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MASS. COLLEGES MAKE PRINCETON REVIEW'S TOP 20 LISTS

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STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, AUG. 7, 2018...Twenty-four Massachusetts colleges and universities made Top 20 lists in The Princeton Review's annual college rankings, which were released on Monday.

Emerson College placed second in the nation in best radio station, Gordon College ranked number one in most religious students, and Williams College was second in most accessible professors. No Bay State colleges or universities made the Top 20 lists for most beautiful campuses, worst dorms or party schools.

The rankings, which span 62 different categories and involved participation from 384 different institutions across the country, are based entirely on what students attending the schools tell the college admissions company about their higher education experiences via a student survey.

Each of the categories has a list, all of which are based on surveys of 138,000 students. The lists report the top 20 colleges in the specific category.

The survey has 80 questions in four sections about academics and administration, life at their college, their fellow students and themselves.

Students answer by selecting one of five answer choices that range across a grid or scale. The answer choice headers might range from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree" or "Excellent" to "Poor."

Massachusetts schools held the largest presence this year in the category "Election? What Election?" which is based on answers to the question: "My level of political awareness is: Very High, High, Average, Low, or Very Low."

Assumption College, Gordon College, Becker College, University of Massachusetts Amherst and Worcester Polytechnic Institute were all among the top 20 for schools with students who have a low level of political awareness.

Also notable was the third consecutive top spot for UMass Amherst's dining services in the "Best Campus Food" category.

Below is a compilation of every instance in which a school based in the Commonwealth was mentioned in the rankings:

Academics & Administration

Suffolk University - 4th in Worst-Run Colleges (Administrators Get Low Marks)

Worcester Polytechnic Institute - 5th in Best-Run Colleges

University of Massachusetts Amherst - 15th in Least Accessible Professors

Williams College - 2nd in Most Accessible Professors

Bentley University, Northeastern University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Emerson College - 1st, 3rd, 5th and 9th in Best Career Services

Mount Holyoke, Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering and Williams College - 4th, 9th and 20th in Best Classroom Experience

Mount Holyoke, Williams College - 8th and 16th in Best College Library

None - Best Health Services

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Mount Holyoke College - 10th, 14th and 19th in Best Science Lab Facilities

Emerson College, Suffolk University, UMass Amherst - 6th, 10th and 20th in Financial Aid Not-So-Great

Williams College - 9th in Best Financial Aid

None - Most Popular Study Abroad Program

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Mount Holyoke, Wellesley College - 3rd, 6th and 14th in High Professor Ratings

None - Low Professor Ratings

Emerson, Becker College - 2nd and 5th in Students Study the Least

Williams, Franklin W. Olin, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute - 1st, 6th and 18th in Students Study the Most

Williams and Franklin W. Olin - 14th and 16th in School Spirit

Emerson and Becker - 10th and 12th in Worst Library

Demographics

Emerson - 4th in Least Religious Students

Gordon College - 1st in Most Religious Students

Emerson, Mount Holyoke, Franklin W. Olin and Clark University - 1st, 5th, 10th and 16th in LGBTQ-Friendly

Gordon College - 7th in LGBTQ Unfriendly

Amherst College - 11th in Little Race/Class Interaction

Babson College, Wheaton College, Franklin W. Olin and Worcester Polytechnic Institute - 12th, 13th, 18th and 20th in Lots of Race/Class Interaction

Extracurriculars

None - Best Athletic Facilities

Brandeis - 13th in Best College Newspaper

Emerson - 2nd in Best College Radio Station

Emerson and Williams - 11th and 15th in Best College Theater

Brandeis, Clark, Stonehill College - 5th, 13th and 20th in Students Most Engaged in Community Service

None - Intramural Sports Participation

Williams and Emerson - 12th and 20th in No Intramural Sports Participation

None - Sports Events Attendance

Brandeis, Franklin W. Olin and Emerson - 3rd, 9th and 19th in No Sports Events Attendance

None - Most Active Student Government

Politics

Assumption College, Gordon, Becker, UMass Amherst, WPI - 2nd, 7th, 10th, 15th and 16th in Lack of Political Awareness

Williams - 7th in Most Politically Active

None - in Most Conservative Students

Brandeis University, Clark and Mount Holyoke - 10th, 12th and 18th in Most Liberal Students

Quality of Life

UMass Amherst - 1st in Best Campus Food

Bentley - 18th in Worst Food

Franklin W. Olin and Williams- 7th and 14th in Best College Dorms

None - Worst Dorms

Franklin W. Olin - 15th in Best Quality of Life

Franklin W. Olin and Clark - 11th and 18th in Happiest Students

Simmons College - 2nd in Least Happy Students

None - in Most Beautiful Campus

Brandeis, Emerson, Becker and UMass Amherst - 9th, 14th, 17th, and 20th in Least Beautiful Campus

Schools by Type

Emerson - 19th in Tree-Hugging Vegetarians

Gordon - 16th in Future Rotarians and DAR

None - Party Schools

Gordon and Simmons College - 6th and 19th in Stone-Cold Sober Schools

Social Scene

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Gordon and Simmons - 15th and 19th in No Use Of Marijuana

Emerson - 18th in Use Of Marijuana

Gordon and Simmons - 10th and 20th in No Beer Consumption

None - Beer Consumption

None - Popularity of Greek Life

Boston University, Bentley - 6th, 14th and in Consumption of Hard Liquor

Gordon - 9th in No Consumption of Hard Liquor

Town Life

Northeastern and Suffolk - 9th and 10th in Good College City

Mount Holyoke - 18th in Bad College City

None - Good Local Community Relationship

None - Bad Local Community Relationship

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