College Success Initiatives

Coordinator

- Lisa Ingram

College Success Initiatives (CSI) courses are designed to support new first year and transfer students in their transition to the University of Iowa. In addition, CSI courses enrich students’ experiences, develop their academic skills, and prepare them for college-level learning.

College Success Initiatives courses are administered by the associate provost for undergraduate education through the Academic Advising Center and University College.

Courses

College Success Initiatives Courses

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 CSI:1213 Special Topics I
Special topics offered through University College.

 CSI:1214 Special Topics II
Special topics offered through University College.

 CSI:1215 Exploring Liberal Arts
Introduction to the benefits of exposure to opportunities made available through higher education, particularly in liberal arts/humanities fields; focus on literacies practiced in a liberal arts curriculum—reading, writing, speaking, and listening; students gain a basic understanding of how their development in these practices support their self-efficacy in academic success, obtaining employment, being a productive citizen, and living a fulfilling life.

 CSI:1217 Singing, Reflecting, and Writing in a Choir
Students explore musical, social, and civic learning opportunities through group singing—practicing solfège, improvising, reading traditional music notation, developing rhythmic competencies (e.g., performing a steady beat, understanding meter, practicing vocal techniques)—and writing reflectively and critically on choral singing in prisons.

 CSI:1220 Green Adventures: This is What Happens
Designed for students of the Green Adventures Living Learning Community; basic sustainability practices and education; opportunity for experiential education; help students incorporate sustainable practices into daily life and academic, professional, and cocurricular experiences.

 CSI:1230 Exploring Social Justice
Definition of social justice; current issues involving social justice at local level and larger macro level; for students in the Justice for All Living Learning Community (LLC).

 CSI:1250 Introduction to Law Study and Legal Careers
Introduction to legal education and careers; exploration of role of law in society, nature of legal education, careers in law, and current legal issues; opportunity for students to begin reflecting on their own interest in this field.

 CSI:1270 Strategies for Veteran Success
Promotion of academic success, improve retention of student veterans, and assist in cultivating a systematic approach to career planning and decision making; primary focus on available resources, identification of individual goals and strengths, development and application of study skills and time management strategies, and problem solving related to personal issues or barriers that could impede student transition and academic performance; for student veterans and service members in academic transition from active duty military or guard/reserve status to the University of Iowa.

 CSI:1280 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step I
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; first in a series of courses.

 CSI:1281 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step I
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; second in a series of courses.

 CSI:1290 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step II
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; third in a series of courses.

 CSI:1020 Academic Seminar I
Development of knowledge and skills essential for academic success at college level; reading, writing, and communication skills; focus on reading comprehension, class discussion, and development of writing process; various narratives including published collections of essays and peers’ texts; writing process and techniques, and components that bring each piece together. Requirements: IowaLink participant.

 CSI:1021 Academic Seminar II
Continued development of knowledge and skills necessary for academic success; reading, writing, and communication skills; experimentation with ethnographic research methods, exploration of cultures and subcultures; writing about findings in various experimental forms, using as a model, short ethnographic essays, excerpts from a graphic novel; focus on reading comprehension strategies, class discussion, and development of writing process. Requirements: IowaLink participant. Recommendations: CSI:1020.

 CSI:1100 College Transition Seminar
College culture, University of Iowa resources, refinement of study skills, test taking, identification of personal values, self-motivation, goal setting; taught in small sections with emphasis on classroom discussion. Requirements: entering first-year student.

 CSI:1101 College Transition Workshop
Preparation for affiliated lecture course; practical context to apply, evaluate, and refine study skills strategies explored in CSI:1100; expand study strategies, enhance grasp of affiliated course material, and apply study skills to future course work. Corequisites: CSI:1100. Requirements: concurrent enrollment in a CIC affiliated lecture course.

 CSI:1102 First-Year Seminar
Introduction to the intellectual life of the University; opportunity to work closely with a faculty member or senior administrator; active participation that eases the transition to college-level learning.

 CSI:1210 Peer Led Undergraduate Study (PLUS)
Peer guided and facilitated academic support focusing on quantitative problem solving skills; students discuss course material, address multiple course concepts, and develop tools and skills for effective study habits.
CSI:1291 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step II 1 s.h.
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; fourth in a series of courses.

CSI:1380 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step III 1 s.h.
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; fifth in a series of courses.

CSI:1381 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step III 1 s.h.
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; sixth in a series of courses.

CSI:1390 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step IV 1 s.h.
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; seventh in a series of courses.

CSI:1391 Steps to Success for TRIO: Step IV 1 s.h.
Learning about and adjusting to the University of Iowa for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students; eighth in a series of courses.

CSI:1400 The Passport Project: Exploring Iowa and Iowa City 1 s.h.
Attendance and discussion at 12 events of student's choice, selected from the University and Iowa City's rich cultural offerings.

CSI:1450 Exploring Iowa and Iowa City: Passport Project Colloquium 3 s.h.
Opportunities for peer mentors involved in CSI:1400; activities include short readings and media screenings related to innovative and best practices in learning and teaching; emphasis on multimodal writing online for peers; informal presentations and reflections; may include work with Passport Projects students, collaboration on development of guidelines and handouts for best practices in writing, and supplemental writing reflections.

CSI:1460 Athletic Transition Seminar 1 s.h.
Overview of the Hawkeye Life Program for new student athletes; foundational pillars for all student athletes at the UI; application of skills in leadership, community engagement, academic success, career development, health and well-being, diversity and inclusion through exploration and application of these pillars; students further examine their academic, personal, and career goals.

CSI:1470 The Hawkeye Life Experience 1 s.h.
Experiential seminar for student athletes; students select events that focus on leadership, community engagement, academic success, career development, health and well-being, and diversity and inclusion from the Hawkeye Life Program; students post written reflections of their experiences online and reflect on their experiences during seminar-style class discussions.

CSI:1490 Flip the Script 1 s.h.
Sexual assault resistance education designed specifically for university women; theory, research evidence, and best practices for helping women resist acquaintance sexual assault; consists of four core units in which information is provided and skills are taught and practiced with the goal of being able to assess risk from acquaintances, overcome emotional barriers in acknowledging danger, and engage in effective verbal and physical self-defense.