

University Life – IE Report 2017-2018

Name of Program/Department:	University Life
Year:	2017-2018
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Program Mission Statement

- The mission of University Life is to provide incoming students with strategies to acclimate them to Francis Marion University’s physical, educational, and social community in a personally beneficial and successful manner. Students will learn the necessary academic, university, social, and cultural skills and strategies needed to succeed in the university environment.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

1. Academic Skills:
 - a. Students will learn to navigate the advising process to develop academic and career goals as they create a plan for graduation.
2. University Skills:
 - a. Students will develop skills for academic and personal success utilizing the campus resources available to them.
3. Social and Cultural Skills:
 - a. Students will be introduced to strategies to develop their social and emotional intelligence, personal wellbeing, and cultural appreciation.

Executive Summary of Report

The University Life program has been integrated in FMU’s new Center for Academic Success and Advisement (CASA), which began operation in Fall 2016. In CASA, UL 100 courses now work in strong coordination with first-year advising, academic resources, and the career development office. This new organization gives greater oversight and structure to the UL 100 program.

To improve the UL 100 institutional effectiveness evaluation for 2017-2018, a committee was formed to develop consistent SLOs shared across course sections, along with a pre- and post-survey system for more inclusive data collection and assessment to refine baselines and benchmarks. Areas requiring improvement will be addressed through providing additional resources to faculty for instruction and sharing assessment tools to faculty for data collection. In addition, instructors will participate in a pre-semester UL 100 workshop to learn about the results from the previous year’s data and share instructional techniques with fellow faculty. Areas requiring improvement will also be stressed, where appropriate, in training of Patriot Mentors, undergraduate student leaders embedded in each UL 100 course.

The data of this report is based primarily on a new pre-course survey (completion rate = 31.28%; N= 218/697) and post-course survey (completion rate = 17.50%; N=122/697) distributed to students who took UL 100 in Fall 2017. Participation in this survey was voluntary and anonymous.

The survey indicates successful instruction in the areas of academic advising and planning, use of most campus resources that students were able to identify, and personal and social responsibility. The student survey results also indicate that instruction needs to be strengthened in the areas of time management, study skills, and familiarity with personal counseling and student health resources on campus.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

1. Academic Skill Development:
 - a. Students will identify and apply skills needed for academic success including time management, effective studying and note taking, and goal setting.
 - b. Students will understand the advising process and construct a schedule and plan for graduation within their chosen major.
 - c. Students will examine career paths related to their chosen major.
2. University Skill Development
 - a. Students will identify, locate, and utilize campus resources including CASA, Office of Testing and Counseling, Student Health, Career Development, etc.
 - b. Students will identify, locate, and utilize resources in Rogers Library.
 - c. Students will gain familiarity with financial literacy and the responsibilities associated with financial aid.
3. Social and Cultural Skill Development
 - a. Students will understand the benefits and responsibilities of membership in the FMU Community.
 - b. Students will participate in at least one campus cultural event.
 - c. Students will reflect on health and wellness practices during their university experience and beyond.

Assessment Methods

1. Academic Skill Development– Assessment method for each item is a post-course survey.
 - a. Students will identify and apply skills needed for academic success including time management, effective studying and note taking, and goal setting.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand the importance of time management	87.84%	90%	
Improve notetaking skills	56.76%	90%	
Develop strategies to study effectively	61.65%	90%	
Identify different study habits than those needed in high school	83.57%	80%	
Understand how to prioritize their time to achieve success in college	91.79%	80%	

- b. Students will understand the advising process and construct a schedule and plan for graduation within their chosen major.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Have created a 4-year plan for graduation based on the major requirements for their degree	71.62%	90%	
Have understood the degree requirements for their major	94.67%	90%	
Have met with their advisor and understand the advising process	89.19%	90%	
Locate and read their Degree Audit	90.67%	80%	

- c. Students will examine career paths related to their chosen major.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Selected a career focus	55.41%	90%	
Become familiar with Career Development	52.70%	90%	

2. University Skill Development– Assessment method for each item is a post-course survey.

- a. Students will identify, locate, and utilize campus resources including CASA, Office of Testing and Counseling, Student Health, Career Development, etc.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand how to navigate campus and find classrooms	88.00%	80%	
Understand where to go for help with mental and emotional stress	46.66%	90%	
Understand where to go for academic counseling	64.00%	90%	
Have located and/or used the Writing Center or	69.87%	80%	

Tutoring Center at least once			
Understand where the Financial Aid office is located	NA	90%	

b. Students will identify, locate, and utilize resources in Rogers Library.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Have used the library for at least one assignment	89.33%	80%	

c. Students will gain familiarity with financial literacy and the responsibilities associated with financial aid.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Have familiarity with financial literacy and money management	NA	80%	
Understand how student loans are structured and how they can impact future credit	NA	80%	

3. Social and Cultural Skill Development– Assessment method for each item is a post-course survey.

a. Students will articulate the benefits and responsibilities of membership in the FMU Community.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand where to find the FMU Student Handbook	70.67%	90%	
Understand the FMU Honor Code	58.11%	90%	
Understand their responsibilities as a college student	92.00%	90%	
Know the campus organizations that they have the option to join	69.34%	80%	

b. Students will participate in one campus cultural event.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Participate on one campus event (art show, guest speaker, play, athletic event, or organization event).	86.67%	80%	

c. Students will reflect on health and wellness practices during their university experience and beyond.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand where the Student Health Center is located	81.33%	80%	
Understand where the Counseling and Testing Center is located	52.00%	80%	
Understand where the gym facilities are on campus	89.33%	80%	

Assessment Results

1. Academic Skill Development

a. Students will identify and apply skills needed for academic success including time management, effective studying and note taking, and goal setting.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Understand the importance of time management	90.17%	90%	Achieved
Improve notetaking skills	95.08%	90%	Achieved
Develop strategies to study effectively	85.96%	90%	Not Achieved

Identify different study habits than those needed in high school	87.70%	80%	Achieved
Understand how to prioritize their time to achieve success in college	88.52%	80%	Achieved

- b. Students will understand the advising process and construct a schedule and plan for graduation within their chosen major.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Have created a 4-year plan for graduation based on the major requirements for their degree	88.89%	90%	Not Achieved
Have understood the degree requirements for their major	97.44%	90%	Achieved
Have met with their advisor and understand the advising process	100.00%	90%	Achieved
Locate and read their Degree Audit	96.58%	80%	Achieved

- c. Students will examine career paths related to their chosen major.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Selected a career focus	89.74%	90%	Not achieved
Become familiar with Career Development	73.77%	90%	Not achieved

2. University Skill Development

- a. Students will identify, locate, and utilize campus resources including Rogers Library, CASA, Office of Testing and Counseling, Student Health, etc.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Understand how to navigate campus and find classrooms	88.21%	80%	Achieved

Understand where to go for help with mental and emotional stress	51.64%	90%	Not Achieved
Understand where to go for academic counseling	100%	90%	Achieved
Have located and/or used the Writing Center or Tutoring Center at least once	97.54%	80%	Achieved
Understand where the Financial Aid office is located	94.02%	90%	Achieved

b. Students will identify, locate, and utilize resources in Rogers Library.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Have visited the library for at least one assignment	99.18%	80%	Achieved

c. Students will gain familiarity with financial literacy and the responsibilities associated with financial aid.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result	Benchmark	Goal
Have familiarity with financial literacy and money management	80.17%	80%	Achieved
Understand how student loans are structured and how they can impact future credit	89.74%	80%	Achieved

3. Social and Cultural Skill Development

a. Students will articulate the benefits and responsibilities of membership in the FMU Community.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand where to find the FMU Student Handbook	88.89%	90%	Not achieved

Understand the FMU Honor Code	85.47%	90%	Not achieved
Understand their responsibilities as a college student	98.29%	90%	Achieved
Know the campus organizations that they have the option to join	88.03%	80%	Achieved

b. Students will participate in one campus cultural event.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Participate on one campus event (art show, guest speaker, play, athletic event, or organization event).	97.44%	80%	Achieved

c. Students will reflect on health and wellness practices during their university experience and beyond.

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Baseline	Benchmark	Goal
Understand where the Student Health Center is located	74.14%	80%	Not Achieved
Understand where the Counseling and Testing Center is located	55.17%	80%	Not achieved
Understand where the gym facilities are on campus	99.18%	80%	Achieved

Action Items

Assessment Result Deficiencies:

1. Academic Skill Development

- a.** FYS Faculty development will focus on study habits. Sample assignments will be developed and provided to FYS Faculty.
- b.** FYS Faculty will work more closely with CASA to promote student participation in advising and academic planning to help students create an achievable plan for graduation. FYS Faculty will also learn more about

how the new campus Ellucian Colleague system allows students to develop a four-year plan for graduation within their portal.

- c.** Career Development will be implementing a new online career inventory system in Fall 2018. FYS Faculty will be encouraged to have students take the inventory as part of a class assignment, and then refer students to Career Development for further communication about career focus and planning. FYS Faculty will also be encouraged to refer students to Career Development workshops to advance their students' knowledge of career planning strategies.

2. University Skill Development

- a.** First-Year Experience events have been developed to inform first-year students of campus support services. These events will prioritize the Office of Counseling and Testing and Student Health.
- b.** In addition to the Student Health Services presentation provided to students, we are developing a presentation from the Office of Counseling and Testing for first-year students.
- c.** FMU is implementing a new provider for student financial information services to replace SALT. The new service will be used in Fall 2018 FYS courses.

3. Social and Cultural Skill Development

- a.** FYS Faculty will work with the Student Affairs office to develop strategies to get students to locate and understand Student Affairs documents, the Honor Code, and student rights and responsibilities at FMU.
- b.** First-Year Experience events have been developed to inform students about campus support services and programming opportunities at FMU.
- c.** FYS Faculty will work with the Office of Counseling and Testing and the Student Health Center to develop strategies to teach first-year students about good mental health and wellness practices.

4. Assessment Practices

- a.** To improve data collection, FYS Faculty will be strongly encouraged to distribute and collect pre- and post-surveys for UL 100.
- b.** The FYI Coordinator, the FYS Advisor Committee, and the Associate Provost for Advising will discuss revisions to the pre- and post-survey to allow for greater depth of responses related to some goals for the course.