

Students were asked to respond to three questions related to the transition to online/remote learning. Originally the first question combined challenges and benefits into one question (*What were the challenges and benefits that you experienced in the transition to a remote/online learning format?*), upon advice from the survey experts at Baseline those questions were separated on the final survey.

Many student responses mentioned more than one benefit or challenge, and each mention was coded separately.

When asked about the *benefits to online/remote learning*, 428 students responded.

- The most commonly noted benefit of the transition to online/remote learning was that students had the ability to go at their own pace (101 responses mentioned this).
- Eight five students said there was no benefit to the transition to online.
- The third most mentioned benefit (from 77 respondents) was that students did not have to deal with the commute to campus, finding parking or rushing between classes. They often said they felt like they had more time.
- Fifty seven students stated that they appreciated the flexibility of their instructors when it came to the transition.
- One benefit was mentioned that may be particularly helpful going forward was the usefulness of having recorded lectures that they could rewatch or pause/rewind for note-taking (46 students commented on this). This dovetails very well with the most mentioned benefit of students having the opportunity to go at their own pace.
- Other benefits that students documented included feeling safe being at home with their families and having a more manageable workload since extracurricular activities were no longer a part of their day.

There were a few more responses to *the challenges presented by online/remote learning*. 433 students provided feedback for this question.

- Students most often mentioned the difficulty with staying motivated due to the transition (mentioned 167 times). Even when they knew the transition was necessary, the abrupt change affected their focus on classes and coursework.
- Many students (85) commented that instructors had difficulty with the transition to online/remote learning which made learning more of a challenge.
- Communications challenges were problematic for 82 respondents. Class discussions and group projects were made more difficult when done via Zoom rather than in person. Other students noted that the volume of additional electronic communication (e-mail, Canvas notifications, GroupMe messages) created additional challenges.
- As expected, many students (78 respondents) said that technical issues such as inadequate WiFi, having multiple people in their household online at the same time, or not having printers or scanners at home affected their coursework. Students also noted that sometimes the technical issues were on the instructor's end.
- The online/remote format was not ideal for some classes, according to 32 respondents. Highly technical upper level courses, labs, and studio work are not suitable for online/remote learning in their estimation.
- Other challenges included workspace issues, missing campus resources such as the library or TRECS, and time zone differences.