A Comparison of First-Generation Students’ Expectations and Academic Performance in College to Second Generation Student Performance.

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The topic of my research is “A comparison of First-Generation Students’ Expectations and Academic Performance in College to Second Generation Student Performance.” The goal of my research is to be able to identify the challenges first generation students face in College and compare it to their expectations of College. Many students are unaware of resources on campus such as work-study, being able to create your own organization on campus, GPA requirements, what being “in good standing” means and much more. A first-generation student has a lower chance of knowing these things before attending College because these are the type of things they do not mention in orientation.

My research plan was to communicate and in interview a total 40 Freshman at Lamar University with the use of social media and in person communication. 20 of the students would be first-generation students and the other 20 would be second-generation students. Once I was able to compile my list, an email regarding the consent form and more details would be emailed to each student and then we would proceed to our first face-to-face interaction. By the end of this research, a video would be compiled of responses and advice for future First-generation and Second-generation students.

I received my IRB approval on February 26, 2020 at 10:40am. This is the same day I picked up my camera that I would be using for my research. My flyer and consent form were released to students at Lamar University on February 27, 2020. By the end of the day, I was able to communicate with 10 first-generation and second-generation students at Lamar University. The next thing on my list was to schedule a time to meet face-to-face in order to conduct our survey. However, I was unable to reach that part of the plan for my research due to the worldwide pandemic.