**University of Mount Olive**

1. Dinner with the President - all First Year Experiences classes join the President and First Lady for a backyard bbq (4 classes at a time). It is a chance for our students to meet and engage with the President and his wife. They do ice breakers, UMO trivia with prizes, and have a chance to interact in small groups with the President. We did a popsicle social last year for COVID to keep germs down but are back to a full dinner this year. Students love it and say it really helps them to know the president and meet other first year students.

2. Community Service Project - in the past, we had the students create their own 2-hr project in the community but this year, we are transitioning to a service project morning organized by our FYE office. This connects directly with our Common Read book this year - Hundred Story Home by Kathy Izard (who will visit class in October). Students then write a reflection paper connecting their experience to the book and our institution’s mission.

3. Campus Activities - we require our students to participate in 3 campus activities (Chapel, athletic events, Campus Activity Programming, FYE, Library, or Departmental programming and then write a short reflection on how it helped them to transition to college. One of the three events has to be one organized by the FYE office and they cannot use one that they are an active athletic participant in or is required for another course.

Each of the above three items are assignments in the course which impacts their grade and attendance.

Contact: Delight Yokley, dyokley@umo.edu

**University of Louisville**

When we have done the “attend a campus event” assignment (with and without a list of opportunities) it’s just not been very effective. Students often wait until the last minute, and it just seems that no matter how I’ve structured this opportunity it’s on the whole not an effective assignment.

More effective is if have had a specific event listed, and if they don’t choose the in-person option then there’s a virtual option as a replacement.

We do have students complete one of our academic center’s online modules (their choice) and submit the completion certificate. Topics to choose from include from study skills, time management and resilience.

Contact: Christy Metzger, christy.metzger@louisville.edu

**William Peace University**

At WPU we have a First Year Success Series (FYSS) that runs in the fall concurrently with our 1 credit hour FYS 100 course. I have attached the info about the program and the slate of events from 2019. (2020 fall was a mess trying to do it virtually). This is a partnership between my office and Residence Life. As an incentive to get students to attend sessions, we had a friendly competition between FYS sections. The section with the highest % of members attending sessions, won a pizza party for the last day of class. We also gave gift cards to the top 3 individual students that attended the most sessions. 2019 was our second year of the program. In 2018, I asked the instructor to "require" students to attend 2 or 3 sessions as part of their FYS 100 grade. It did not work well and was an administrative head-ache to manage. The competition worked much better and attendance blossomed. This fall, I am giving a first, second and third place for the class competition. We have one class that ran away with it and realized it was deflating toward the end to encourage attendance when they knew they could not win. We hope having competition for 2nd and 3rd will help keep motivation up. I am also upping the prize to fund an "experience" of the classes choosing. They can use the money they win to go to an Escape Room, Bowling, Movie, etc. I will pay for the experience out of my budget and each prize has a cap amount.

We are in the process of soliciting campus partners to send up the events that they would like to have as FYSS events. The events are open to anyone, not just first years. We publicize the events on a calendar (as attached) but encourage the campus partners to do their own publicity as well. Funding for the programs comes from the campus partners. Res Life and I split the cost of a promotional item (cups, bandanas and this year post-it notes) to share with the students and we host a kick off and end of semester celebration. (See other documents for additional info)

Contact: Dawn Dillon, ddillon@peace.edu

**American University**

We just completed year 3 of full implementation for [Complex Problems](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.american.edu%2Fprovost%2Fundergrad%2Fcore%2Fcomplex-problems%2F&data=04%7C01%7CSKISTLER%40Rollins.edu%7Cde51d27d3a3f4158161808d9380a5fca%7Cb8e8d71a947d41dd81dd8401dcc51007%7C0%7C0%7C637602440239759137%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000&sdata=6xFsxea31dvJ3gWU%2F04ZAdV6flYPhQdqlJfk40FXAQY%3D&reserved=0) and our new AU Core Curriculum. Each CP seminar has a student staff member associated that’s charged with facilitating a minimum of 3 co-curricular activities relevant to their specific seminar.

Contact: rduncan@american.edu

**Gywenedd Mercy University**

We require students to attend three co-curricular events (not extra-curricular) in their First Year Experience course (we have a two - course requirement, but the second one is a service-learning course). Our Director of FYE collaborates with individuals across campus (Deans and faculty, student services professionals, Campus Ministry, etc) to collect a list of events that they are offering that semester. The events must tie in, in some way, to the course curriculum. Students are required to write a reflection on the event, and we have a rubric that is used for all the reflections to assure they are meeting the learning outcomes.

Contact: Meredith Hoch, Hoch-Oescher.M@gmercyu.edu

**Rollins College**

Rollins requires that students in our RCC (Rollins Conference Course/FYS) courses complete 9 co-curricular events in addition to their coursework. These events are led by Peer Mentors, students who serve as mentors to the RCC classes throughout this semester. While some of these events are directly tied to the academic content of the course, the others are focused on college transition, including Title IX training, attending the Study Abroad Fair, and learning about other college resources. Faculty work with peer mentors to plan one Living Learning Community event that they host for their RCC students in whichever dormitory the RCC students reside.

Contact: Ashley Kistler, skistler@rollins.edu

**Bryant University**

Long history of required co-curricular (Gateway) sessions linked to first year seminar classes. See folder on Bryant University for additional information. In person attendance at sessions is usually mandatory but virtual attendance was allowed during 2020-2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contact: Laurie Hazard, lhazard@bryant.edu

**Southwestern**

Here is the website for Mosaic: <https://www.southwestern.edu/mosaic/>. It is a co-curricular program to help students develop as a whole person within the following areas: 21st century skills, making meaning of academic experiences, shaping identity, contributing as a global citizen, and constructing a well-managed life. For first-year students there is a series of meetings, called Mosaic Meetups where students can begin to engage and reflect on their experiences.

Here is the blurb for last year's events:

Your first year of college can be overwhelming — but we're here to help! Mosaic Meetups is an in-person program designed to help you adjust to college life quickly. This 10-week cohort-style program (for first-year students only!) gives you the opportunity to get to know other first-years who are also learning what it means to be a college student. Each week, you'll get to know each other, engage in fun activities, and connect with valuable campus resources.

Here is the poster, as well:

 [**Mosaic Meetups 2021 - Insta Post.png**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bCfNqZraWxp9vEOM6vls2A_a4q0G6v9D/view?usp=drive_web)

Lisa Dela Cruz is the Director of Mosaic, delacrul@southwestern.edu.