Welcome to CU Denver! Welcome to four very exciting years of your life!

Your college years provide immense opportunity - for self-exploration, intellectual discovery, relationship-building, and career foundations. We encourage you to seize these opportunities and to craft a path that speaks to you and the person that you want to become.

While this is incredibly exciting, it may also be a little overwhelming. Don’t worry - we’ve got your back! First-Year Experience (FYE) courses are designed to ease your transition to university life and guide you into this world of social, academic, and professional possibilities. We have an amazing network of dedicated faculty, supportive staff, and enthusiastic peer leaders that are 100% committed to your success.

As you explore the following pages, our advising teams look forward to working with you to select the best FYE option for your schedule, needs, and interests. Whether you choose a unique First-Year Seminar course, a weekly College Success class, or a two-course Learning Community, all FYE programs provide built-in opportunities for your path to graduation and beyond.

Best wishes on your journey!

Christy Heaton, PhD
christy.heaton@ucdenver.edu
Director, First-Year Experiences
Office of Undergraduate Experiences
INFORMATION

COLLEGE SUCCESS (UNIV 1110)
The name says it all! This course is designed to ease your transition to CU and make your first semester the best it can be. Join 19 of your soon-to-be BFFs and share this new adventure together!

FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR (FYS)
FYS courses have it all - the best faculty, interesting topics, fun events, and the supports of the whole campus. Each FYS course is a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity - only available your first semester! Don’t miss out. Study cool things with cool people. You know you want to.

LEARNING COMMUNITIES (LC)
Learning Communities are double the fun! Our LCs include two courses that are linked together (gotta sign up for both!). The professors tag team to deliver a class experience that goes beyond the classroom with interdisciplinary themes, shared assignments, and a fun field trip. But the best part of all is the bond with your classmates from spending all that quality time together.
WHY WE DO IT

Daisy Dorado
Peer Advocate Leader
Being a Peer Advocate Leader has been the most impactful aspect of my college career, as it has led me to be more connected to the community here at CU Denver. I love working with the First-Year Experience office to help First-Year students find the resources on campus they need to succeed and find their sense of belonging at CU Denver.

Junior Reina
UNIV Instructor
UNIV courses are important because they provide students with essential skills to make the transition easier from high school or another institution into the CU Denver community. There are certain areas where CU Denver can be an overwhelming challenge. But with the assistance of classes like this one and the Peer Advocate Leaders (PALs), students can acclimate faster and succeed. There is a connection developed, not only within the classroom but with the different resources on campus.

Dr. Maryam Darbeheshti
Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Director of Engineering Student Services Center Learning Community Faculty
Students benefit from learning communities because they are able to learn about the academic connections between their classes. Having classes with the same group allows students to build a community with their peers and professional relationships with faculty. Learning communities are a great way to build a solid foundation for a successful college experience and a path for timely graduation. It allows for connections to be made relating different subjects into common topics, so that the students can see the benefits of interdisciplinary learning. Teaching in a learning community allows me to create a unique bond with my students. I am not only their teacher but also their advisor and mentor. The one-on-one relationship creates a supportive environment for my students. They can focus on their academic progress, knowing that there is someone who is always available to help them. I have enjoyed watching the students succeed in both academics and in their involvement within the campus community.

Riley Merino
Former FYE Student
My FYE class opened my eyes to a lot of things happening on campus. Truth be told, I was not very outgoing in high school, and I didn’t have any aspirations to do anything more in college. FYE held me accountable to get involved on campus and be more adventurous with my education. As a result, I’ve grown so much and gained a lot of confidence in myself over the two years since — and that’s trivial in comparison to the countless deep friendships I’ve made!
THE BENEFITS

- **4.3pts.** The retention rate (who returned the following year) of FYE students is 4.3 points higher than those who did not take an FYE course.
- **90%** The percentage of students who recommend an FYE course to an incoming student.
- **+GPA** The average FYE student has a higher first semester GPA.
- In terms of mentorship and support, students in both UNIV and FYE courses rate their professors highly.
College Success is our university boot camp, though a lot more fun. Learn about what it takes to succeed in college and how to make the right choices to get you there.

