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. Two General Education courses are paired to promote student success and align with a CI Mission Pillar in Fall, and students take at least one course together in Spring. Students can live on LLC floor in campus housing, but do not have to.

Learning Communities

Two General Education or major prerequisite courses are taken together in Fall to promote student success and align with a CI Mission Pillar. Students take one course together in Spring. Students are not required to live in campus housing.

How can I join a First-Year Learning Community?

Enrollment in First-Year Communities is first-come, first-served. There are limited seats.

- First-year students may be pre-registered in First-Year Community classes before Freshman Island View Orientation (FIVO) begins. Take the Learning Community Interest Survey at go.csuci.edu/lc.
- Space permitting, students may add Learning Community courses during self-registration before FIVO, or in their Academic Advising session at FIVO. If your preferred Community is full, contact marie.francois@csuci.edu to be placed on a waitlist.
- Placement in a Living-Learning Community option also requires completion of the housing application and payment of all applicable fees if the student lives on campus.

To learn more about First-Year Communities visit: go.csuci.edu/lc
**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 (3 units).

*Fall Professors: TBD & Nicholas Centino*

**General Education Units**

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

**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 COMM 101 Public Speaking. In Spring, students take ENGL 160 Genre Fiction: Afro Cyber Punk together (3 units).

*Fall Professor (both classes): Shante Morgan Durisseau*

**General Education Units**

- Fall: UNIV 150 Critical Thinking (A3); COMM 101 Oral Communication (A1); Spring: ENGL Written Communication (A2); BUS/ECON/SOC 203 Social Sciences (D)
**Multicultural Mission Pillar**

**Discovery Multicultural Learning Community**

This Community centers on inter-cultural communication, social justice, and identity formation. In Fall, students take 6 units together, UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and COMM 101 Public Speaking. In Spring, students have the option to take either ENGL Composition or a first-year Math class. Open to all, especially undeclared students.

**Fall Professors:** Shante Morgan-Durisseau & Vivian Henchy

**General Education Units**

Fall: UNIV 150 Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); COMM 101 Oral Communication (A1) Spring: ENGL Written Communication (A2) OR MATH Quantitative Reasoning (B4)

**UNIV 150-08 (Class # 2707) TTh 12:00pm-1:50pm**

**COMM 101-05 (Class # 1291) M 12:00pm-2:50pm**

The Michele Serros and Bedford and Dr. Irene Pinkard Multicultural Communities listed under the Living-Learning Category are open to all students, not only those living in campus housing.

**International Mission Pillar**

**Discovery International Learning Communities**

Students in this Community will develop critical thinking skills through exploring international perspectives. In Fall, students take 6 units: UNIV 150 First Year Seminar and ENGL 105 Composition and Rhetoric. In Spring, students have the option to take either COMM 101 Public Speaking or a first-year Math class. Open to all, especially undeclared students.

**Fall Professors:** Ron Popenhagen & Scott DeLoach

**General Education Units**

Fall: UNIV 150 (Critical Thinking (A3) or Lifelong Learning (E); ENGL 105 Written Communication (A2); Spring: COMM 101 Oral Communication (A1) OR MATH Quantitative Reasoning (B4)

**UNIV 150-09 (Class #2708) TTH 12:00pm-1:50pm**

**ENGL 105-04 (Class #2346) TTH 10:30am-11:45am**

**UNIV 150-10 (Class #2709) TTH 2:00pm-3:50pm**

**ENGL 105-05 (Class #2346) TTH 10:30am-11:45am**

The Windows on the World (WOW) International Community listed under the Living-Learning Category is open to all students, not only those living in campus housing.

**Integrative Mission Pillar**

**Healthcare Integrative Learning Community**

This Community is for students interested in Nursing, Health Sciences, and related fields. In 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 Spring, students take 7 units together: COMM 101 Public Speaking and BIOL 211 Human Anatomy and Physiology II lecture and lab.

**Fall Professors:** Jessica Hasson & Lorna Profant

**General Education and Pre-requisite Units**

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

**UNIV 150-11 (Class # 2710) TTH 2:00pm-3:50pm**

**BIOL 210-04 (Class # 2846) MWF 11:00am-1:50am**

**BIOL 210-11L (Class # 2847) F 12:00pm-2:50pm**

The Student Undergraduate Research Fellow (SURF) Integrative Community listed under the Living-Learning Category is open to all students, not only those living in campus housing.

**Community Engagement Mission Pillar**

**The Outdoor Adventure Community Engagement Community listed under the Living-Learning Community category is open to all students, not only those living in campus housing.**
Frequently Asked Questions

How do I enroll in a First-Year Community?
Placement is on a first-come, first-served basis in the co-requisite block of classes. Interested students should complete the Learning Community Interest Survey (priority deadline is June 8, 2020) to be considered for pre-registration in a Learning Community. Visit go.csuci.edu/lc for the survey.

You can also self-register in the co-requisite block of classes, space permitting, ahead of Freshman Island View Orientation; be sure to have both courses in your "shopping cart" in order to add the classes.

You can also ask about enrolling in open seats during your Advising session at IVO. If your preferred Community is full, contact marie.francois@csuci.edu to be placed on a waitlist.

Do I have to choose more classes than those associated with the Living-Learning or Learning Community that I enroll in?
Yes, you will need to choose more courses. The courses for First-Year Communities are not a full-load of classes, which is 15 units. You can round out your schedule during self-registration ahead of Island View Orientation.

NOTE: Once enrolled in a First-Year Community, be sure to pay attention to the Spring LC or LCC courses when you register for other Fall classes so you don’t register for a class your LC/LLC offers in the Spring.

Can I enroll in any section of a course that is part of a Community?
No, you must be enrolled in specific designated sections of each course in the Community as noted on this flyer, along with the rest of the students in your cohort. The courses are linked together in the registration system, dropping one of them will trigger dropping the other.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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