First-Year Experiences

Fall Guide 2020
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!

Christy Heaton, PhD
Executive Director, Student Transitions and Family Engagement
christy.heaton@ucdenver.edu
303-315-2160

Emilie Waggoner
Associate Director, First-Year Experiences
emilie.waggoner@ucdenver.edu
303-315-2678
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.

THE BENEFITS

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.

The percentage of students who recommend an FYE course to an incoming student.

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.
WHY WE DO IT

ALIYAH MATTHIAS
Student, Peer Advocate Leader (PAL)

In the Fall 2018, I joined an FYE College Success class. This class was extremely helpful in informing me of various
campus resources, study tips, and events taking place on campus. As a result, I felt very prepared for my transition
into college. Before becoming a PAL, I was extremely shy and had a difficult time making friends on campus. I was sad
because I wanted to make more friends and build more networks. Through PAL, I was able to meet a lot of new people
and overall be more involved on campus. In addition, I am someone who really enjoys volunteering and helping
people. Therefore, through PAL, I was able to help and advise students and ensure that they felt comfortable and
acclimated to campus.

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.

BRYAN WEE
FYE Faculty Member

I have always sought out meaningful challenges to nudge me outside my comfort zones. It is in these moments, I feel,
that we grow the most. Teaching in the FYE program was a unique opportunity to do that while also introducing college
life to students in ways that not only engaged their minds, but also nurtured their identities. As a first-time FYE instruc-
tor, I would not have been able to succeed without the support of the program staff, my fellow instructors and most of
all, the Peer Advocate Leader (PAL) in my course. While I enjoyed teaching in the program, where I gained the most
was taking time to reflect on my FYE experiences. In this context, I learned to become a better instructor, and a better
person.

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!
COLLEGE SUCCESS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-001</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-002</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>9:30 - 10:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-003</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-004</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>2:00 - 3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**GENERAL SECTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-005</td>
<td></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>9:30 - 10:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-007</td>
<td>Condensed</td>
<td>AUG 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-006</td>
<td></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>11:00 - 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEARNING COMMUNITY SECTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-009</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-011</td>
<td>Curious Teacher</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-013</td>
<td>Entering Biology (1)</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-015</td>
<td>Entering Biology (3)</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-010</td>
<td>Curious Teacher</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-012</td>
<td>Familia y Comunidad</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>2:00 - 3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-014</td>
<td>Entering Biology (2)</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-016</td>
<td>Entering Biology (4)</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPECIALIZED SECTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-008</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-017</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>2:00 - 3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1110-018</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

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 2020 and beyond, including climate change, water scarcity, outsourcing, 3D manufacturing, and social media.

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.
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.

COMM 1111-004 // Football in American Culture
Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Sarah Fields
This course is designed to help students understand and appreciate the role that American football plays in U.S. culture. Football is the most popular sport in America and in the city of Denver and has been since the end of World War II—many consider it America’s national pastime. The sport is ever-present in American life, dominating media, general conversation, fashion, and methods of communication.

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.

HUMN 1111-001 // From Blade Runner to The Handmaid’s Tale
Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Karin Hunter
Science fiction (SF) asks, “what if?” It asks us to imagine a world where anything is possible. Science fiction engages us in significant philosophical discussions; it asks theoretical and metaphysical questions on a large scale: what does it mean to be human? What’s our place in the universe? Do we matter? Rarely does mainstream media challenge us to consider these types of questions. Further, SF functions as a commentary on the present-day environments. This course will study important historical and recent SF film and television; we’ll aim to understand what type of social, political, and cultural commentaries were being made, and why it is important to examine those critiques. We’ll ask questions of ourselves about our humanity and what makes us human, and we’ll engage with various sources to understand why SF is such an important tool for this kind of analysis.
### 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.

### MGMT 1111-001 // Leadership in Business Life  
**Core Area: Behavioral Sciences // Professor: Sherrie Lawson**  
Learn about leadership in business and society as you experience it. Through individual and group activities, guest speakers and field trips, we will examine leadership theories, concepts and practices to better understand what makes leaders effective while gaining a better appreciation for our own leadership strengths and potentials.

### ENGL 1111-001 // Is the Book Always Better than the Movie?  
**Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Jody Thomas**  
In this course, we will examine how authors and other artists tell versions of the same stories through different media. We will explore such questions as: What advantages do certain forms of storytelling have over others? Are certain stories particularly suited to one form or another? How close should adapters stick to the original story?

### WGST 1111-002 // Queer Histories, Queer Lives  
**Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Katherine Mohrman**  
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.

### MUSC 1111-002 // The Beatles, Popular Music, and Society  
**Core Area: Arts // Professor: Storm Gloor**  
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.
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.

