

## University Life – IE Report 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

<b>Name of Program Department:</b>	<b>University Life</b>
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2019-2020 and 2020-2021</b>
<b>Name of Preparer</b>	<b>William K. Bolt/Jennifer Kunka</b>

### 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 prepare 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. Students will discuss strategies to develop their social and emotional intelligence, and personal wellbeing.
4. Students will investigate the topic of diversity and how it correlates to inclusion and cultural appreciation

### Executive Summary of Report

The University Life program has been integrated in FMU’s 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, a committee was formed to develop consistent SLOs shared across course sections, along with a post-survey system for more inclusive data collection and assessment to refine baselines, benchmarks, and targets.. 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 post-course survey. In 2019, 152 students out of 648 students (23.5%) completed the post-course survey. In 2020, 115 students out of 619 students (18.6%) completed the post-course survey. Participation in the post-course survey was voluntary in both years.

The survey indicates successful instruction in the areas of academic advising and planning, use of some campus resources that students identified, and personal and social responsibility. The student survey results also indicate that instruction needs to be augmented in certain areas. Areas needing improvement are addressed at the end of the report.

**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 know how the advising process works 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 Skill Development
  - a. Students will explain the benefits and responsibilities of membership in the FMU Community.
  - b. Students will participate in at least one campus cultural event.
  - c. Students will be introduced to and then tested on health and wellness practices during their university experience.
4. Cultural Skill Development
  - a. Students will explore the meaning of diversity and analyze why it is important.

**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.

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Understand the importance of time management	86.0%	90%	95%
Improve notetaking skills	90.5%	90%	95%
Develop strategies to study effectively	78.9%	90%	90%

Identify different study habits than those needed in high school	76.4%	80%	90%
Understand how to prioritize their time to achieve success in college	85.2%	80%	95%

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Have created a 4-year plan for graduation based on the major requirements for their degree	91.3%	90%	95%
Have understood the degree requirements for their major	94.8%	90%	95%
Have met with their advisor and understand the advising process	100%	90%	95%
Locate and read their Degree Audit	98.3%	85%	90%

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Selected a career focus	89.7%	90%	95%
Become familiar with career development	68.2%	75%	85%

2. University Skill Development—Assessment method for each item in 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.

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Understand how to navigate campus and find classrooms	86.6%	85%	95%
Understand where to go for help with mental and emotional stress	61.7%	65%	80%
Understand where to go for academic counseling	98.9%	90%	95%
Have located and/or used the Writing Center or Tutoring Center at least once	96.2%	90%	95%
Understand where the Financial Aid office is located	93.9%	90%	95%

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 10, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Have located the library and used it for at least one assignment	98.9%	90%	95%

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Have familiarity with financial literacy and	84.7%	85%	85%

money management			
Understand how student loans are structured and how they can impact future credit	89.5%	85%	85%

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.

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Understand where to find the FMU Student Handbook	91.3%	90%	95%
Understand the FMU Honor Code	88.3%	90%	95%
Understand their responsibilities as a college student	99.2%	90%	95%
Know the campus organizations that they have the option to join	85.5%	85%	90%

b. Students will participate in one campus cultural event.

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Participate in one campus event (art show, guest speaker, play, athletic event, or organization event).	96.7%	90%	95%

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

<b>Upon Completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Baseline (2017-2019)</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>
Understand where the Student health Center is located	78.0%	75%	90%
Understand where the Counseling and Testing Center is located	63.5%	75%	90%
Understand where the gym facilities are located on campus	97.0%	90%	95%

### **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.

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Result 2019</b>	<b>Result 2020</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Understand the importance of time management	98.7%	95.7%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b>
Improve notetaking skills	100%	93.9%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in</b>

					<b>2019 but not in 2020</b>
Develop strategies to study effectively	59.2%	58.3%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Identify different study habits than those needed in high school	96.7%	93.9%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020 Target: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b>
Understand how to prioritize their time to achieve success in college	96.7%	94.8%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020 Target: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b>

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Result 2019</b>	<b>Result 2020</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Have created a 4-year plan for graduation based on the major requirements for their degree	94.1%	90.4%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Have understood the degree	45.4%	49.6%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Not achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>

requirements for their major					<b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Have met with their advisor and understand the advising process	94.7%	99.1%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020 Target: Not Achieved in 2019 but achieved in 2020</b>
Locate and read their Degree Audit	86.2%	83.5%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>

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

Upon completion of UL 100, students will	Result 2019	Result 2020	Benchmark	Target	Outcomes
Selected a career focus	99.3%	86.1%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020 Target: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b>
Become familiar with Career Development	79.0%	79.1%	75%	85%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>



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 2019	Result 2020	Benchmark	Target	Outcomes
Understand how to navigate campus and find classrooms	73.2%	76.5%	85%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand where to go for help with mental and emotional stress	97.4%	97.4%	65%	80%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b>
Understand where to go for academic counseling	99.3%	86.1%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b>
Have located and/or used the Writing Center or Tutoring Center at least once	93.4%	90.4%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand where the Financial Aid office is located	72.1%	87.0%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Not achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>

					<b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
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b. Students will identify, locate, and utilize resources in Rogers Library.

