CU DENVER

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES

Fall 2024 Course Guide

MEET YOUR MOMENT
Welcome to CU Denver, and to your next exciting journey!

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 registration specialists and academic advisors 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. We cannot wait to welcome you to CU Denver!
In any of the FYE courses they choose, first-year students acclimate to the rigors of college-level work, engage in the active social and intellectual life of our campus, work closely with faculty and peer leaders, and make close friends and study partners.

**UNIV 1110 COLLEGE SUCCESS**
Ease your transition to CU and make your first semester the best it can be. Make close connections with up to 26 other first-year students and share this journey together!

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR (FYS)**
FYS courses have it all - the best faculty, interesting topics, fun events, and the support of the whole campus. Each FYS course is a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity - only available your first semester!

**LEARNING COMMUNITIES (LC)**
LCs include two courses that are linked together (gotta sign up for both!) In these courses, professors tag team to deliver an experience that goes beyond the classroom with interdisciplinary themes, shared assignments, and a fun field trip. The best part is the bond you’ll create with your classmates from spending all that quality time together.

**BENEFITS OF FYE**

- **HIGHER RETENTION RATE**
  Historically over time, the retention rate of FYE students has been higher than those who did not enroll in an FYE course.

- **90% OF STUDENTS RECOMMEND**
  an FYE course to incoming college students.

- **HIGH PROFESSOR RATING**
  Historically over time, the retention rate of FYE students has been higher than those who did not enroll in an FYE course.

- **HIGHER FIRST-SEMESTER GPA**
  The average FYE student has a higher first-semester GPA than students who did not take an FYE course.
WHY WE LOVE FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES

I love FYE because it allows for us to make holistic connections with new students while supporting their academic and career goals in a fun environment!

Side note- I’ve been working with one of my UNIV students to get him to Japan for study abroad and he leaves in 3 weeks! woo!! FYE is the real deal y’all!

– Brie Mondragon
UNIV Instructor

I’m an FYE teacher because I remember just how monumental my first year in college was in my path to who I am now. I love to celebrate the highs of our students’ greatest moments at the beginning of a new journey, and I want to be there to support them through the challenges. My FYE class is consistently the best part of my week!

– Liz Berry
UNIV Instructor

I teach in the FYE Program because I love working with first-year students! I thrive off the energy and enthusiasm our new students bring into the classroom! Additionally, as an alumna of CU Denver, I also see my involvement in FYE as a way to give back to the institution that has presented me with so many wonderful opportunities and has catalyzed SO MUCH of my personal and professional growth.

– Kristen Fukimoto
UNIV Instructor
COLLEGE SUCCESS

ABOUT UNIV

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.

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### General Sections

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Days</th>
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### SPECIALIZED SECTIONS

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*Only open to CAM majors living on CAM RCC Floor in City Heights*

*Must also enroll in CLDE 2000-H02*

*This is a UNIV section. See page 15 for more information.*
**UNIV 1110-014**  
**Business Majors Only**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Tuesday  
**Times:** 2:00PM-3:15PM

**UNIV 1110-015**  
**Business Majors Only**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Thursday  
**Times:** 11:00AM-12:15PM

**UNIV 1110-018**  
**Computer Science**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Tuesday  
**Times:** 9:30AM-10:45AM  
*Computer Science Majors Only

**UNIV 1110-019**  
**Engineering**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Thursday  
**Times:** 11:00AM-12:15PM

**UNIV 1110-021**  
**AANAPISI**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Thursday  
**Times:** 11:00AM-12:15PM  
*Open to anyone who identifies as part of the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Community and/or is interested in learning more about the community

**UNIV 1110-E16**  
**Business Majors Only**  
--- **Online** ---

**UNIV 1110-E17**  
**Business Majors Only**  
--- **Online** ---

**UNIV 1110-020**  
**CAP**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Wednesday  
**Times:** 9:30AM-10:45AM  
*Only open to all College of Architecture and Planning majors

**UNIV 1110-022**  
**Black Student Focused**  
--- **In-Person** ---  
**Days:** Wednesday  
**Times:** 9:30AM-10:45AM  
*Open to anyone who identifies as part of the Black student community and/or is interested in learning more about the community
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

9:30AM-10:45AM | COMM 1111-001 In-Person

What Are You Really Saying? The Power of Non-Verbal Communication

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.

Core Area: Behavioral Sciences | Professor: Yvette Olson

11:00AM-12:15PM | WGST 1111-002 In-Person

Queer Histories, Queer Lives: Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies

As an introduction to LGBTQ/queer studies, this class will give students the opportunity to engage in the histories, experiences, and perspectives of various queer people, communities, and ideas. We will focus on identity and politics in relation to gender and sexuality and other social categories such as race/ethnicity, socio-economic class, nationality, dis/ability, and religion. We will also explore together what it means to "be queer" and what it means to view history, culture, and politics from a queer perspective.

Core Area: Humanities | Professor: Katherine Mohrman

12:30PM-1:45PM | ETST 1111-001 In-Person

American Indian Experiences

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.

Core Area: Social Sciences | Professor: Duane Bird Bear

This course is open to both incoming Fall 2024 first-year and transfer students.

2:00PM-3:15PM | INTB 1111-001 In-Person

International Social Entrepreneurship

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.

Core Area: International Perspectives | Professor: Jon Wilkerson
2:00PM-3:15PM |

MUSC 1111-001  **In-Person**

The Beatles, Popular Music, and Society

Explore the impact of the Beatles and their music on popular music, our culture, and society, both in their time and today. The academic content portion of the course is an introduction to the music of the Beatles and their influence on culture. The academic skills portion of the course is designed to assist students in making a successful transition from high school to college.