Here’s how we do it:

1. **Polish your skills**
   Practice strategies for success! We’ll fine-tune the essentials - writing, critical thinking, and research - and work on college survival skills like time and stress management.

2. **Get connected; be supported**
   This is your home base to explore the campus and discover all that CU has to offer. You’ll also learn from the experts all over campus, including the Writing Center, Auraria Library, Learning Resource Center, Lynx Center, Career Center, and more!

3. **Be the best you**
   College isn’t all about learning stuff - it’s also a lot of learning about YOU. We’ll work on self-exploration so you can discover your interests, leverage your strengths, define your path, and achieve your goals.

4. **Discover community**
   CU Denver is immensely diverse and, hence, immensely awesome. You will learn to appreciate the diversity of people and perspectives that make CU Denver truly special, and your place within it all.
### GENERAL SECTIONS

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### SPECIALIZED SECTIONS

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<td>UNIV 1110-E01</td>
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### LEARNING COMMUNITY SECTIONS

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FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

9:30 - 10:45 AM

COMM 1111-001 // What Are You Really Saying?
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Yvette Olson
We will analyze significant research concerning non-verbal signals such as clothing and appearance to elements of body, face, and eye movements using observation activities. Particular emphasis will be placed on engagement and distress signals applicable to the world of business and mental health.

MUSC 1111-001 // Music as a Guide to Self-reflection and Growth
Core Area: Arts // Professor: Owen Kortz
This course explores the intersection of music and philosophy, looking to music as a guide for change, healing, and achievement in our lives. It challenges individuals to more deeply understand and express their song on the stage of life.

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

INTS 1111-001 // Today’s Globalized World - Are You Ready?
Core Area: International Perspectives // Professor: Windham Loopesko
In this interdisciplinary course, we will examine the current and future global situation and the forces of globalization that are shaping it such as technology, politics, economics, and social trends. We will also explore some major issues we face in 2019 and beyond, including climate change, water scarcity, outsourcing, 3D manufacturing, and social media.

PSCI 1111-001 // Immigration: The Struggle for Social Justice
Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Kathleen Bougher
With a social justice lens, you will explore the current realities for immigrants and refugees in the United States, as well as U.S. immigration history and the diverse forms of immigrant rights activism in Colorado. You will have the opportunity to meet with immigrant and ally activists as you read, write, and analyze the issues from various perspectives.

12:30 - 1:45 PM

ETST 1111-002 // American Indian Experiences
Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Duane Bird Bear
This course examines tribal identities and the cultural retention of American Indian traditions. Course readings by American Indian scholars examine a wide range of terms and theories regarding myths about American Indian cultures and history that have misinformed multiple generations. The course emphasizes how these ideas, roles and relationships evolved and are rooted in the fears and prejudice of European settlers and in the larger political agendas aimed at acquiring Indigenous land and creating the impression of cultural erasure and disappearance.
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

12:30 - 1:45 PM

GEOG 1111-001 // Ethics of Modern Zoos
Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Bryan Wee
Why do we keep animals, plants, insects and other living things in public exhibits (zoos)? For whom and to what end? This first-year seminar provides geographical perspectives on the ethics and science of zoos, particularly in cities. We will cover a broad range of topics including climate change, conservation biology, animal welfare, social justice and sustainability. There will also be field trips to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Butterfly Pavilion, Denver Zoo, and Denver Aquarium.

WGST 1111-001 // Good Girls Gone Bad
Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Jody Thomas
Women historically have been subject to male authority and required to uphold societal standards of “good” behavior. Subsequently, these women had little voice in the communities in which they live or in the world at large. Some attempted to break out of this “good” girl mold and use their voice in creative ways, but those who did were often judged by society as “bad.” This First-Year Seminar course will examine how women throughout history combated subjugation through their art, literature, music, and dance in order to speak to the truth of their lived experience, challenge social inequalities, and make contributions in their respective fields.

