



Noor



Andrew



Alyssa

College intern insights

If you have young children or young adults in your life, sometimes we ask questions that can be vague and may not require a lot of thought. Noor, Alyssa, and Andrew were given 6 questions and they had a choice of 4 out of the 6. Below is their response

What were you thinking March of 2020?

Noor- Professors were telling students that this will blow over in a couple of weeks. I believe a lot of us thought the same thing. Fast forward a few more weeks, everyone realized things were not going to go back to normal any time soon.

Alyssa- A feeling of shock and confusion from living on campus to moving back home and giving up campus living.

Andrew- Change is good but there was some feeling of disappointment. Like many people, he was furloughed from his part time management job in retail. “It was nice to have the break to focus on school and other personal projects”

Which do you prefer virtual or in person learning?

Noor- “There are too many distractions and virtual learning is not conducive for me to learn and absorb information. I prefer being in the classroom, being able to interact with others and the professor.”

Alyssa- “I feel the same way as Noor. One of my professors would have their camera and screen-sharing off during meetings, providing no visual supplement to the lecture. I feel that I learn better in a classroom setting.”

Andrew- “I like being virtual so much so that I’ve chosen to be virtual again for the upcoming Fall semester. Although information retention is even more of a challenge being home, my grades have improved.”

Both Alyssa and Noor said that their bedroom becomes a multipurpose room and creates a challenge to separate, resting, classroom, studying and socializing when in-person was not an option.

Virtual or brick and mortar, It’s not for everyone. But I encourage you to ask your young college students who choose virtual if the camera is on or off.

How is your social life and dating?

All three shared that a gift from this whole thing was that it forced them to spend time with their family, friends, and loved ones which was all positive.

Noor- “I reconnected with my best friend who lives in another state. We watched Netflix together and chatted via an app within Netflix while we watched simultaneously. It has been great to reconnect.”

Alyssa- “Going to the gym and working out with my brother is not something that was on my list pre-covid. Being at home has brought me closer to my boyfriend as well. Studying together and seeing each other more often now has strengthened our relationship. Spending time with my family is more important and overall happiness with those who I love is what is most important to me.”

Andrew- “I am kind of a home body and always have been, so I wasn’t impacted too much. However, my living arrangements were a bit unique. For 8 months I lived with my partners’ large family and while it was a challenge, we grew closer and eventually moved out on our own.”

Do you have a mentor outside of your parents? & Five years from now what will you tell your younger self?

Being a mentor can be very rewarding and even better if it's someone outside of family. Luckily for Noor she has several that have given her great support and guidance. Noor graduated this past May and is in search for her job in digital marketing. Her mentors have been instrumental in preparing her.

Noor- “Not to compare my journey with my peers.” Some of her friends have jobs, or where they want to be and there are times that she feels “disheartened.” “I will get to where I need to be and will find my own destination when it is supposed to happen.”

What is your dream job?

Noor- “I graduated with a Political Science degree but after doing some of the internship work, I am shifting my focus to the digital marketing field.” Whatever path she chooses there is no doubt she will give it 110 percent.

Alyssa is a junior this fall and not quite sure what her dream job would be, but she likes computer science.

Andrew was very clear early on that he wanted to work for one of the F.A.N.G. companies. He has interviewed with Google and Amazon a couple of times but during the pandemic he has had a change of heart. He either wants to work for himself or be part of a smaller technology company that has a strong focus on their products and their people.

Are you feeling hopeful about the future and if not, what do you worry about or what keeps you up at night?

Alyssa- “Yes I am feeling hopeful. The most important thing for me is to be with the people I love and my family. Everything else will fall into place.”

Andrew - “I am hopeful, but what I do worry about is not being able to make a large enough impact on the world. I’m always asking myself ‘Am I doing enough?’ - I am aware of the position I’m in and the privileges I worked for but I’m always trying to do the next best thing. While I don’t strive to be perfect; I still hold myself to a very high standard.”