

First Year Programs

International Student Programming Summary

First Year Programs is responsible for assisting with the transition of all first year undergraduate students to the UW (freshman and transfer students). We do this through various programmatic efforts that take place throughout the first year, and we partner with several offices and departments across campus.

In your area of expertise, what do you/your unit do for international students by the end of the first month at UW? When does that happen (so we can construct a timeline)?

Spring Quarter			
Time of Year	Event Name	Event Description	Estimated Attendance
March	Welcome Booklet (Hosted by Admissions)	Initial communication received by all incoming students outlining their next steps after they confirm their enrollment.	All incoming students
April	International Admitted Student \Preview Day (Hosted by Admissions)	Online and On Campus events welcoming new admitted international students.	Range in size
Summer Quarter - Freshman Advising and Orientation			
Time of Year	Event Name	Event Description	Estimated Attendance
June-September	2 Day On-Campus Program	A 2-Day program at which all incoming students are introduced to unique elements of the university campus and culture, the husky experience, academic advising and policies , health and wellness, class registration system, campus safety, and how to navigate common transitional issues that may arise in the first year. <i>*International students not attending the International A&O program (listed below) will receive email communications with links to international student specific online program content.</i>	<i>Freshmen Confirmed - 6491</i> Total freshman attending an A&O session: 6376 (98%) <i>Domestic Students -5405</i> 2-Day On Campus – 5405 (100%)
July – August (1 Day Online) September (1 Day On-Campus)	1 Day Online & 1 Day On-Campus Program for International Students <i>For International students who cannot arrive on campus prior to September.</i>	This program includes content similar as the 2-Day A&O session listed above. Additionally, the program has specific information about learning in the US classroom, health insurance, and identification of offices that support international students A key piece of the program includes an audit of student schedules after they have completed the online program to alert them of any “advising red flags.” For example, too many “w” courses, non-scheduled courses, or 20+ credit schedules.	<i>International Students - 971</i> 2-Day On Campus - 174 (18%) 1 online, 1 on campus- 797 (82%)

		International students are informed that an adviser is available to answer their advising questions online until the start of the quarter.	
Autumn Quarter			
Time of Year	Event Name	Event Description	Estimated Attendance
September (10 days at the beginning of autumn quarter)	Welcome Week Activities (Dawg Daze)	A suite of programs welcoming all students to campus. Specific international student programming includes events hosted by student organizations and departments.	Attendance varies
September – December (Autumn Quarter)	First-year Interest Groups (FIGS)	FIGs are peer-guided clusters of courses small groups of students take together during their first quarter at the UW. For more than 27 years, FIGs have helped students get connected quickly while fulfilling General Education requirements in some of the University's most popular courses. All FIGs include a peer taught General Studies 199: The University Community Course.	Freshman International Students- 971 Enrolled in a FIG – 287 (30%) Total FIG enrollment is 50% of the freshman class (approx. 3,200 students)

If you have existing assessment or information on effectiveness, please include it (e.g., a report, recent data, etc.). Or note it, if you can provide it by the end of December (to go into the report).

- We have end of program assessment we will share before December. Data is currently being compiled.

In your area of expertise, what issues/challenges do you see facing international students by the end of the first month at UW?

- Language barriers in the classroom, especially when engaging in group discussion courses
- Understanding academic structure at the UW
- Overcoming US stereotypes in regards to racial and international differences
- Balancing independence with parental expectations
- Academic Integrity around group work and written assignments

What are your three goals for new international students (undergraduate and/or graduate) by the end of the first month at UW?

Through participation in the A&O and the FIG Program, we hope all students (including international students) will:

- Identify campus resources that will assist students with transition to the UW
- Describe the importance of meeting with an academic adviser
- Develop an understanding of the UW's diverse population and be introduced to ways they can contribute to an inclusive community.
- Begin to develop a small group of peers that they can build an academic and social community with and begin to form meaningful relationships.