First-Year Experience - Goals & Objectives

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:

Eastern embraces rigorous academic standards and intellectual inquiry as a benchmark for educational achievement for all of its students, faculty, and staff. This expectation informs every mode of learning on campus, from individual courses and degree programs to university presentations and cultural events.

**FYE Goal:** Assist every first time, full time student towards a successful transition from high school to college level academics and to promote academic success.

Objectives - Students will:

- Understand what it means to think critically.
- Be able to apply knowledge to solving problems.
- Practice effective college level skills in reading, writing, studying, library research and presenting oral reports.
- Learn to reach out to Academic Services Center for academic support.
- Understand that there can be interconnections between all academic disciplines.
- Be introduced to Eastern's liberal arts tradition.

INTEGRITY:

Members of the university community are expected to behave ethically and honorably. Learning encompasses both intellectual and character development.

**FYE Goal:** Help first-year students understand the importance of modeling good behavior and respecting themselves and their community.

Objectives - Students will:

- Clarify personal values as guiding principles of their actions.
- Practice academic honesty and exhibit ethical conduct.
- Recognize their decisions reflect the larger community.
- Realize accountability for their actions.

INCLUSION:

Eastern is committed to providing educational access while building a campus community that embraces diversity and differences, enriched by a global perspective.

**FYE Goal:** Provide opportunities for new students to develop multicultural awareness and cultural competence.

Objectives - Students will:

- Understand the importance of appreciating cultural, religious, racial and sexual orientation differences.
- Learn to tolerate and affirm differences among all people.
- Understand how a person’s culture influences his/her view of the world.
ENGAGEMENT:

Members of the university community develop intellectually, creatively and socially through active and reflective learning in and outside the classroom, interdisciplinary studies, and individual and collaborative research.

**FYE Goal:** Provide students with information about campus resources and opportunities available on campus while establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships within the university community and a connectedness to campus life.

Objectives- Students will:

- Work collaboratively and build trusting relationships with fellow students, staff and faculty both in and out of the classroom.
- Explore areas of personal development and opportunities to innovate, grow and improve.
- Be encouraged to become active in student club and organization membership and to hold student leadership positions.
- Attend campus events including, but not limited to University hours, Arts & Lectures Series, Community Service events and campus wide programming.

EMPOWERMENT:

Eastern fosters a safe, nurturing environment that promotes intellectual curiosity, student achievement and lifelong learning. Through rigorous inquiry and personal interaction, members of the community grow confident as independent, critical thinkers.

**FYE Goal:** Enable students to develop effective personal leadership development skills that will enhance their ability to become leaders who will contribute to the greater community.

Objectives- Students will:

- Learn effective time management skills, as well as oral and written communication skills.
- Discover how to use campus resources to manage their successful path towards graduation.
- Understand the value and application of a Liberal Arts education.
- Gain confidence in their ability to reach their career goals and practice professionalism.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Social responsibility is promoted and encouraged at Eastern through service to those in need, being active in the community, protecting our natural resources, engaging in the democratic political process, and other socially responsible actions. Social responsibility includes an ethical commitment to oneself and the community at large.

**FYE Goal:** Encourage students to be socially responsible by enlisting in civic engagement and service learning projects on campus and in the local community.

Objectives- Students will:

- Understand the impact of civic engagement and recognize how their contributions can produce significant results.
- Be encouraged to become registered voters and actively participate in the democratic process.
- Learn civility and practice socially responsible behavior.