What is a First-Year Seminar (FYS)?

• Topic? Anything that creates opportunities for the students to consider and engage with issues and topics
• Small seminars – capped at 19 students
• Geared to first-year and transfer students, but may be open to all who are interested in exploring new pathways, at the instructor’s discretion.
• Academic Enrichment Funds
  • $2500 for 1 unit course; $3000 for 2 unit course
• Direct Course Support
  • $500 (maximum) for in-course expenses
• Streamlined proposal process
  • Deadlines approximately 10 weeks in advance of the semester
Who can teach an FYS and what are the benefits of doing so?

- There must be an Instructor of Record (IoR)—that is someone who has a teaching appointment.
- Co-instructors can include: Grad students, Post-docs, staff, Project Scientists, Advisors and others.
- Small classroom gives you the space to innovate and test out new teaching strategies.
- There is the opportunity to teach something you are passionate about.
- There is a built-in community of support both through Undergraduate Education and, for FYS – Global Learning, through Global Affairs.
FYS educational objectives.

The FYS program encourages proposals for seminars that integrate at least two of the following educational objectives in partnership with your goals, of which a FYS Global Learning will certainly incorporate the one. The other will depend on your discipline and individual course objectives.

- Develop effective communication skills,
- Develop high cognitive skills
- Cultivate ethics, responsibility, honor, acceptance, respect, and empathy,
- Develop focus and depth in one or more discipline,
- Develop leadership skills,
- **Develop a global perspective**, and
- Prepare for lifelong learning.
What is Global Learning?

• Global learning helps students build their capacity to thrive in an interconnected world and address global challenges collaboratively and equitably.

• Global learning at UC Davis focuses on cultivating skills, knowledge, networks and understandings associated with three Global Learning Goals
  
  • **Global awareness**: Students examine actions and relationships that influence global systems from multiple perspectives, analyzing how complex systems impact self and others.
  
  • **Global diversity**: Students explore complex dimensions of diversity, equity and inclusion around the world, including language, culture and identity.
  
  • **Global Action**: Students create strategies to apply knowledge, skills, and abilities to collaboratively address global challenges.

• Global learning does not rely on a single method or teaching technique but global learning courses embed at least one of the goals intentionally in the objectives and assignments of the course.
Considerations in building a syllabus that incorporates global learning:

- Does your course description intentionally address a global system, explore global diversity, and/or indicate the possibility of action on a global challenge (either locally, domestically or beyond)?

- Do the educational outcomes or goals for your course directly address at least one of the UC Davis Global Learning Outcomes?

- Does at least one assignment/reflection in the course ask students
  - to examine the place of global systems and networks in your discipline or topic OR
  - to reflect on how global diversity and/or dynamics of equity and inclusion shapes the topic or methods explored OR
  - to practice applying knowledge and skills to collaboratively and equitably address challenges—locally and beyond— that have a global dimension?
What are the resources available for instructors?

• Through Undergraduate Education:
  • General guidance on teaching a FYS: [https://fys.ucdavis.edu/teach](https://fys.ucdavis.edu/teach)
  • For other examples of FYSs see:
    • CUREs: [https://fys.ucdavis.edu/teach-cure](https://fys.ucdavis.edu/teach-cure)
    • First-Gen: [https://fys.ucdavis.edu/first-gen-seminars](https://fys.ucdavis.edu/first-gen-seminars)

• Through Global Affairs:
  • Global Learning: [https://globalaffairs.ucdavis.edu/ge4a/global-learning-outcomes](https://globalaffairs.ucdavis.edu/ge4a/global-learning-outcomes)
  • Global Teaching and Learning Resources: [https://globalaffairs.ucdavis.edu/global-teaching-learning-resources](https://globalaffairs.ucdavis.edu/global-teaching-learning-resources)
  • Box resources on teaching with global learning (Kerberos ID needed for access): [https://ucdavis.app.box.com/s/cq2yi9h82527wzze4nfqq12l7rzgjgur](https://ucdavis.app.box.com/s/cq2yi9h82527wzze4nfqq12l7rzgjgur)
Where should you begin?

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