ETST 1111-001 // How Do We Talk About Race?
Core Area: Humanities // Professor: Katherine Mohrman
Stories are universal to the human experience, entertaining us, teaching us, and contributing to the formation of our identities and our histories. Storytelling conveys not only our personal experiences and beliefs but can also help us understand the larger context in which we have those experiences and develop those beliefs. In this course, we will explore various stories that convey not only personal experiences and beliefs, but larger narratives about race, culture, and ethnicity. In order to be respectful, ethical, and culturally responsive we will also examine how stories empower and promote social change and justice. While you will be challenged to confront, analyze, and discuss new concepts in this course, you will also be provided with the academic support necessary to do so with confidence!

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.

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.
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.

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 // T/TH 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.

For more information, see pg. 11
### LEARNING COMMUNITIES

#### 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  //  ENGL 1020-H01  //  Core Composition I  //  W 2:00 - 3:15 PM, Hybrid  
How to Think Like a Psychologist  //  PSYC 1111-001  //  Behavioral Sciences  //  TTH 2:00 - 3:15 PM

#### 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.

Criminology and Criminal Justice: An Overview  //  CRJU 1000-003  //  Social Sciences  //  MW 9:30 - 10:45 AM  
College Success  //  UNIV 1110-009  //  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-H02  //  M 2:00 - 4:45 PM, Hybrid  
Mathematics for Elementary Teachers  //  MTED 3040-002  //  W 2:00 - 4:45 PM  
College Success  //  UNIV 1110-010  //  W 12:30 - 1:45 PM  //  FIRST-YEAR EDHD STUDENTS  
College Success  //  UNIV 1110-011  //  W 12:30 - 1:45 PM  //  TRANSFER EDHD STUDENTS

#### Familia y Comunidad  //
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  //  HDFR 2200-003  //  Social Sciences  //  TTH 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM  
Families in Global Perspectives  //  HDFR 3250-002  //  International Perspectives  //  TH 12:30 - 1:45 PM  
College Success  //  UNIV 1110-012  //  T 2:00 - 3:15 PM  //  NEW AND TRANSFER HDFR STUDENTS ONLY
Join the Engineering Learning Community and explore the world of Engineering with like-minded students! You are eligible to enroll in the LC if you are one of the following majors: Bio-Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Pre-Engineering, and Math! You will benefit from a connected curriculum (three courses) that fosters collaboration and community, as well as smaller class sizes! Check out your courses below:

**Pre-Calculus Mathematics // MATH 1130-001 // MTH 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM**

**Pre-Calculus Mathematics // MATH 1130-002 // MW 8:00 - 9:50 AM**

**Calculus I // MATH 1401-001 // MTWTH 10:30 - 11:20 AM | Recitation // MATH 1401-R01 // MW 9:30 - 10:20 AM**

**Calculus I // MATH 1401-004 // MW 9:30 - 11:20 AM | Recitation // MATH 1401-R04 // MW 8:30 - 9:50 AM**

**Calculus II // MATH 2411-002 // MW 8:00 - 9:50 AM**

**Interdisciplinary Freshman Design // ENGR 1200-001 // MW 12:30 - 1:45 PM**

**Core Composition I // ENGL 1020-018 // MW 2:00 - 3:15 PM**

**Core Composition II // ENGL 2030-010 // MW 3:30 - 4:45 PM**

**Entering Biology Learning Community (1) //**

**Biology // BIOL 2051-005 // TTH 12:30 - 1:45 PM | Lab // BIOL 2071-010 // W 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM**

**College Success // UNIV 1110-013 // M 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**

**Entering Biology Learning Community (2) //**

**Biology // BIOL 2051-005 // TTH 12:30 - 1:45 PM | Lab // BIOL 2071-011 // W 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM**

**College Success // UNIV 1110-014 // M 12:30 - 1:45 PM**

**Entering Biology Learning Community (3) //**

**Biology // BIOL 2051-006 // MW 2:00 - 3:15 PM | Lab // BIOL 2071-019 // TH 2:30 - 5:15 PM**

**College Success // UNIV 1110-015 // T 12:30 - 1:45 PM**

**Entering Biology Learning Community (4) //**

**Biology // BIOL 2051-006 // MW 2:00 - 3:15 PM | Lab // BIOL 2071-020 // TH 2:30 - 5:15 PM**

**College Success // UNIV 1110-016 // TH 12:30 - 1:45 PM**
TOP 3 CLASS CHOICES

1

2

3

NOTES
First-year student: "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 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."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:15 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:45 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 - 1:45 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 - 3:15 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 4:45 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 - 6:15 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 - 7:45 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:15 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>