FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

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Website: First Year Experience (http://www.shsu.edu/fye/)

Sam Houston State University has developed a comprehensive, coordinated approach toward the first-year experience including first-year seminar courses, learning communities, first-year course schedule building assistance for an optimal experience, New Student Convocation, a Common Reading Program, and a comprehensive offering of leadership opportunities and support strategies for students at SHSU.

Learning communities (http://www.shsu.edu/dept/fye/FLC/) provide students the opportunity to take several classes with the same group of students. The learning communities are designed to foster the intellectual and social development of students through increased interaction with fellow students, faculty, and staff. SHSU learning communities pair courses in the fall and in the spring around an academic major or student interest theme. Living Learning communities provide students the opportunity to take two to three classes with other students who live in the same residence hall. There are planned activities designed to enhance academics as well as to provide a positive social atmosphere outside of the classroom. Each first-year learning community and living learning community is anchored by the UNIV 1101 or the UNIV 1301 course.

UNIV 1101. Learning Frameworks. 1 Hour.
Students explore the science of learning, cognition, and motivation to develop and apply self-directed learning skills to their own academic programs and career development.

UNIV 1301. Intro To Collegiate Studies. 3 Hours.
UNIV 1301 is a seminar designed to enhance the first-year experience for beginning college students and to increase student success in college. The varied content of the course will facilitate a smoother transition into the college culture. Content areas include: goal setting and time management skills, writing skills, test preparation and taking skills, critical thinking skills, major and career exploration, locating and utilizing campus resources, diversity awareness, wellness strategies, money management, and leadership/civic service awareness. Students with junior and senior status will need to contact the First-Year Experience Office for approval.

Prerequisite: Open to all first year students (first-time and transfer) with less than 60 hours of college credit.