Beckman 204

College Education: What’s the Point?

Secondary education, particularly the university system, has come under fire in the last decade. Criticism is not confined to the United States where liberal arts universities abound, but to colleges throughout the world, be they traditional or technical schools. It seems as if no model of a university today satisfies critics. With no schools beyond censure, it begs the question, what, exactly, are critics condemning? What change do they seek? Are they changes they propose viable? My project looks at the two principle sides of the university debate: those advocating a classical ethos and those advocating a utilitarian ethos. I question students and teachers to determine the prevailing expectations and see how their opinions of the purpose of higher education compare to critics.