



The First-Year Experience Program

Mission

AUI's First-Year Experience Program (FYE) is developed by the Division of Student Affairs to help students make a successful transition to college life and learning while engaging in the mission of the university. The FYE consists of a series of courses and academic experiences, residential experiences, career workshops, and a series of events and programs throughout the first year.

Program Goals

The FYE Program will:

- ◆ **Provide a successful and smooth transition to college life;**
- ◆ **Introduce and ensure the use of university resources;**
- ◆ **Enhance understanding of liberal arts education concepts, diversity, and academic integrity;**
- ◆ **Promote academic success and career planning; and**
- ◆ **Enrich freshmen residential life experience.**

High School to College Transition

Key components of a successful transition to college life include:

- ◆ An understanding of the difference between faculty-centered learning (high school) and student-centered learning (university);
- ◆ The ability to deal with the new-found freedom and independence in college.

Student-Centered Learning

First-year students transition from a faculty-centered learning environment to a student-centered one. Students will learn about the importance of regular class attendance, studying outside the classroom, class participation, faculty office hours, continuous assessment, and working in groups, among other topics.

University Independence

Dealing with newly acquired freedom at college is a hard task. Students are often lost and confused about how to manage their time and how to align their priorities with their degree and career goals. The First-Year Experience Program addresses these issues through its current seminars and year-long programs.

Liberal Arts Education

True learning experience at AUI requires an understanding of liberal arts, academic integrity, responsibility, ownership of learning, critical thinking, and diversity of opinions.

University Resources

Learning about and making use of the following university resources and services is essential to students' academic success and development.

Career Planning

By the end of the first year, students should be able to match their degree choices with career options. With the help of academic advisors and career counselors, students learn the importance of committing to a solid degree plan and to building a rich CV through internships, exchange programs, useful extracurricular activities, conferences, community involvement, professional certification, job fairs, student organizations, etc.

To provide a better sense of professional expectations and market reality, guest speakers from the alumni network and industry leaders are invited to share their experiences and motivate young freshmen students.

Residential Experiences

To make residential life more fun and comfortable, the First-Year Experience Program sponsors special RA programs and hall events for first-year students. Events include guest speakers addressing contemporary student issues, video games competitions, movie nights, board and card games, and more.

Residential Life and Housing train RAs to better deal with building incidents, resident complaints, and conflict resolution.

For more information about the First-Year Experience, please contact us:

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