

APSU 1000: Connecting University Alignment with Student Exploration

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Introduction



- Student Success Coordinator for APSU 1000 & Peer Leader Program
- University College
- New Student Initiatives
- Oversee APSU 1000, Peer Leader Program, and Alpha Lambda Delta
- Served as the APSU Director of Student-Athlete Development for 5 years
- BA and MSA from Belmont University; Ed.D. from Austin Peay State University
- Born and raised in Hazard, Ky.

Session Objectives

- Identify the ways in which APSU 1000 serves as a high impact educational practice
- Address the importance of alignment with the University Strategic Plan
- Describe the purpose, vision of the course and key assignments within the curriculum
- Discuss the opportunities for University wide collaborative success

APSU 1000 as a High Impact Practice

- First Year Seminar is one of the 10 high impact practices (HIPs) as identified by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (Kuh, 2008)
- Eight Elements of High Impact Practices (Kuh & O'Donnell, 2013)
 - High performance expectations
 - Significant investment of time and effort by students
 - Interactions with faculty and peers about substantive matters
 - Experience with diversity
 - Frequent, timely, and constructive feedback
 - Opportunities to reflect on and integrate learning
 - Real-world learning applications
 - Public demonstration of competence

APSU 1000 as a High Impact Practice

- The literature is full of evidence that FYS contributes toward improvements in:
 - Interaction with faculty
 - Academic performance
 - Satisfaction with the institution
 - Use of campus services
 - Positive perceptions of self-as-learner
 - Active involvement in cocurricular activities
 - Development of interpersonal, academic, and communication skills
 - Enhanced life-long-learning orientation (Padgett et al., 2013)

See (Koch et al., 2017; Padgett et al., 2013; Pascarella & Terenzini, 2005)

First Year Seminar Types

- Traditionally, there have been five FYS formats (Barefoot 1992):
 - Extended orientation seminars
 - Academic courses with uniform content
 - Academic courses with varying content
 - Pre-professional or discipline-linked courses
 - Seminars with a focus on basic study skills

First Year Seminar Types

- Research varies on the format that is most impactful towards retention and student outcomes.
 - Extended orientation style connected to improved student outcomes (Friedman & Marsh, 2009)
 - Extended orientation seminars were positive and significant predictors of first to second year retention, and academic seminars were positive predictors of first-year GPA (Permzadian & Crede, 2016)
 - Benefits of one seminar type over the other were related to the type of students that participated (Weissman & Magill, 2008)

APSU 1000

- APSU 1000 is a mix of an extended orientation seminar and an academic course with uniform content
- This style is appropriate with our current student population

Alignment with University Vision

- APSU 2022-2027 Strategic Plan
 - Opportunity to introduce students to what APSU is and what APSU strives to be
 - How they fit into this vision, and how students can make the most out of their time at APSU
- A tailored audience to communicate all APSU has to offer
- Students first impression of who we are

APSU 1000 Purpose & Assignments

- APSU 1000 is an interdisciplinary course which provides students with a foundation for success. Emphasis is placed on student engagement, support services, library literacy, financial literacy, and academic planning
- The goal of this class is to introduce new students to opportunities, resources, and experiences that will help them assimilate into the APSU community (i.e., Academic Experience, Student Experience, Career Experience, Community Experience)

APSU 1000 Assignments

- Mapping Assignments (Adapted from Brooks, 2010)
 - Personal Wandering Map
 - Major Map
 - Potential Lives Map
- Experience APSU
- Library Research Assignment
- Final Presentation
- Classroom topics/discussion include (Advising/Registration, Campus Resources, Financial Aid, and Career Exploration)

Opportunities for Collaborative Success

- Opportunity for students to meet faculty and staff
- College specific sections
- Safe space that can create lasting relationships
- Intentional thinking about why they are at APSU, and how they can use all that APSU has to offer
- Connect students with other HIPs and campus/student resources
- Help students get where they want to be as quick as possible
- Collaboration breeds new partnerships and ideas centered around student success

Q&A