2:00 - 3:15 PM

INTB 1111-001 // International Social Entrepreneurship
Core Area: International Perspectives // Professor: Jon Wilkerson
The end of the 20th Century saw the rise of a powerful new force: the International Social Entrepreneur. Leveraging the power of market forces, social media, the Internet, and the desire to make the world better, these people have developed powerful ways to tackle the social, economic, and environmental problems that confront us all. In this class, we will study the rise of international social entrepreneurship and the innovative tools international social entrepreneurs have developed to address some of our most dire challenges.

COMM 1111-002 // Intro to Journalism: Even Clark Kent had to Start Somewhere
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Shannon Sindorf
Be the future of journalism! In this class, we will review the vital role of journalism in society, learn and apply existing theories of mass media consumption and effects to our social media landscape. We will also identify what is newsworthy, and gain and demonstrate basic news reporting and writing skills.

ETST 1111-003 // Food Culture and Asian American and Pacific Islander Identity
Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Christine Nguyen
This course provides a better understanding of the historical, social, and cultural aspects of the AAPI community, specifically through food culture. Students will be able to investigate the politics and address critically AAPI foodways by examining social habits, rituals, private versus public venues, and the connections to the AAPI identity. The AAPI community have always been intimately connected to food practices and institutions in the American imagination.
**FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS**

**2:00 - 3:15 PM**

**PHIL 1111-002**  //  Critical and Adventurous Investigations of Nature and Colorado Wilderness

Core Area: Humanities  //  Professor: Lana Garcia

This course is designed both for students who have a passion for the outdoors and for those who have a neutral or skeptical relationship towards nature and wilderness. Students will be encouraged to think critically as they are introduced to the evolution of concepts of nature and the wilderness. A philosophical lens will be utilized to explore how American history and social identities are positioned in relationship to nature and the wilderness. Focus will be placed on interpreting and analyzing textual depictions as well as on the history of Colorado wilderness creation.

**3:00 - 5:30 PM**

**EDFN 1111-001**  //  Get Up, Stand Up!

Core Area: Humanities  //  Professor: Cheryl Matias

In an ever-increasing diverse world people must have experience and knowledge in understanding one another through racial and gender differences rather than dismissing those differences. Thus, this is an entry-level humanities course that seeks to explore the intricate dynamics betwixt and between patriarchy, feminism, and race in education and society. One purpose of this course is to increase theoretical knowledge, apply such knowledge to one’s life via creative expression, and share the knowledge in a way that empowers the self and the surrounding Denver community.

**3:30 - 4:45 PM**

**SOCY 1111-001**  //  The Real Cost of Beauty

Core Area: Social Sciences  //  Professor: Rachael Lehman

We will focus on the cultural commodification of the body through media, exotic dancing, and the weight loss and cosmetic surgery industries. We will address the intersection of race, class, gender, ability, age, size, and sexuality in standards of beauty, as well as situate our own personal experiences in a larger cultural context.

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS**

**MONDAY - WEDNESDAY**

**2:00 - 3:15 PM**

**PHIL 1111-002**  //  Critical and Adventurous Investigations of Nature and Colorado Wilderness

Core Area: Humanities  //  Professor: Lana Garcia

This course is designed both for students who have a passion for the outdoors and for those who have a neutral or skeptical relationship towards nature and wilderness. Students will be encouraged to think critically as they are introduced to the evolution of concepts of nature and the wilderness. A philosophical lens will be utilized to explore how American history and social identities are positioned in relationship to nature and the wilderness. Focus will be placed on interpreting and analyzing textual depictions as well as on the history of Colorado wilderness creation.

