FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES
TRANSFER GUIDE
Fall 2022
Welcome to CU Denver, and to the next 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!

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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 support 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.

THE BENEFITS

Retention
Historically over time, FYE students have retained at a higher rate compared to non-FYE students at CU Denver

GPA
FYE students have a higher first-semester GPA compared to their non-FYE peers

Mentorship and Support
FYE students rate their professors and PALs highly in terms of mentorship and support during their first semester
WHY WE LOVE IT

FORMER FYE STUDENT

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

FORMER FYE STUDENT

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.

FORMER FYE STUDENT

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.

FORMER FYE STUDENT

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.

FYE 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.
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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TRANSFER / FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SEMINAR OPTIONS

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.

**This course is only open to transfer students.**

Core Area: Cultural Diversity // Professor: Lana Garcia // DAY T/Th // TIME 11:00 - 12:15 PM

FITV 1111-002 // Anime Goes To College: Analyzing Anime Characters Through a Sociological Lens

This seminar is 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.

**This course is open to both incoming Fall 2022 first-year and transfer students.**

Core Area: International Perspectives // Professor: Emilie Waggoner // DAY MW // TIME 4:00 - 5:15 PM

ETST 1111-003 // 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.

**This course is open to both incoming Fall 2022 first-year and transfer students.**

Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Sothary Chea // DAY F // TIME 9:00 - 11:45 AM

ETST 1111-002 // 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.

**This course is open to both incoming Fall 2022 first-year and transfer students.**

Core Area: Social Sciences // Professor: Duane Bird Bear // DAY MW // TIME 12:30 - 1:45 PM
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.

Foundations of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education // CLDE 2000-H02 // M 2:00 - 4:45 PM
Mathematics for Elementary Teachers // MTED 3040-002 // W 2:00 - 4:45 PM
College Success // UNIV 1110-013 // W 12:30 - 1:45 PM // TRANSFER STUDENTS
WELCOME TO CU DENVER

KICK-OFF EVENTS

WELCOME WEEK
AUGUST 15 - 20

| AUG 15 | Town Hall |
| AUG 16 | Move-In Day |
| AUG 18 | Connect 2 Campus Day |
|         | First-Gen Student Banquet |
|         | Movie Night |
| AUG 19 | Convocation and Playfair |
| AUG 20 | Urban Hike |

Connect with peers & start the semester off strong with 6 weeks of fun events!
August-September

2022