in class. This method of teaching seems so old. Students may get a good mark, but how relevant and how sticky is the knowledge they were suppose to have "learned"?
Include more tutorials.
Increase the length of midterm exams from 50 minutes to 2 hours. It is just not good sign when 98% of the students run out of time on a midterm. I just wrote a Math midterm and not one of the almost 300 students was finished on time. Giving students 50 minutes is not testing how well you know the material and a person's intelligence, it's testing how fast you can write an exam. I sped through your midterm and hope you did too.
through it knowing that I wouldn't have time to check any of my answers or go over any of them and I was right, I ran out of time. Checking/going over answers in Math is essential, however, I was limited by time. It was the same story in Genetics. Everyone ran out of time, and, in fact, even the prof said that 50 minutes is just not enough for any exam but there was nothing she could do about that as this is what the time slots were for each class. I have heard a similar story from other profs too. I went to Douglas College (An excellent school, with highly experienced and organized instructors), and exams/lectures were never less than 2 hours. In the lecture the prof was able to teach us new concepts in the 1st hour, and then allow us to reinforce the material by actually doing the work or attending the lab in the last half of class. Also, having the lecture over a 2 hour duration allowed midterm exams to be 2 hours as well. At SFU, I have noticed that the prof is rushing to get through the material in 50 minutes and there are no time for questions/comments. I walk away feeling like I have only heard half the story. In Math we were told that, due to time limitations, we would essentially have to teach ourselves from the textbook. Not cool. This is not what I am paying for. Thank you.

- increasing the chance to approach the activities of real life about what we study
- introduce more field trips in biology
- Keep courses in lecture format and not online. We benefit from dealing directly with instructors.
- less all nighters
- More community-based learning
- more hands-on courses as well as more lecture times for psych courses!
- More opportunities to get a hands on approach to learning in our fields of study
- More tutorials and labs and opertunity for "hands-on" learning in psychology classes.
- Not having team work in ALL my courses
- Organize courses better. I've been to a few situations where I didn't have necessary pre-req knowledge to be in a certain course. This happened either because the pre-req course prof didn't cover the material, or course that was supposed to be equivalent wasn't so equivalent after all. Like CMPT 250 and ENSC 250 are equivalent, but they ca vary heavily, especially depending on the instructor. Sometimes instruction don't realize that people from 2nd, 3rd and 4th year are taking a course, so they make an assumption that since some of the students (3-4th year) know something, everyone else is responsible for knowing that topic as well.
- practical applying your knowledge to real life (work)
- The inclusion of more case studies
- Tutorials for psych classes.
- Upper level CRIM classes with more prerequisites than just CRIM 101. With the exception of maybe 2-3; all of my 'upper level' classes were no harder or more informative than my lower division classes.
- What assignments require is usually what we studied in class. Hope they can be more associated.
- When marking exams make sure the TA writes their name on so we know who marked our exam so we can go to up them when we know they made an error.

**SFU Online**

- Improvements to the Student Information System and go.sfu.ca - these two are terrible when it comes to adding courses and very inefficient. Availability of courses is also a huge problem!
- A better app for mobile devices to get the latest SFU information and perhaps a map to help navigate around the campuses.
- A better online system
- explanation of computer system better.
- greater mobile access to sfu resources.
- Have a better registering system for courses.
- I think the student information system can be improved. Its a pain in the butt sometimes.
- improve the class enrolled system
- Improve the course registration system, provide more seats in courses, or provide more courses - especially upper division courses.
- Improve the course selection process. It’s so incredibly stressful.
- Improve the interface for choosing courses.
- Improve the SFU website to make it easier to navigate.
- Improve the SFU website.
- Improve the SIS
- Improvement upon course selection processes.
- Instead of having a variety of platforms (i.e. WebCT, wiki, professor’s blog), enforce a universal medium for class communication for all classes in a standard layout. This way, students will know exactly where to look for information. For example, the class’s course outline, where the assignments are located, where help is available, how the class is graded etc. All in one place.
- Keep important information updated and accessible on SFU website. For example, minor requirements and how they can be declared.
- Make course enrollment easier
- Make the webCT/future Canvas system a lot more user friendly. Right now, there’s literally nothing linking this system back to the main page. You can search for it, sure, but sometimes it’s just easier to have everything in one place.
- Make the website more user friendly. It seems that for one piece of information you have to follow no less than 3 links from a specific area of the website. It is a lot of information: granted. Is there a possible way to streamline it??
- More organized SIS. Several times SIS has given me issues regarding my enrollment.
- Redesign the website - especially areas concerning course selection and degree progress. Think of video games like “Civilizations” which has a tech tree. Having a degree laid out in a graphic wherein one could see which branch needs attention (what courses one still has to take), or (in regards to pre-reqs) which root one is missing. Furthermore I feel that it would help to easily identify WQB courses both in and out of one’s discipline. Right now there is too much guess work (even with the online reports); pre reqs and degree progress should be really obvious and should not catch students by surprise as it more often than not does.
- Symplicity
- The layout of the SFU website can sometimes be confusing and unclear, so easier online navigation would be much appreciated.
- To make it mandatory to consolidate all the online material from classes. Find ONE resource to use and have links from this resource to say "loncapa" etc.