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**FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS**

**WEDNESDAY ONLY**

**3:00 - 3:45 PM**

**SOCY 1111-001**  //  The Real Cost of Beauty

Core Area: Social Sciences  //  Professor: Rachael Lehman

We will focus on the cultural commodification of the body through media, exotic dancing, and the weight loss and cosmetic surgery industries. We will address the intersection of race, class, gender, ability, age, size, and sexuality in standards of beauty, as well as situate our own personal experiences in a larger cultural context.
### FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

**TUESDAY - THURSDAY**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:45 AM</td>
<td>MGMT 1111-001</td>
<td>Leadership in Business Life</td>
<td>Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Sherrie Lawson</td>
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<td>MUSC 1111-002</td>
<td>The Beatles, Popular Music, and Society</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Storm Gloor</td>
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<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
<td>ENGL 1111-001</td>
<td>Is the Book Always Better than the Movie?</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Jody Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PHIL 1111-001</td>
<td>Why Follow the Laws?</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Jeff Golub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGST 1111-002</td>
<td>Queer Histories, Queer Lives</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Katherine Mohrman</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
<td>MATH 1111-001</td>
<td>Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?</td>
<td>Biological &amp; Physical Sciences/Math</td>
<td>Rakissa Manzanares</td>
</tr>
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FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

12:30 - 1:45 PM

FINE 1111-001 // Your Photographic Journal
Core Area: Arts // Professor: Carol Golemboski
Improve your photographic skills while creating several dynamic, personal projects. Using a camera phone, learn basic camera functions, digital formats, visual journaling, as well as fundamental principles of light and composition. Investigate photography as a mode of visual communication while examining its creative possibilities and exploring the history of the medium.

2:00 - 3:15 PM

COMM 1111-003 // What's Love Got to do With It?
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Megan Hurson
This course is an interesting combination of learning the meaning and basis of theoretical concepts of interpersonal communication. You will then apply these concepts to actual relationships and observations to understand how they work in everyday encounters.

PSYC 1111-001 // How to Think like a Psychologist
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Mitch Handelsman
We will explore how psychologists apply critical, empirical, and ethical thinking to a variety of issues. We will develop and apply thinking skills and will assess learning by participating in class discussions, graded exercises, writing papers, and collaboration with one another to address complex problems.

ETST 1111-001 // The Stories We Tell
Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Katherine Mohrman
Stories are universal to the human experience and can entertain, teach lessons, and preserve and share histories. In this course, we will explore various storytelling forms (oral and written narratives, music, visual representation) that convey both personal experiences and beliefs as well as expressions of culture, race, and ethnicity.

3:30 - 4:45 PM

COMM 1111-004 // Chopsticks, Forks, and Fingers
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Rebecca Fisher
Get an edge in the workplace — and in life! — by learning to communicate with people from all over the world. We will explore the intersection of culture, conversation, and meaning through readings and reflection. We'll also participate in a unique practicum at the ESL Academy by interacting with international students.

HDFR 1111-001 // You Got This – Learning to Lead
Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Lynda Duran
This course will invite aspiring and current student leaders to explore student development practices, student engagement, and what leadership means to them. Students will explore leadership identity, student development theories, and apply relevant frameworks to program development, assessment and student transition and support as it pertains to higher education environments. Students will share in facilitating the course dialogue and have a great deal of influence upon the direction of class dialogue and articulation of the readings.
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

9:30 AM - 12:20 PM

HUMN 1111-001 // From Blade Runner to The Handmaid’s Tale
Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Karin Hunter
Many science fiction stories ask “what if.” They ask us to imagine a world different from our own, most often separated from our present day by time and/or technology. In this course, we will explore possible visions of the future, and questions of us that we wouldn’t ordinarily ask ourselves — of humanity, Earth, individuals.