Core Area: Arts | Professor: Storm Gloor

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

FITV 1111-001  **In-Person**

Anime Goes to College: Analyzing Anime Characters Through a Sociological Lens

This is a first-year experiences (FYE) seminar designed to help students understand, and appreciate, and analyze character development in Japanese anime. Japanese manga and anime has quickly risen in the United States as a popular storytelling format, with many large companies like Netflix and Hulu beginning to release anime titles on their streaming platforms. The purpose of this course is to provide a history to Japanese anime while focusing on character stereotypes, identities, and development in a variety of popular anime shows, and how that connects to student development theories.

Core Area: International Perspectives | Professor: Emilie Waggoner

This course is open to both incoming Fall 2024 first-year and transfer students.
**ETST 3111-001 In-Person**

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: Jody Thomas

This course is only open to incoming Fall 2024 transfer students.

**FINE 1111-001 In-Person**

Your Photographic Journal

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.

Core Area: Arts | Professor: Carol Golemboski

**PHIL 1111-001 In-Person**

Why Follow the Laws?

We usually assume that what defines our society and our politics are the laws. But this assumption introduces two sets of questions. On the one hand, what makes a law right? What makes it binding on us? And at what point might law lose such binding force? Does our answer apply to different countries with different laws? Indeed, if their laws are right for them—but not for us—what does that tell us about the limits of law as a force that legitimately constrains or permits human actions? On the other hand, what about our assumptions that certain laws are clearly immoral? Consider the laws that sanction slavery, or those that prevent women from voting, or those that dictate the terms of torture? There is a way in which we cannot get along without laws -- but given that there are laws humans create which are clearly wrong, we need to figure out where the force of law comes from.

Core Area: Humanities | Professor: Jeff Golub
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

**PSYC 1111-001**
**How to Think Like a Psychologist**

Core Area: Behavioral Sciences | Professor: Mitch Handelsman

2:00PM-3:15PM | In-Person

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.

**WGST 1111-001**
**Good Girls Gone Bad**

Core Area: Humanities | Professor: Jody Thomas

12:30PM-1:45PM | In-Person

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.
ETST 1111-002 In-Person

Food Culture and Asian American and Pacific Islander Identity

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.

Core Area: Social Sciences | Professor: Sothary Chea
LEARNING COMMUNITIES

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.

CRJU 1000-003 In-Person

Tuesday/Thursday | 2:00PM-3:15PM
Criminology and Criminal Justice: An Overview

UNIV 1110-006* In-Person

Tuesday | 11:00AM-12:15PM

*TO ENROLL IN UNIV 1110-006, YOU MUST ALSO BE ENROLLED IN CRJU 1000-003.
LEARNING COMMUNITIES

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. This learning community is for EDHD majors.

CLDE 2000-H02  In-Person

Monday | 2:00PM-4:45PM
Foundations of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Education (Hybrid Course)

COLLEGE SUCCESS  In-Person

UNIV 1110-007
Wednesday | 2:00PM-3:15PM
(First-Year and Transfer EDHD Students)

COLLEGE OF ARTS & MEDIA UNIV SECTIONS

The College of Arts and Media (CAM) UNIV sections are open to all incoming first-year declared CAM students and are also highly encouraged for any CAM majors living in the City Heights CAM Residential Creative Community (RCC). The RCC is a special residential space for CAM students to live in a supportive environment of artists, filmmakers, musicians, and scholars. CAM RCC members will have distinct academic and co-curricular experiences to connect with the arts and creative industries.

IN ORDER TO BE A PART OF THE CAM RCC, PLEASE REACH OUT TO DAVE WALTER (DAVE.WALTER@UCDENVER.EDU) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT CAM RCC STUDENTS ENROLL IN ONE OF THE CAM UNIV SECTIONS.

Students may choose to enroll in the following UNIV section:

CAM UNIV SECTION 1

UNIV 1110-007  Friday | 9:30AM-10:45AM
BUSINESS LEARNING COMMUNITY

First-year business majors are required to take a UNIV 1110 Business section in their first fall semester. Many of our first-year business majors also tend to still need their MATH 1060 class requirement.

THIS LEARNING COMMUNITY IS FOR BUSINESS MAJORS.

MATH 1060-001 **In-Person**
Monday/Wednesday | 11:00AM-12:15PM
Finite Mathematics

UNIV 1110-011 **In-Person**
Wednesday | 9:30AM-10:45AM
Business College Success
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“Be the Change”

This class is for people who want to make the world a better place and have questions such as: Does my voice matter? Can I make the world a better place? Is it possible to have a joyful career that pays me enough and supports positive change at the same time? We will explore how each of us can answer all these questions for ourselves with a resounding “Yes!” by looking at how the tools of ecological design can be applied to all areas of life. Over the course of the semester we will approach making change at all levels from our inner selves to our personal relationships to our social systems by looking to patterns from the natural world. Along the way, we’ll be applying these frameworks to real-world projects while building deep and meaningful connections with our fellow students. Throughout the course we will focus on supporting each other as we develop answers and ideas that are meaningful to our own lives. This learning community is open to all majors.

This learning community is open to all majors.

We also recommend students consider enrolling in a one-credit hour UNIV 1110 class to pair with the LDAR 1100 course.
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER
STUDENT TRANSITIONS & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT