FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

Summer Bridge
bridge.iupui.edu

Themed Learning Communities (TLC)
tlc.iupui.edu

First-Year Seminars
ucfy@iupui.edu
First-Year Experience Programs

At IUPUI we place a special emphasis on your first year of college. Through research and experience, we know that foundations built during this year are key to your success. First-Year Experience (FYE) programs are designed to help you get comfortable on campus, connect with the university, and begin your academic career.

FOUNDATION

1. Start with the foundation:

First-Year Seminar
The foundation for all first-year experience programs is known as the first-year seminar, or FYS. An FYS is a 1–2 credit hour course designed to support the success of new students. Through these seminars, you will explore academic, career, and co-curricular opportunities at IUPUI by working with faculty, advisors, and student mentors. You have options when it comes to selecting an FYS. Each choice offers a unique perspective on your first year. At orientation, you will explore the different first-year experience options with your advisor and choose the one that best fits with your goals and interests.

FORMAT

2. Pick a format that works for you:

The Standalone FYS
A standalone FYS offers students the most flexibility in their schedules by allowing them to choose any combination of academic courses.

FYS + Summer Bridge
With Summer Bridge, students get a kick start to college math, English, and presentation skills in addition to sessions specific to their majors. Once the semester begins, you will attend a weekly FYS that builds on your learning from the summer. The rest of your schedule can be customized to your major.

FYS + Themed Learning Community (TLC)
TLCs enhance student learning by combining two or more academic courses with a first-year seminar; the content for each course relates back to a central theme. TLCs are built around majors and topics such as social justice or healthcare. Students must register for all courses within a TLC but may add additional courses if desired.

FYS + Summer Bridge + Themed Learning Community (TLC)
This option combines both the Summer Bridge and TLC experiences into one comprehensive program. Students participate in the eight-day summer experience and then participate in an FYS and TLC in the fall. Students may add additional courses for the fall.

FOCUS

3. Narrow down your focus:

Major  Topic  Interest

IUPUI First-Year Experience programs also vary in focus. Whether you want a standalone FYS, Summer Bridge, or a TLC, each type provides options that are focused on a specific major, interest, or topic. Your academic advisor will walk you through the options for your school or major so that you can pick the right fit for your learning style and career goals. Regardless of the format and focus you choose, you are sure to have a great experience as you transition to your life as an IUPUI student.