

University Core Curriculum

Core Curriculum

Fairleigh Dickinson University requires all students to complete a common University Core curriculum. The four courses making up the University Core program serve to fulfill the promise of the University's global learning mission: to prepare students for responsible citizenship in the global community and for professional success in the global economy. In most cases, students will complete the University Core sequence during their first and second years at FDU, providing a foundation for more advanced studies.

In addition to promoting essential academic and professional skills such as critical thinking, information literacy, self-awareness and self-development, the University Core program is designed 1) to foster international and intercultural perspectives that will give students a way of looking at the world as well as at their own countries and communities; 2) to promote understanding of individual, societal and global perspectives; and 3) to inculcate an appreciation for the interrelationships among bodies of knowledge generated in individual disciplines.

The four University Core courses are:

UNIV1001 Transitioning to University Life (1 credit)

UNIV1002 Preparing for Professional Life (1 credit)

UNIV2001 Cross-cultural Perspectives (3 credits)

UNIV2002 Global Issues (3 credits)

Complete course descriptions are available at Course Descriptions, University Core on page 278.

Academic Regulations

No more than one Core course may be taken in any one semester. For entering freshmen, the order in which University Core courses are to be taken is as follows:

First Semester — UNIV1001

Transitioning to University Life

Second Semester — UNIV1002

Preparing for Professional Life

Third or Fourth Semester — UNIV2001

Cross-cultural Perspectives

Fourth or Fifth Semester — UNIV2002

Global Issues

All students should consult with an academic adviser before preparing their schedules in order to make certain that they are scheduled for the appropriate University Core course and that they have satisfied all prerequisites.

Students must complete UNIV1001 Transitioning to University Life before taking UNIV1002 Preparing for Professional Life. Students must take UNIV1001 Transitioning to University Life and UNIV1002 Preparing for Professional Life as well as either ENG1101 College Writing Workshop or ENWR1101 Academic Writing or ENGL1101 English Composition I or ENGL1111 Literature and Composition I before taking either UNIV2001 Cross-cultural Perspectives or UNIV2002 Global Issues. Students must complete UNIV2001 Cross-cultural Perspectives before taking UNIV2002 Global Issues.

Each campus has a University Core director who administers the program for that campus. Online and off-campus programs are also administered by a University Core director. These directors are responsible for enforcing academic regulations for the University Core program.

Transfer Students and Adult Learners

Students entering the University with 30 or more credits will be exempted from taking UNIV1001 Transitioning to University Life. Students entering the University with 45 or more credits will be exempted from taking UNIV1002 Preparing for Professional Life. Transfer students may request a waiver from the campus Core director based on their academic record and experience.

Adult learners also will be exempted from taking UNIV1001 Transitioning to University Life and UNIV1002 Preparing for Professional Life.

All students must take UNIV2001 Cross-cultural Perspectives and UNIV2002 Global Issues regardless of the number of transfer credits.

Substitutions

Every semester, courses that have been authorized as substitutes for University Core courses, along with any restrictions, will be listed in the course offerings on WebAdvisor.