FYE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

Emily Moroney
Executive Director for Transfer Initiatives
Navigating a new campus culture and academic expectations as a transfer student can, at times, feel confusing and isolating – but it doesn’t have to be that way. By taking part in a FYE transfer-focused course, transferring students engage both academically and socially with a network of peers, faculty and staff committed to ensuring your success here at CU Denver.

UNIV 1110-023 // Transfer Student Section
The name says it all! This course is designed to ease your transition to CU and make your first semester the best it can be. Join 19 of your soon-to-be BFFs and share this new adventure together! In this course, you will be able to transfer your previous undergraduate experiences, and activities will be provided to you for navigating throughout the CU Denver campus. After completing this course, you will have resources to continue networking and building relationships with your peers and colleagues.
Professor: Emily Moroney // MW 3:30 - 4:45 PM

ETST 3111-001 // Ethnicity and Race in Contemporary American Culture
This course introduces students to creative works by people of color including African American, Native American, Latino, and Asian Americans. The class explores theoretical concepts about racial and ethnic identities and encourages students to think critically about the construction and representation of race, class, and gender in modern American life.
Core Area: Cultural Diversity // Professor: Lana Garcia // MW 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

The Curious Teacher Learning Community //
Curiosity, the heart of great teaching, is the focus of this Learning Community. See the world through the eyes of a learner and nurture a curiosity about children, adolescents, families and communities. Open to major-based transfer students only.
## LEARNING COMMUNITIES

### Entering Biology Learning Community (1)

- **Biology** // BIOL 2051-004 // Tod Duncan // TTH 3:30 - 4:45 PM | Lab // BIOL 2071-004 // T 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM
- **UNIV 1110-018** // Jaimie Carrington // TH 12:30 - 1:45 PM

### Entering Biology Learning Community (2)

- **Biology** // BIOL 2051-007 // Lisa Johansen // MW 9:30 - 10:45 AM | Lab // BIOL 2071-012 // W 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM
- **UNIV 1110-020** // Angie VanDijk // M 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

### Entering Biology Learning Community (3)

- **Biology** // BIOL 2051-007 // Lisa Johansen // MW 9:30 - 10:45 AM | Lab // BIOL 2071-013 // W 2:30 - 5:15 PM
- **UNIV 1110-021** // Vanessa Navarro-Gomez // M 12:30 - 1:45 PM

### Entering Biology Learning Community (4)

- **Biology** // BIOL 2051-007 // Lisa Johansen // MW 9:30 - 10:45 AM | Lab // BIOL 2071-013 // W 2:30 - 5:15 PM
- **UNIV 1110-021** // Vanessa Navarro-Gomez // M 12:30 - 1:45 PM

### Criminal Justice

Calling all Criminal Justice majors! This LC offers many opportunities to connect – to your classmates, professors, and professionals in the community. Through your CRJU course, you will explore the world of criminology and criminal justice. You will also have the opportunity to connect with those classmates through UNIV, where together you will learn how to engage and succeed in college, through workshops pertaining to study skills, getting along with faculty, and connecting to campus resources.

- **Criminology and Criminal Justice: An Overview** // Social Sciences // CRJU 1000-003 // Mary Dodge // MW 12:30 - 1:45 PM
- **College Success** // UNIV 1110-022 // Nora Scanlon & Lauren Davis // W 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

### The Curious Teacher

Curiosity, the heart of great teaching, is the focus of this major-based Learning Community. See the world through the eyes of a learner and nurture a curiosity about children, adolescents, families and communities.

- **Foundation of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education** // CLDE 2000 // Adriana Alvarez // M 4:00 - 6:45 PM // Hybrid
- **Mathematics for Elementary Teachers** // MTED 3040 // Dennis Debay // W 2:00 - 4:45 PM
- **UNIV 1110 College Success** // FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS // Miriam Cummings // M 2:00 - 3:15 PM
- **UNIV 1110 College Success** // TRANSFER STUDENTS // Geneva Sarcedo // M 2:00 - 3:15 PM

### Engineering

Explore the world of Engineering with like-minded students. Join the Engineering Learning Community and benefit from connected curriculum that fosters collaboration and community, as well as smaller class sizes.

