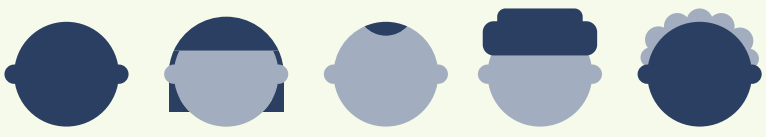
THE FIRST YEAR IS A BIG DEAL

About **25% of first-year students leave college** before their sophomore year. Knowing the experiences of your students and the impact of first-year programs is key to creating positive change.

UNDERSTANDING EXPECTATIONS IS IMPORTANT.

12% of students thought they might switch majors

35% actually did



70% of students thought they would probably socialize with someone from another racial/ethnic group

95% actually did

20% of students felt the admissions or recruitment materials didn't accurately portray campus

Only **59%** were satisfied with the relevance of coursework to everyday life

17% of students sought personal counseling

COLLEGE CAN BE DEMANDING. ACADEMICS ARE ONE SOURCE OF STUDENT STRESS.

33% of students had difficulty adjusting to the demands of coursework

33% of students had a hard time developing effective study skills

47% of students struggled with effective time management

43% of students witnessed academic dishonesty or cheating

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT FOR STUDENTS IS ADJUSTING.

81% felt a sense of belonging on campus

47% had difficulty getting along with their roommate

66% felt lonely or homesick

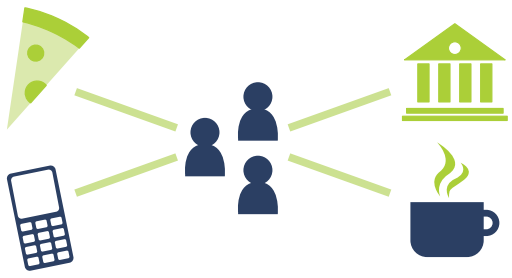
42% frequently felt overwhelmed by all they had to do

42% of students worried about their health

47% of students felt isolated from campus life

BEING INVOLVED IN COURSEWORK IS KEY.

45% frequently discussed course content with other students outside of class



BUT . . .

37% frequently felt bored in class

36% had fallen asleep in class

So, the more you get to know your students, the better you can understand their needs. With insight from **CIRP's Your First College Year Survey**, the most comprehensive tool addressing first-year programming and retention strategies, you'll be one step closer to providing the best environment for student learning.

Sources: 2011 CIRP Freshman Survey and 2012 Your First College Year Survey

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