

FIRST-YEAR COMMUNITIES

What are First-Year Learning Communities?

First-Year Communities align with CI's Mission Pillars - Multicultural, International, Integrative, and Community Engagement - to support academic success and integration into university life for incoming first-year students, both inside and outside the classroom. Peers who have been in your shoes support First-Year Learning Communities, whether embedded peer mentors in classes or Resident Advisors in Housing. Learning Communities and Living-Learning Communities include peer-led Dolphin Interest Groups (DIGs) occurring all year long.

Students in the same Learning Community or Living-Learning Community take designated sections of two courses together in Fall, and most continue with at least one course together in Spring. Courses meet General Education, major and/or graduation requirements.

Participation in Learning Communities is shown to improve student learning, persistence, time to graduation, and stronger relationships with peers and faculty. Our goal is student success.

There is no additional cost to participate.



Living-Learning Communities

Students share a common intellectual and residential experience with an academic focus. Two General Education courses are paired to promote student success and align with a CI Mission Pillar in fall, and students stake at least one course together in Spring.

Most students in the Living-Learning Communities live on campus.

Learning Communities

Similar to Living-Learning Communities, two General Education or major pre-requisite courses are taken together in Fall to promote student success and align with a CI Mission Pillar. Most Communities have shared courses in Spring. These Communities do *not* require students to live in campus housing.

How can I join a First-Year Learning Community?

In general, enrollment in First-Year Communities is first-come, first-served. There are limited seats.

- First-year students will be pre-registered in two or more classes before Freshman Island View Orientation (FIVO) begins and these may include courses in Learning Communities for those who have expressed interest. Space permitting, students may add Learning Community courses at FIVO. Placement in STEM Success Learning Communities is limited to STEM majors, and undeclared majors interested in STEM. If your preferred Community is full, contact marie.francois@csuci.edu or visit the University Experience Table at FIVO to be placed on a wait-list.
- Placement in Living-Learning Communities requires completion of the housing application and payment of all applicable fees. Some spaces in Living-Learning Communities courses are available to students who don't live in housing.

To learn more about First-Year Communities visit: go.csuci.edu/lc

Living-Learning Communities

(Most Students Living Together on Campus)

Multicultural Mission Pillar

Michele Serros

Living-Learning Community

Named for the late Michele Serros, a nationally-recognized and celebrated Chicana author/poet from Oxnard, this Community engages students in critical dialogue on educational empowerment, creativity, community advocacy, multiculturalism, social justice and equity, and will foster a sense of *familia* and support for all. 6 units in Fall, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and CHS 100 Introduction to Chicana/o Studies.

In Spring, students take HIST 270 U.S. to 1877 together.

Fall Professors: Raul Moreno Campos & Nicholas Centino

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); CHS 100 (3 units): Social Science (D) AND Multicultural Graduation Requirement. Spring: HIST 270 American Institutions Graduation Requirement

UNIV 150-05 (Class # 1110) MW 2:00pm-3:50pm

CHS 100-01 (Class # 1465) MW 12:00pm-1:15pm

UNIV 150-06 (Class # 1112) MW 4:00pm-5:50pm

CHS 100-01 (Class # 1465) MW 12:00pm-1:15pm

Bedford and Dr. Irene Pinkard

Living-Learning Community

This Community honors the continued legacy of Bedford and Dr. Irene Pinkard, founders of the Ventura County Chapter of Black American Political Association of California, and their work in under-served communities of Ventura County. The community develops leadership and mentoring skills to encourage a sense of belonging at CI, critically analyze issues that impact the Black and other vulnerable populations of the world, and imagine and create more inclusive futures. 6 units in Fall, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and ENGL 160 Genre Fiction: Afro Cyber Punk. In Spring, students take ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric and HIST 250 World Regions: Africa (6 units) together.

