

This document contains the transcription of various responses to the question:

"What experiences have impacted you on this campus, in either negative or positive ways, that you felt were related in some way to your identity? What would you like to share about how those experiences impacted you personally and academically?"

The student leaders we asked were given ten minutes to hand-write their responses. We then transcribed them unedited to share at the new faculty orientation.

Once a professor the actual department chair suggested I changed my major instead of making suggestions on how I can appropriately manage the workload. The department chair did not aflow me to take specific courses. Professors and department chairs should try to be more welcoming to students who are actually seeking help not assume they will not be able to handle it.

1. Africa is a continent not a country. Ali people in Africa aren't what the media in the west portrayed them. I love talking about my country, but I can't tell my professor if (s)he does not care about my culture, identity.
2. All muslims aren't terrorist. In my opinion have the right to be proud of my faith. Please don't judge me, before knowing who am.
3. am African, not a violent, lazy, or useless student. I love learning, but i can't learn if people around me think ) don't belong here.

As a student of color, can say we always experience an unhappy moment. In many cases, we feet like we don't belong anywhere because there always comments being said. We would like to be seen as human and who we are, not what color or where we come from. Skin color, nationality, income, or language does not define who we are. We all are human and we all want to accomplish goals. Many of us in classroom feel like no one know we are there or when we speak up no one listen to us. All we want is to be seen the same as everyone else and feel we belong where we are. We all have dreams and want to accomplish them, don't make us not accomplish them because of the way we are seen.

I don't like having to pick groups for classwork. Choose the group for me because the white people will get together, and I'll end up alone, with no one to work with.

If we are talking about issues, ask for both sides. When teachers bring up police brutality, most of the time, don't say anything because it seems like the people who it does not affect, do not care. They don't have anything to say. If we are talking about gender issues, call on males and females. When see that people don't participate, or share their opinions or comments, I assume that they don't care.

Do not tell my friend that she should think about another major. Science majors are difficult, but she can do it. Just like a white male has.

A Comp. Professor once asked if I was EOP, and immediately assumed English was not my first language, and began doubting I was going to be able to write a well written paper. Although it was true that English was not my first language, that did not mean I did not have the ability to write well. After my meeting with the professor, I dedicated my time to make every paper perfect and prove to them that a not native English speaker, can write a paper as well as a native English speaker.

btw: I got A+ on all my research papers O

Being the only EOP student in my Composition i ultimately made me the only student that was underrepresented. I always try to do my best at school and for three essays in a row my professor used to tell me, "wow your grammar and the significance of this essay is extraordinary. Are you taking any tutoring to help you strengthen your vocabulary, grammar, and format?" I was shocked with her response because it made me feel as if I was not capable of excelling and achieving my goals like anybody despite their color or ethnicity.



When a professor picks on a student to answer a question and the student gives an answer that isn't what the professor is looking for please don't act as if the student is invisible and continue with the lecture. We are trying, we are not invisible.



Last semester I took a U.S. GE class that focused on social inequality and the professor took her time out to discuss real life examples and current events happening and incorporating them into her lectures. During her lectures she asked for it be an open discussion and I felt it was a great way to have more people understand inequality and all the types of it. The class was pretty diverse and it was even better for class discussions. More professors should take the time to incorporate current events into their discussions, especially the ones that involve social concerns.

Attending a class in which only 3 of us were of color our professor never called on us to answer a question even if we raised our hands. I don't know if the professor automatically believed that we didn't know or would end up answering the question wrong. These other girls that I sat with which we came from the same background sat together and the professor would ignore us even if we were raising our hands to ask a question. Until one day I stayed behind to ask for the professor's help and what they had told me was to get tutoring for the class.

"Your accent is not as bad as other Spanish students."

Do not ask me to explain why "even/' Dominican hates UeverV' Hatian.

Do not assume someone is of a certain nationality because of their skin tone.

Majority of the time since I have been on this campus, 9 out of 10 times I am one of maybe one or two other students of color in the classroom. This already makes me feel awkward being that majority of the population on this campus is white. Most of the time I feel out of place. I remember one time being in class and we watched a video about how black people react when people ask them questions about their hair. When the video wasdone I remember the professor and a few other students turning to me as if I was going to comment or react to the video. Or as if they wanted my perspective on the subject. am not an expert on this subject or your "go to person".

