

Student Testimonials through the Years  
*What has having a CORE education meant to you?*

My CORE education has remained critical and important in my ability to be successful in all my professional as well as Master's degree. My knowledge of communication is rooted in my critical reasoning and rhetoric classes. The graduate courses I took began where my CORE classes left off. My knowledge of art history put me ahead of my peers in my undergraduate work. While in the program, CORE was a challenge that I wasn't sure I was up to, however, looking back, all these years later, I can clearly see how it benefited me.

~ Graduate, Class of 1986,  
Undergrad: Menlo University  
Grad: CSUN, Speech Communications

There is not a simple answer to this question.

As a teacher, I see CORE's influence in my pedagogy-- both in terms of how I interact with students and what I expect from them, as well as in what I choose to teach them. And outside the classroom, CORE has had a lasting impact on my intellectual and personal development. I don't know what it would be like to not have a CORE education, so it's tough to explain exactly what it's meant. But unlike so many friends of mine who look back and scoff at their high school experience, I feel proud of where I went and what I learned. I know that I received something substantially different and better than what others received. And I don't really care how arrogant it sounds to say it, CORE made me smarter than others.

~ Graduate, Class of 1995  
Undergrad: UC Santa Cruz, English  
Graduate School: NYU, English

It was the single most important part of my education (and I mean from kindergarten through medical school and residency/fellowship). I still incorporate everything that I learned into my daily life. I have shelves and shelves of books devoted to philosophy, art history, history,...and despite a career in the medical sciences my true side passion comes in the form of continuing my studies in CORE beyond high school. I miss the classes, the personalities, the education, the teachers more than anything and feel like I am a member of a special elite club because I went through that boot camp and came out a stronger better person. I love CORE and hope that one day I can give back to them as much as they have given to me.

~ Graduate, Class of 2000  
Undergrad: Brandeis, Art History/Medieval Studies  
Graduate School: Tufts, Anesthesiology

CORE taught me how to write clearly and expressively, with humor and finesse, on short notice. It taught me to interrogate the categories I use to construct my world, so I thought like a wee social scientist before I knew I was a social scientist. It gave me references, names, jargon to drop...and then to use seriously in my own research. It taught me how to "BS," but it also taught me how to catch myself when I "BS," and how to catch others who are "BS"ing me. Because of CORE, I can have intelligent conversations about race, class, gender, and privilege. Because of CORE, I can also talk about opera, ancient Greece, Marxism, and Todorov. CORE allows me point to a great school and say, "This is why we have to fight for public education." CORE made sure I will never misspell "existence," and for that I am eternally grateful.

~ Graduate, Class of 2005  
Undergrad: UC Berkeley, History  
Graduate: Harvard, Medieval History

As a student in UCLA, my CORE education has been vital to my life. By learning to outline and write long essays, I've learned to become a better writer. Also, everything I learned in CORE has been in my classes and I think it's funny how much I know compared to other students. I feel that CORE has given me so much knowledge about the world and a head start in college. Recently, I attended a Jared Diamond class and listened in about his theories in his book *Guns, Germs and Steel*. Moments like these made me proud to be a CORE student.

~ Graduate, Class of 2010

Undergrad: UCLA, Design Media Arts

Everything I learned in CORE has been invaluable to me in many ways. Although I came to CORE with the intention of eventually attending medical school, the humanities education I received provided me with a different perspective. It opened my eyes to the more humanities-focused field of public health, in addition to the medical field. CORE has also over-prepared me for all the humanities courses I am taking, including an anthropology class in which I had already read and analyzed half of the syllabus. My four years at CORE were some of the best and the tools I gained from the interdisciplinary education have been invaluable.

~ Graduate, Class of 2013

Undergrad: UC Berkeley, Public Health

The mantra "There's no place like CORE" rings true nearly every day in college. It is truly one of the most unique and special experiences I have gone through. Each week, I go to class only to find out that I am relearning some material taught in CORE. This week, we did the "Nacirema" activity in sociology! That brought back lots of memories of freshman year. CORE gave me the tools to succeed in college, and for that I am grateful!

~ Graduate, Class of 2015

Undergrad: Cal Poly SLO, Civil Engineering

I truly believe that CORE helped shape the way I go about my life and interpret my role in the world. It provided me exposure to numerous issues and ways of thinking with which I would likely not otherwise have had experience. I have learned to value the opinions of my peers and respect the diversity that exists around me. Also, CORE provided me with what I hope will be a long-lasting community of friends who share the same values and strive to live their lives with the same respect and compassion for others that I believe CORE instilled in me.

~ Graduate, Class of 2015

Undergrad: UC Berkeley, Electrical Engineering

A CORE education has made me so much more open to people and prepared for college. Because of CORE, I am finding it easy to complete my essays without having to stress too much. I find myself well surpassing the page limits because CORE has also taught me to have a voice and share my opinions. This has helped me a great deal in establishing relationships with my peers and my professors. All in all, I can honestly say that I would not be where I am today without CORE.

~ Graduate, Class of 2015

Undergrad: UC Riverside, Math

I don't have much time. I can feel it. I'm already starting to see the effects on me. Everything I see, I analyze. Whenever someone speaks to me, I break down what they're saying and connect it to their point of view and bias. Everything I see has something, somehow, to do with Bafa Bafa. I can't stop analyzing and making connections. Soon, there will be no escape. I have... Corebaby syndrome.

~ Current Corebaby, Class of 2018