11. First Year Experience

The First Year Experience Program (http://utsa.edu/fye) offers programming for first-year students that is designed to ease the transition from high school to college and facilitate academic and personal success at UTSA. Specifically, the First Year Experience Program provides a Peer Mentor Program, linked-course offerings, and guidance in choosing an appropriate major.

All first-year college students are admitted into University College and participate in a comprehensive First Year Experience Program designed to help transition to university life. In UTSA’s First-Year Experience Program students will participate in a Peer Mentor Program; complete Academic Inquiry and Scholarship (AIS 1203), a Core Curriculum course designed to orient first-year students to the different fields of study within an Academic Pathway while enhancing essential academic skills such as critical thinking and communication skills; have the opportunity to enroll in linked courses; and participate in various campus events designed to enhance the success of first-year students.

**Academic Inquiry and Scholarship (AIS) Courses**

AIS 1203. Academic Inquiry and Scholarship. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Academic Inquiry and Scholarship is designed to orient first-year college students to the fields of study within an academic pathway. This course develops critical thinking, communication, social responsibility, and leadership skills. This course also provides an opportunity for students to better understand the core values, cultures, and assumptions within fields of study through involvement in a signature experience within an academic pathway. This course is required to fulfill the Core Curriculum First Year Experience requirement. Generally offered: Fall. Course Fee: LRU1 $36.

AIS 2913. Independent Study: Advanced Academic Inquiry. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: AIS 1203. Independent reading, research, and writing under the direction of a faculty member. Intensive coverage of the fields of study within an academic pathway and fulfillment of signature experience. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

**College Success Seminar (CSS) Courses**

CSS 1201. College Success Seminar. (1-0) 1 Credit Hour.
A course to help students improve college-level study skills and mastery learning techniques based on current research. This course is taught within the Tomas Rivera Center. May be repeated.

University Peer Mentorship (UPM) Courses

UPM 1000. University Peer Mentorship Experience. (0-0) 0 Credit Hours.
The University Peer Mentorship Experience provides a peer-mentor who will help students navigate campus life at UTSA. Students will have an opportunity to develop a broader understanding of UTSA by participating in programming designed to assist in the academic and social transition from high school to college. This Experience is limited to first- and second-semester freshmen and freshmen transfer students. The Experience is completed during the semester immediately following or prior to completion of AIS 1203.