

First-Year Seminar (FYS) Proposal

Motion: To require all incoming first time in college (FTIC) students to enroll in a First Year Seminar (FYS) during their first or second semester at WSU starting AY 2021-22, with the course to count toward a general education requirement in the arts, humanities, social sciences or natural sciences (as determined by the general education committee).

Rationale: FYS courses are designed to help new students make a successful transition to campus, both academically and personally. The courses aim to foster a sense of belonging and promote engagement in the curricular and co-curricular life of the university. The current FYS courses, as suggested by the instructional committee, do not have clearly articulated learning outcomes, as well as a revised syllabus that clarifies the required content/structure and the optional parameters to help faculty effectively design their courses. It should be noted, however, that some "pilot fatigue" is setting in. A large number of faculty have expressed

indicated they would attend a workshop on course design and incorporate gen ed content to the course design. A half day workshop to link gen ed content to the course design. A half day support faculty. By requiring a First Year Seminar and linking it with the providing a solid foundation for success for freshmen and supporting the

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With 1600 FTIC students in sections of 25, we would need 64 sections per year. The goal would be for 45 unique sections and 19 repeated sections. At \$2500 per course, the c

videos, and/or resource guides) and **at least three** of the following components: financial literacy, goal setting, degree planning, career planning, time management, stress management/mental health tips, study skills, test taking tips, note taking tips.¹ As part of WSU's commitment to applied and experiential learning, all courses should require attendance at (or viewing of) Convocation, as well as including a beyond-the-

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¹ Instructors can readily draw on expert resources across campus to provide content in these student success topics. Resources include: Library personnel, the Office of Student Success, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Counseling Center, the Career Development Center, and the Office of Student Money Management.

² Examples of beyond-the-class opportunities include but are not limited to campus lecture/speaker's series, cultural performances, service learning, community service, leadership programs or workshops, a diversity event, a campus club/organization event, a residence hall program, an Outdoor Recreation program. Inviting students to write a reflection paper or journal entry on their experience(s) or engage in small group discussion can further develop their writing and speaking skills.