Concerning diversity, I would like to share an experience with you. I've been in situations where t ??? like i hate the color of my skin. When I was younger I went to än all Caucasian school. I was the only person of color. For me this wasn't a problem. It wasn't a problem until the color of my skin became a problem for them. I would come home everyday (10 years old) and always saying in my head, "Why couldn't I have been born white?" It impacted me because being 10 1 just wanted to fit in and that was not happening. It wasn't until 13 that my perception changed. An ? came to my school•and talked to us about having different skin tones. I remember he said that we were born the color we were born because there is a plan for us. "We have no control of it; so why worry?" It's not like I could have asked to be purple so why worry with a shade of brown. This one man changed my life not because he was also a minority but because he didn't care. Yes, people will judge and people will talk, but why fet your life revolve around that?

With that being said, sometimes I still do feel unimportant because when i do go up to a Caucasian person to ask something they lean back. Does it get to me? Yesssss Do get discourage? Yesssss Every single person in this world was once innocent. Under circumstance they are place in terrible decisions when you add to it, that's when it gets depressing. One man changed my life and it was that same author that spoke for an hour. As professors we look up to you. Never forget that.

As a student, I would appreciate if professors would stop treating me as if am not smart enough, creative enough, or good enough because of where I am from. Not everyone who comes from the Bronx is unintelligent or acts in a "ghetto way". I do not like to be judged because of where I am from. worked very hard to get to where I am today and to be treated in an unequal manner compared to my peers is unfair. Every student is different (the way in which we think and learn) and professors should really think about that before telling certain students that they are not capable enough to be in there class.

Sincerely,

A hard working student from The Bronx

Last semester had a music class where we had to write a paper about a show attended the night before. asked my professor if they can just take a look at what I had. I also warn them that I may have grammar issues on my paper because I know that is something t need to work on. My professor looked at my paper and started to look at me in a weird way. They told me that the writing had given to them does not demonstrate college level writing, and it shows that I do not belong in College. Growing up I knew that I had grammar issues and its something I work on every day. But when my professor said that to me it really hurt me and made an impact. went to my dorm and cried because started to doubt myself and about everything. Over the time i got over it but now when I hand in a paper there comment will always hunt me. If my professor would have approached it differently I would feel a bit more safe to talk to them and ask how to improve my writing, but that really shut me down.

Be honest, I would feet really comfortable in a diverse group since wasn't born in here. I learn English here when I was in high school. I don't have experience that I am being treated different by teachers or professors so far. But I do feel uncomfortable when I talking to a person or a school staff in college, they would be like 'duh??? don't understand what you are saying." I know that it is because of my English, but the reflection would make me feel like not talking to him/her.

Some of the things that concern me are:

1. When I am in a class and I am the only Latino student, sometimes it will take me a little bit longer to understand what is being taught, The reasons are because English is my second language and even if it is an accounting class or math, at the end of the day the class is being taught in English not Spanish, so it will take me a little bit longer to understand things.
2. Ones I was in class and the professor told the class a joke. Everybody was laughing. It took me another 5 minutes to understand the joke because of cultural differences and the humor. I starting laughing and one my peers said to me, "are dumb, it took you like 10 minutes to get the joke, you're retarded."
3. One "friend" from general admissions was complaining how EOP students shouldn't be in this campus because we get a "free" ride into the College and don't even try in high school like "they" do. It's not fair for general students like her.

I recall going to a professoffs office hours because had a question on the lesson. The professor spoke to me in a tone that made me feel uncomfortable; the professor sounded rude while they attempted to explain. This made me feel as if I could not approach the professor if I struggled. I tried to ignore this and I decided to speak with the professor once again. went to the professor' office hours asking for in ways that I could improve. The professor made me feel that i had no hope in being successful.

I was in a lecture on history in Latin America and the professor said: "The idea of the day of the dead, and afterlife experiences for Mexican people are why they are lazy in life. They feei they can enjoy the afterlife in the same way. This laziness is also why they let so much of their land go to the American government."

As a student with a disability and accommodations, I am humiliated when the professor discusses test and test prep to the class. They almost always look at me and say, "Oh, and yours will be...(whatever the accommodation is)"

On this campus there are people from different countries. It is hard to identify where that person is from based on how they look. For the eastern Asians, you can't tell if we're Japanese, Chinese, or. Korean. Sometimes I am considered an international student because I'm Chinese. But treat me differently when they learn I am actually just an immigrant.

Professors have made me feel as if my voice and ideas were not important or valued as much as my white peers. I was in a freshman composition class and I would raise my hand to speak and the professor would roll her eyes, and answer her own question. Then make a snide comment about no one participating. I identify as African American, but there was a migration in that class. Underrepresented students started in the front of the room and ended in the back.

Professors assume I don't have the books because I'm lazy or apathetic. I really can't afford them or the digital codes for homework. School is everything to me and my family, I'm not lazy, just poor.