



FYE Vision

The First Year Experience is the first step in an exciting educational journey that helps students find their place at the University of Delaware and build strong social and academic foundations.

FYE Mission

The First Year Experience spans the entire first year beginning with admission to the University of Delaware, moving through new student orientation, to interactions with students in the residence halls, with faculty members in and out of the classroom, and with other members of our UD community. The First Year Experience at the University of Delaware helps develop the students' potential to succeed personally, academically, and socially, not only within our diverse community but as a member of a global society. The program is predicated on a collaboration between academic affairs and student life.

FYE Learning Outcomes (The UNIV 101 Seminar Outcomes are highlighted in red)

- Identify how your personal decision making can impact your wellbeing and your ability to reach your goals.
- Engage in experiences that contribute to your understanding of what it means to be a respectful and contributing member of a diverse community and global society.
- Develop a plan to ensure your academic success at UD while benefitting from the many resources available to you.
- Begin to develop your ability to critically analyze and synthesize information.
- Deliver, using appropriate technology, a reasoned, persuasive argument both orally and in writing.
- Develop mentoring relationships.

Content of UNIV 101 and Departmental First Year Seminars

The First Year Seminars, including UNIV 101 and departmental seminars, are designed to assist first year students in adjusting to college life and to provide those students an opportunity to examine and discuss issues that are vital to their future success at the University of Delaware. UNIV 101 is led by faculty who work closely with a peer mentor and others to help ensure that the first semester is successful and a foundation for future success.

Key components of the seminars include:

- Presentations led by peer mentors related to health and safety.
- A UD passport to explore campus-based activities.
- Engaging the freshmen class in a common reading experience; for 2011 the book is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. The author will be on campus in October, thus providing an opportunity to engage in a meaningful conversation with fellow students and begin to share in the intellectual life of the University.

The assessment of first year students showed the following to be valuable in their transition to UD.

- Providing an opportunity to meet their peers.
- Learning how to succeed academically and socially.
- Learning about University Resources.
- Exploring other majors and academic opportunities.
- Getting to know faculty.
- Engaging in out of class activities.