<b>Upon completion of UL 10, students will</b>	<b>Result 2019</b>	<b>Result 2020</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Have located the library and used it for at least one assignment	79.6%	80.9%	90%	<b>95%</b>	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 and 2020</b>

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

<b>Upon completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Result 2019</b>	<b>Result 2020</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Have familiarity with financial literacy and money management	66.5%	69.0%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand how student loans are structured and how they can impact future credit	77.6%	87.0%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in 2019 but achieved in 2020 Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>

### 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	Result 2019	Result 2020	Benchmark	Target	Outcomes
Understand where to find the FMU Student Handbook	91.5%	85.2%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand the FMU Honor Code	90.1%	86.1%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in either 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand their responsibilities as a college student	97.4%	97.4%	90%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b>
Know the campus organizations that they have the option to join	93.0%	89.6%	85%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Achieved in both 2019 and 2020</b> <b>Target: Achieved in 2019 but not in 2020</b>

- b. Students will participate in one campus cultural event.

Upon completion of	Result 2019	Result 2020	Benchmark	Target	Outcomes
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<b>UL 100, students will</b>					
Participate in one campus event (art show, guest speaker, play, athletic event, or organization event).	96.7%	Not Applicable	80%	95%	<b>Not Applicable</b>

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

<b>Upon Completion of UL 100, students will</b>	<b>Result 2019</b>	<b>Result 2020</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Understand where the Student Health Center is located	56.6%	59.1%	80%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand where the Counseling and Testing Center is located	67.8%	71.3%	80%	90%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b>
Understand where the gym facilities are located on campus	79.0%	79.1%	80%	95%	<b>Benchmark: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b> <b>Target: Not Achieved in 2019 or 2020</b>

### Action Items

#### Assessment Result Deficiencies

#### 1. Academic Skills Development

- a. Students did not meet the benchmark to develop strategies to study effectively in both 2019 and 2020. FYS Seminar Faculty will devote more class time to improving study habits in the Fall of 2021. A video could be created by a FYS

faculty member discussing study habits. This would augment the material students learned about in class.

- b. Students did not meet the benchmark for having understood the degree requirements for their major in both 2019 and 2020. FYS instructors will have to devote more time in class to covering the major requirements. Perhaps a video can be created that discusses what a major is and why it is important for students to select one early on in their college career.
  - c. Students did not meet the benchmark to select a career focus in 2020. The annual career fair will be stressed to students in all University Life classes. FYS instructors can make attending the career fair a part of their course or could make it an extra credit assignment.
2. University Skill Development
- a. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding how to navigate campus and find classrooms in both 2019 and 2020. FYS instructors will be urged to spend more time analyzing the map of campus so students recognize where building and class rooms are located. The benchmark was not met perhaps as a result of COVID-19, which prevented FYS instructors from taking students on tours across campus. Incoming freshmen were limited in their tours of campus during orientation as a result of social distancing. With a return to normality pending, this number should increase and our benchmark will be met.
  - b. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding where the Financial Aid Office was located in both 2019 and 2020. FYS instructors will be asked to make sure students are taken to and shown where the Financial Aid Office is located. A video, which discusses the location of the Financial Aid office, will also be created to aid students.
  - c. Students did not meet the benchmark for having used the Rogers Library for at least one assignment in both 2019 and 2020. For a large part of the Fall semester the library was closed. Materials could be obtained only through a request. With the library now open students have access to all the materials inside of it. FYS instructors could make it a requirement in their courses to obtain a book or article from the library.
  - d. Students did not meet the benchmark for having familiarity with financial literacy and money management in both 2019 and 2020. The Financial Office had some personnel issues and could not complete a video for University Life. Hopefully they can complete that video. Even if they cannot, they should be able to deliver an in-person presentation for students this semester. This would help students become more cognizant of money management. If a video cannot be created on campus there are numerous videos available that can be shown that cover the importance of financial familiarity.
3. Social and Cultural Skill Development
- a. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding where to find the FMU Student Handbook in 2020. Since this is probably covered during the first class session, FYS instructors will be encouraged to review this important topic at the very end of the semester.

- b. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding the FMU Honor Code in 2020. FYS instructors will be urged to go over this again at the end of the semester since it is covered during the first class session.
- c. Students did not meet the benchmark for participating in one campus event in 2020 because there were no events during the fall. With a return to normal operating procedures this will be remedied.
- d. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding where the Student Health Center is located in 2019 and 2020. Students could not go on tours of campus during the fall semester. Any tour would have included a trip to the Student Health Center especially since this is where students would have gone to get tested for COVID-19. With a normal semester on the horizon, FYS instructors will be able to take students to the Student Health Center as part of their campus tours.
- e. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding where the Counseling and Testing Center is located in 2019 and 2020. The Testing and Counseling Center is located across the street. Prior to her departure, Dr. Rebecca Lawson always delivered an excellent presentation on the Counseling Center and its odd location on campus. Her successor will be asked to stress this point. FYS instructors will be asked to cover the location of the Counseling and Testing Center in more detail.
- f. Students did not meet the benchmark for understanding where the gym facilities are located on campus in both 2019 and 2020. FYS instructors will be urged to take their students to the University Center and remind them that the gym is located in this building.

## INDIRECT ASSESMENT FOR UNIVERSITY LIFE

Please complete the following questions.

How satisfied are you with:	Very Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Satisfied	Only somewhat satisfied	Not satisfied at all
Your ability to find CASA					
Your ability to find materials in the library					
Your ability to make an academic schedule					
Your ability to take notes					
Your ability to manage your time					
Your ability to find various resources on campus					
Your ability to manage finances					
The cultural events on campus					
Your knowledge of the importance of diversity					