Fall Professors: Shante Morgan Durisseau & Raquel Baker

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); ENGL 160 (3 units): Arts (C1); Spring: ENGL 105 Written Communication (A2); HIST 250 Social Science (D)

UNIV 150-09 (Class # 1118) TTH 10:00am-11:50am

ENGL 160-01 (Class # 1947) T 12:00pm-2:50pm

International Mission Pillar

Windows on the World (WOW) International Living-Learning Community

This Community focuses on international themes, in history and today. 6 units in Fall, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and HIST 211 World History: Origins to 1500. In Spring, students take together ENG: 105 Composition and Rhetoric together.

Fall Professors: Ron Popenhagen & Amy Caldwell

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3), or Lifelong Learning (E); HIST 211 (3 units) Social Sciences (D); Spring: ENGL 105 Written Communication (A2)

UNIV 150-08 (Class # 1116) TTh 10:00am-11:50am

HIST 211-02 (Class #2270) TTh 3:00pm-4:15pm

UNIV 150-10 (Class # 1120) TTh 12:00pm-1:50pm

HIST 211-02 (Class #2270) TTh 3:00pm-4:15pm

Integrative Mission Pillar

Student Undergraduate Research Fellow (SURF)

This Community is all about curiosity, inquiry, creativity, and discovery with an interdisciplinary research focus on Homelessness in Ventura County. Includes a trip to Santa Rosa Island.

6 units in Fall, Univ 198 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Research and SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology. Optional unit: ENGL 299 Editing Lab (1 unit credit/no credit). For Spring, students take 6 units together: ENGL 206 Composition and Rhetoric - Service Learning and BUS/ECON/SOC 203 Introduction to Social Business.

Fall Professors: Sunghee Nam & Mark Jepson

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 198 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3); SOC 101 (3 units): Social Science (D) Spring: ENGL 206 (3 units): Written Communication (A2); BUS/ECON/SOC 203 (3 units): Social Sciences (D)

UNIV 198-01 (Class # 1080) W 9:00am-11:50am

SOC 100-02 (Class # 1667) TTH 1:30pm-2:45pm

Community Engagement Mission Pillar

Outdoor Adventure

Living-Learning Community

This sustainability-focused Community links ESRM 100 Intro to Environmental Science and Resource Management with a critical thinking UNIV 150 First-Year Seminar. ESRM course involves off-campus community service and field trips. 6 units in Fall, see below. In Spring, students take COMM 101 Public Speaking together.

Fall Professors: Linda O'Hirok & Suzanne Soule

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); ESRM 100 (3 units): Life Sciences (B2) or Social Perspectives (D). Spring: COMM 101 Oral Communication (A1)

UNIV 150-02 (Class # 1104) MW 10:00am-11:50am

ESRM 100-05 (Class # 1913) MW 3:00pm-4:15pm

UNIV 150-04 (Class # 1108) MW 12:00pm-2:50pm

ESRM 100-05 (Class # 1913) MW 3:00pm-4:15pm

Learning Communities

(Living on Campus not Required)

Multicultural Mission Pillar Learning Communities

This Community centers on inter-cultural communication, social justice, and identity formation. In the Fall, students take 6-units together, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric. While students do not take a course together in the Spring, Dolphin Interest Groups with the peer mentor continue all year.

Professors: Shante Morgan-Durisseau & Emily Spitler-Lawson

General Education Units

UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); ENGL 105 Written Communication (A2)

UNIV 150-11 (Class # 1122) TTh 12:00pm-1:50pm

ENGL 105-03 (Class # 1536) M 12:00pm-2:50pm

There are two other Multicultural Mission Pillar Communities listed under the Living-Learning Category, the Michele Serros and Bedford and Dr. Irene Pinkard Communities. Students who will not be living on campus or students in housing who do not want to live together with classmates are able to enroll in the Serros and Bedford Communities courses, space permitting.

Integrative Mission Pillar Learning Communities

The focus of both courses will be on developing emotional intelligence and competency to aid in one's acculturation to and success as a university student. 6 units in Fall, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and ENGL 102 Strategies for Successful College Writers. In Spring, students continue together in ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric.

Professors: Scott Corbett & Nancy Park

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3); ENGL 102 (3 units) Lifelong Learning (E); Spring: ENGL 105 (3 units) Written Communication (A2).