- **Calculus I** // MATH 1401-011 // Mike Kawai // MW 10:30 AM - 12:20 PM | Recitation // MATH 1401-R11 // MW 9:30 - 10:20 AM
- **Calculus I** // MATH 1401-010 // Pamela Whitten // M-T-W-TH 10:00 - 10:50 AM | Recitation // MATH 1401-R10 // MW 9:00 - 9:50 AM
- **Interdisciplinary Freshman Design** // ENGR 1208-001 // Maryam Darbeheshi // MW 12:30 - 1:45 PM
- **Core Composition I** // ENGL 1020-018 // Emily Wortman-Wunder // MW 2:00 - 3:15 PM
- **Core Composition I** // ENGL 1020-022 // Emily Wortman-Wunder // MW 3:30 - 4:45 PM
LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Voicing Differences
Uncover and examine the social influences that define and often regulate our experiences. We will learn how to recognize these powerful influences and give voice to your difference.

Intro to Sociology // Social Sciences // SOCY 1001-005 // Maren Scull // MW 9:30 - 10:45 AM
Good Girls Gone Bad // Humanities // WGST 1111-001 // Jody Thomas // MW 12:30 - 1:45 PM

Civic Engagement And Housing Justice
Everybody needs housing. Access to safe, dignified and affordable housing is one of the most pressing issues of our time. Our Living and Learning Community (LLC) brings together students, faculty, and community – first, to explore how historical and current issues shape access to housing, then to create innovative housing solutions through civic engagement and social action. Welcome home.

Community Organizing and Personal Development // PSCI 2001-001 // Tony Robinson // TTH 2:00 - 3:15 PM
UNIV 1110-017 // Stephanie Puello // T 12:30 - 1:45 PM

**Students in this LC have the opportunity to live on campus on the same floor**

Thinking Skills for the Engaged Student
This LC will explore (a) how to think like a psychologist: critically, empirically, and ethically, and (b) how to think like a rhetorician: critically, strategically, and purposefully. These modes of thought are characteristic of educated, engaged individuals who actively participate in their university, local communities, and democracy. Both courses involve active learning: We use in-class exercises and discussion, written papers, and collaborative learning to develop thinking skills, which help students address complex problems and navigate both college and life beyond the university.

Thinking and Composing Rhetorically // Core Composition I // ENGL 1020-H01 // Justin Bain // W 2:00 - 3:15 PM // Hybrid
How to Think Like a Psychologist // Behavioral Sciences // PSYC 1111-001 // Mitch Handelsman // TTH 2:00 - 3:15 PM

Familia y Justicia
The ability to develop meaningful relationships with diverse people is key in this diverse and global world. Grow as a multicultural being as you explore the definition and dynamics of family across contexts and culture, and broaden your understanding of social justice and diversity.

Love, Family & Human Development // Social Sciences // HDFR 2200 // Jennifer Grieving // TTH 9:30 - 10:45 AM
Global Human Development and Learning // International Perspectives // HDFR 1000 // Angela Atencio // TH 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
TOP 3 FYE CLASS CHOICES

1
2
3

NOTES
Working with my PAL (peer mentor) gave me someone to talk to that was, in theory, less intimidating.

My first semester was impacted positively from my professor due to her attentiveness to each student and engagement both inside and outside of the classroom. Without her, forming relationships with any professors would have seemed too daunting a challenge, and my first semester would have been a much harder transition without this class and her care for us and our experience.

My FYE professor helped me transition academically to the campus and helped me with resource knowledge around campus.

I feel comfortable, and now I feel like I know my way around.

First-year students should take FYE courses to help adjust to their new college experience in a more efficient manner.

FYE courses are a great place to meet other first-year students while getting to learn more about your new campus.
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<th>Time</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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