

The Wake Forest University Office of Diversity and Inclusion Presents:

Enhancing your sense of Belonging as a Student

Are you nervous about starting college? Afraid you’re not going to make any friends? Maybe this is your first time being away from home and you don’t really know anyone going into college. Or maybe you’re transferring to a new school and want to meet new people. Maybe you’re an introvert and are not a first-year student but want to make some new friends but don’t know where to start. That is okay. These are ten easy conversation starters (in no particular order) that will help you ease into this new chapter of your life.

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| Recommendation | Explanation |
| Ask about them  | People love to talk about themselves! Ask them where they’re from which hall they’re living in, their likes, dislikes, hobbies etc. The key is to ask them a starter question that requires more a yes or no answer. This will often leads to a longer conversation where you can ask more questions and they’ll ask some back to you.  |
| Ask about what they’re most excited for in college… | This can go many different directions as there are many things going on in college. They also have a new-found freedom now that they don’t live at home so this will give them plenty to share about. |
| Ask what classes they are taking this semester… | Odds are you will end up comparing schedules and who knows, you might even have a class together. This is another great way to get to know each other and will probably lead to my next point.  |
| Ask them what their major is… | There is a wide variety of major you can study in college, so this is a great question to ask. You can follow up this question with asking why they chose that particular major. This helps you get to know one another and you can learn a lot about someone by what they are interested in. |
| Ask them what clubs/ activities they’re thinking of joining! | People love to talk about the things in which they are interested in. If they don’t have any plans to join anything you can always invite them to try an activity with you. |
| Ask what kind of movies/music they like… | This is another thing you could have in common and even do together. Watching movies and listening to music are things that everyone does so you could end up doing some of these things together for fun. |
| What is your favorite…. | Could be anything. What’s your favorite food, color, anything. These questions can lead to many other questions. The beauty of this one is that it is not limited.  |
| Ask about their recent break | This can lead to talking about things the person enjoys and stories can come from this question. You’ll end up talking about things you both enjoy, and it can lead to asking some of the other questions on this list. |
| Ask them what they like to do on the weekends…. | Weekends are most people’s favorite part of the week. No classes and depending on your schedule, usually free. When asking people what they like to do on the weekends might give you something in common to do or it can simply help get to know the person and again learn about them. |

Resources:

10 Easy conversation starters to find new friends in college (2018, August 28). The Odyssey Online.

 https://www. Theodysseyonline..com/conversation-starters-to-make-friends