UNIV 150-07 (Class # 1114) TTh 8:00am-9:50am

ENGL 102-27 (Class # 1444) F 10:30am-11:45am
(blended course, second weekly meeting is online)

There is another Integrative Mission Pillar Community listed under the Living-Learning Category, the Student Undergraduate Research Fellow (SURF) Community. Students who will not be living on campus or students in housing who do not want to live together with classmates are able to enroll in the SURF Community courses, space permitting.

Healthcare Integrative Mission Pillar Learning Community

This Community is for students interested in Nursing, Health Sciences, and related fields. In the Fall, students register in a 7-unit course block: UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and BIOL 210 Human Anatomy and Physiology I lecture and lab. In the Spring, students take 7-units together: COMM 210 Interpersonal Communication and BIOL 211 Human Anatomy and Physiology II lecture and lab.

Fall Professors: Inajane Nicklas & Lorna Profant & Jennifer Ellsworth

General Education and Pre-requisite Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units): Critical Thinking (A3); BIOL 210/211L (4 units) Nursing and Health Sciences Pre-requisite; Spring: COMM 210 (3 units) Oral Communication (A1); BIOL 211/212L (4 units) Nursing and Health Sciences Pre-requisite

UNIV 150-12 (Class # 1124) TTh 2:00pm-3:50pm

BIOL 210-01 (Class # 1303) MWF 9:00am-9:50pm

BIOL 210-09L (Class # 1314) F 12:00pm-2:50pm

or BIOL 210-10L (Class #1315) F 3:00pm-5:50pm

STEM Success Integrative Learning Community

This Community is for students majoring in or considering majoring in STEM. In Fall, students take 100 University Life and College Success and English 102 Strategies of Successful College Writers. The Community integrates narration, reflection, and interview integration and themes such as; handling stress in college, persistence through educational challenges, and their experiences as STEM students. 4 Units, see below. Students continue with ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric in the Spring.

Professors: Melissa Soenke & Rachael Jordan

General Education

Fall: ENGL 102 (3 units) Lifelong Learning (E); Spring: ENGL 105 (3 units) Written Communication (A2)

UNIV 100-03 (Class # 1077) T 11:00am-11:50am

ENGL 102-21 (Class # 1438) Th 9:00am-10:15am

UNIV 100-05 (Class # 1079) Th 11:00am-11:50am

ENGL 102-23 (Class # 1440) Th 12:00pm-1:15pm

Learning Communities Continued

(Living on Campus not Required)

International Mission Pillar Learning Communities

Students in this Community will develop critical thinking skills by taking international perspectives on the role of governments and citizens in balancing liberty and security, international relations, immigration, or natural resources. 6 units in the Fall: UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and ENGL 102 Strategies of Successful College Writers. In Spring, students continue with ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric.

Professors: Francois Zdanowicz & Ronit Sarig

UNIV 150-01 (Class # 1102) MW 10:00am-11:50am

ENGL 102-13(Class #1430) TTH 10:30am-11:45am

General Education Units

Fall: UNIV 150 (3 units)Critical Thinking (A3); ENGL 102 (3 units) Lifelong Learning (E); Spring: ENGL 105 (3 units): Written Communication (A2).

There is another International Mission Pillar Community listed under the Living-Learning Category, the Windows on the World (WOW) Community. Students who will not be living on campus or students in housing who do not want to live together with classmates are able to enroll in the WOW Community courses, space permitting.

Community Engagement Mission Pillar Learning Community

There is a Community Engagement Mission Pillar Community listed under the Living-Learning Category, the Outdoor Adventure Community. Students who will not be living on campus or students in housing who do not want to live together with classmates are able to enroll in the Outdoor Adventure Community courses, space permitting.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about Living-Learning Communities, contact Gary Gordon at gary.gordon@csuci.edu or Dr. Marie Francois at marie.francois@csuci.edu.

For questions about Learning Communities, contact Dr. Marie Francois at marie.francois@csuci.edu.

For questions about STEM Success Integrative Learning Communities, contact Dr. Araceli Espinoza-Wade at araceli.espinoza-wade@csuci.edu.

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