

My First Week at UofSC

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My first week at the University of South Carolina has been amazing. Coming here, I thought that I would not really know anyone else and would have to make completely new friends; however, I have ran into so many people here that I knew from somewhere previously. I have run into people who did similar clubs or sports as me in high school; along with that, I have found out that some of my other friends who I have not spoken to in a while go to this school as well. Now I have not only been able to meet some new people, all of which are extremely friendly, but I have also been able to rebuild some old friendships too.

My experiences here with meeting new people have been a surprise to me, but I believe that my roommates have been one of the biggest surprises of all. When I was picking out my room and housing, I had to switch where I was living from South Quad to Bates West due to South Quad being more expensive than I wanted to pay for. Me switching rooms after the deadline meant that I randomly got placed into a room without me getting to choose my roommates. I was anticipating that I have a good chance that I would not like the room I was thrown in to; however, I was wrong. Surprisingly, not only are my roommates very nice, but most of them are from my hometown. I had heard about one of them before and once I figured out I would be rooming with him I got excited. I knew I was not getting stuck with someone I would not like. From what I new about my roommate, he seemed nice and respectable. My expectations were correct, because me and him bonded ever since I moved in. Along with him, the entire room has bonded with each other. Everyone in my room is nice and we have had several nights where we all just hung out. Overall, my room situation has been better than I ever thought it would be.

Meeting people has been great; but meeting my professors has also been interesting. First, the difference between high school teachers and college professors is huge. College professors are less strict about the exact rules and all about keeping the lecture moving. Second, is odd seeing that some of my professors are PhD students. I have some professors who only have a few years of teaching under their belt. High school teachers normally tend to have more experience on average. Finally, there are so many different nationalities among all my professors. I think I have professors that are Chinese, Russian, Indian, and English.

One of the big adjustments with transitioning to college has been how classes are handled. First, my class schedule is a lot different. I have one class at 8:30 every day, and the rest of my classes are after 1:00. This is a nice adjustment since I know I would be awake for my classes that are later in the day. Plus, my day is still consistent because I am waking up at the same time every day. Along with that, I'm also able to eat my meals at around the same time each day. I am also able to get more walking in my day due to having to walk to every class. Even though my schedule is different, I can add healthy constants to it. Second, the workload is slowly getting bigger and bigger. I'm having to make sure I really understand every class, especially calculus and algorithmic design. Finally, I am having to learn about how to balance out classes and studying. Me ending classes so late is not giving me much time to really do much of anything else. Overall, dealing with classes have been different but manageable.

In conclusion, my first week of being at the University of South Carolina has been more than I could ask for. I have been able to make new friends, meet up with old friends, and be able to balance out my health and my education. I feel at home with this place; I feel that I belong here.