Programs/Curriculum

- a more smooth transition into the university, I found myself trying to figure things out about the school on my own and when i ask anyone for help, they usually directed my to the website which was, at times, difficult to browse.
- Although co-op is promoted for international students to gain canadian work experience, finding co-op jobs (especially for sciences) are extremely hard. Had to drop out of the program just cause most employers are seeking canadian/pr students!
- As a senior and an international student, I would like to receive more information about getting part-time work/volunteer experience.
- better faulty programs/courses
- Eliminate the Q course requirements for graduation. It has dragged out my degree by three terms and has been in areas of study that do not support or relate to my area of study.
- Give more opportunity of internship.
- Give new/returning (after 7 years) students an orientation on how things work ie. registration, finding courses, when books store opens, how to get material in the library (on-line & in person), navigating CT Vista. Not force students to enroll in medical/dental....longer opt out period.
I understand the importance of all the peripheral Science Courses I have to take. But when they have nothing to do with biology, I find it very difficult to see the value in them.

I would create more one on one workshops for first years

If the International Studies department offered more than just one field school, meaning the one to Southeast Asia.

Improve on student mentorship opportunities for new students (especially in specialized departments where faculty-specific courses often don't start until 2nd or 3rd year).

More coop opportunity and lower tuition

More experiential opportunities for communication students

More information about co-op and work study options (particularly in the International Development department).

More work experience opportunities

removal of the B-hum B-soc B-sci thing

Remove FAN requirements

Some programs (ex. studio physics) need immediate changes. aka, activity guides need to be updated

too many intensive competition, less major courses can be choosen

**Bookstore/Textbooks**

- cheaper books and more second hand available
- cheaper textbook options
- Improve book selection in SFU Burnaby book store. More specifically in Archaeology, Anthropology, First Nations, Geography and Geology. These classes all have departments for goodness sake; it's unbelievable that a world class University such as ours has so few books available for these topics.
- Instructors' connection to course textbooks is the chosen topic. Having new textbooks every one to two years is not necessary for most courses to provide current information. Accessible journal articles can complement important editions to older editions. It also makes selling the textbooks harder. There seems to be a greater profit to the university or instructor in having annually and often minor so new addition of textbooks. Often the required textbook is not used much by the instructor, yet has been cited in the text. There should be more custom course material that should reflect greater affordability, though the prices have gone up. Instructors should be encouraged to use online articles and reserves for instruction sources.
- It would be nice if the book store actually had the books I was trying to get for my courses. Getting course materials was ridiculously difficult
- Less exorbitant textbook prices.
- Lower the cost of books
- SFU bookstore should get textbooks on time. I have been taking a course for a month but still don't have a textbook...and so are another 100's of students.
- they could have cheaper text books and more used text books available.
- Tuition fees are always a huge factor and since lowering them would be impossible, I think SFU could perhaps have more classes help cut down on fees by offering textbooks through webct rather than requiring that they be purchased. (For some classes the codes that come with textbooks are mandatory and instead of that, it would be nice to just have the homework questions be accessible and graded through webct rather than forcing students to purchase expensive textbooks)

**Staff (General)**

- From my personal experience, and also from feedback I've had from my peers, I find the SFU academic community to be unapproachable - bordering pretentious - especially in regards to
honours and graduate studies. When I attended the Honours Information Session for my program (Psychology), one of the first things I was told is that if my GPA is not at a certain level, I needn't bother and should just leave. This happened again to my friend who attended a Graduate Studies Info Session (she does not attend SFU, she goes to UBC); she was told not to bother if she did not complete an honours. I think it is unacceptable to make students feel rejected in an information session - which I firmly believe is supposed to be an inviting event meant to RECRUIT students. It speaks poorly of us when we fail to treat each and every student who attends our information sessions with anything other than respect and warmth. I understand that possessing certain academic qualities and criteria are required for the honours/graduate studies program, but there are certainly more tactful ways to communicate these requirements - rather than in such a tasteless, belittling way (as in, telling someone they're a waste of time and should not even bother if they do not have this and this and this).

- hire better staff & better profs
- improve the people skills of the staff, I dont appreciate paying as much as i do for tuition only to be treated like a child by the staff members on campus, which includes professors
- Probably more respectful and helpful staff especially in accounting and residence. I do not like the head director of [***].
- Train the registration front desk workers to answer questions not ask students to find the answer on SFU website. If we have to find the answer on SFU website all the time, then why don't we line up for the answers? Why doesn't school just close the registration office since we should ins answer online by ourself

Class Size

- limit the class size.
- Smaller classes and affordable tuition

Other

- Look up to the Almighty God
- more chances to interact with professionals
- Sell tobacco on campus.

No Suggestion

- Best university ever
- can't think of anything at the moment... it is great so far
- I am pretty satisfied with my experience here
- I can't think of anything currently. Sorry!
- I can't think of anything right now.
- I wish to concentrate only with my school work, but it will never be possible for a family person like me. For anything else, I'm very happy with my SFU experience. Thank you!
- I'm quite satisfied at the moment, classes are going well, professors are really nice, and homework load isn't too much to handle.
- I've only been in SFU for a month and a bit now, therefore I haven't really been here long enough to see what could be improved.
- no comments
- not sure
- nothing
- nothing
- nothing really, having a great experience
- Nothing that I could think of
• Nothing! I am really enjoying my classes at SFU
• pull up our GPA lol
• Study more to get better grades.
• Ta strike wouldn't keep our marks away from paying students
• The orientation is so wonderful! I've meet a lot of interesting people there!
• There isn't anything that I can think of.
• There's nothing to improve, in my opinion. I'm already very satisfied with my experience here.