Aligning FYE to Strategic Plans

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Why Offer Student Success Courses?

- Colleges (especially community colleges) are becoming more ethnically, linguistically, and age diverse.
  - Many students are non-traditional, come from lower socio-economic backgrounds, are academically underprepared, and are first generation college students.
  - Colleges must offer programs and support to help students overcome these barriers.
Experiences in the first six weeks of college are linked with persistence, academic performance, and increased graduation.

FYE courses positively impact academic and social integration, which are linked to persistence.
FYE Courses Also…
- Keep tuition paying students enrolled
- Help with recruitment and marketing to prospective students
- Improve ratings in surveys such as *U.S. News and Reports* (retention)
- Align with institutional missions of graduating students and preparing them for the workforce

Finally FYE Courses
- Provide educational life skills
- Create a sense of belonging
- Promote student involvement
A Strategic Plan is an organization’s clearly defined direction or strategy that unifies the vision and mission of the institution; this plan should also guide how decisions are made to allocate resources in pursuit of the plan.
- FYE courses generally align with the strategic plan, mission, and values of institutions

- Focus should be given to the specific needs of the institution

- Evaluate research on high impact practices for FYE courses
Strategic Plan

Best Practices

Institutional Needs

FYE Courses
Research Based Best Practices for Student Success Course Curriculum

- Study Skills
- Campus Policies
- Campus Engagement/Resources
- Peer Connections
- Health Education
- Academic/Life Management Skills
- Career Exploration and Academic Planning
Barefoot and Fidler 5 Types of FYE Courses

- Extended orientation
- Academic seminars with uniform content
- Academic seminars with variable content
- Introduction to a discipline or professional seminars
- Basic study skills seminars

*Hybrid versions
Vision
Houston Community College is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering a high-quality, affordable education for academic advancement, workforce training, career development, and lifelong learning to prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in a global and technological society.

Mission
- Houston Community College will equitably deliver relevant, high-quality education and training, ensuring success for all students, our community, economy and beyond.
HCCS EDUC 1300: Learning Framework SLOs

1. Develop and use an academic/personal/professional action plan to include long-term goals, with detailed emphasis on time spent at HCCS.
2. Identify and use strategies to manage your time, energy, finances, and personal responsibilities.
3. Identify and use various services at HCCS.
4. Identify strategies to increase learning, motivation, memory, test-taking abilities, note-taking abilities, and reading comprehension.
5. Learn and practice essential skills of academic, career, and personal success.
Maintaining an FYE Course

- Reviewing Strategic Plans
- Reviewing Institutional Priorities
- Redesigning Curriculum
- Responding to Institutional Needs
References


