

## **FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE**

### ***Weekly Digest for the Week of July 15, 2008 (Special Summer Edition)***

Welcome to the FYE community of faculty, staff, and students dedicated to supporting our new first-year and transfer students create a more successful transition to the University of Connecticut. The Weekly Digest will publish every Wednesday during the Fall semester and contain details about workshops, upcoming events, tips/techniques, and other information geared to help you have the best semester possible with your FYE class. This summer we will send you a bi-weekly edition to update you prior to the semester. Information will be sent to both INTD 1800/1820 and Learning Community instructors. Comments, suggestions and constructive critique are welcomed. E-mail [kevin.sullivan@uconn.edu](mailto:kevin.sullivan@uconn.edu) or [David.Ouimette@uconn.edu](mailto:David.Ouimette@uconn.edu)

### **Save the Date: August 20, Noon to 2PM → Instructor/Mentor Luncheon**

Follow this [LINK](#) for more information and to access the sign-up form.

### **FYE Summer Workshops and HuskyCT Training:**

We are offering ongoing training to prepare instructors for the Fall Classes. For more information, and to access the sign-up form for workshops, [click here](#).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Workshop Title</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
July 22	HuskyCT	9:30-11:30 AM	CUE 214
July 30	HuskyCT	1:30-3:30 PM	CUE 214
August 7	HuskyCT	9:30-11:30 AM	CUE 214
August 14	Course Development for INTD 1820	9:00-11:00 AM	CUE 130
August 14	Course Development for INTD 1800	1:00-3:00 PM	CUE 130
August 15	Course Development for INTD 1800 & 1820	1:00-3:00 PM	CUE 130
Arranged	HuskyCT One-on-One Training	1:00-4:00 PM	CUE 235C

#### **FYE Instructor Training - Course Development for INTD 1800 & 1820 Sections**

New and veteran instructors will have a chance to discuss how they will run their course in the Fall semester. Topics that typically come up in these type of sessions: 1) syllabus development, 2) grading, 3) assignments, 4) how to present effectively the writing and resume assignments, 5) use of the mentor, 6) sharing of activities to meet the learning objectives, 7) sharing of resources, and 8) relationship building between instructors, FYP staff, and students.

#### **FYE Instructor Training - HuskyCT**

Orientation and training for new and returning FYE instructors will be conducted for the Fall 2008 classes. New instructors will be oriented to the mission, goals, and processes of the INTD 1800/1820 courses, while all instructors will be given access to and instruction in their section's HuskyCT sites, powered by the newest version of HuskyCT that all courses will use for the first time next semester. The training is critical for new instructors, and can ease the way into HuskyCT for returning instructors. Please sign-up above, as seating is limited.

#### **HuskyCT One-on-One Training**

Do you feel you need some individualized help with utilizing the FYE template in HuskyCT? Lesa von Munkwitz-Smith will be offering personal sessions at the First Year Programs office, CUE 235C, on the following afternoons from 1:00-4:00 PM:

Thursday, July 17  
Monday, July 21  
Wednesday, July 23  
Friday, July 25  
Tuesday, July 29

If there is a need, one-on-one sessions will be extended for weekday afternoons through August 8. Contact Lesa at 6-1735 or e-mail her at [lvon@uconn.edu](mailto:lvon@uconn.edu) to schedule a session.

**If you have a question or need a hand with anything regarding your course at anytime during the semester, please contact us.**

### **Focus on Students (This section will include helpful activities/assignments for your INTD 1800 and INTD 1820 classes)**

- **Writing Assignment** – Integrate writing into your FYE class. This is year two of our comprehensive writing assignment collaboration with the Writing Center on campus. The project combines attendance at Human Rights, Cultural Center, and Fine and Performing Arts events with a writing assignment and tutorial help in the Writing Center on campus. Based on feedback we received last year, we have created a one-page assignment that includes a short description of the assignment, straightforward instructions on how to complete the assignment and a grading rubric.

Please find the revised versions of the assignment along with Best Practices. We hope to send over 1500 first semester students through the Writing Center this September and October. The Writing Center has graciously assigned Mandy Suhr-Sytsma who has been a great help in developing the assignment and also willing to provide training to instructors. Mandy can be reached at 486-4387 or by email at [mandy.suhrsytsma@gmail.com](mailto:mandy.suhrsytsma@gmail.com).

- **Resume Assignment** - Career Services, in collaboration with First Year Programs is offering a resume writing assignment for FYE classes this fall. Though typically associated with upper-class students, Career Services strongly believes first year students will benefit from creating this document early in their college career. There are excellent developmental and practical reasons why we believe that it is very important for first year students to learn this valuable, lifelong skill. Please see attachment and contact Larry Druckenbrod at 486-3013 or by email [Larry.Druckenbrod@uconn.edu](mailto:Larry.Druckenbrod@uconn.edu)

### **Schedule these Important classes now for the Fall! (Here we will post information about issues and resources to help you address them in your classes)**

- **AOD Education:** As part of our comprehensive alcohol and drug prevention program here at UCONN we are excited to present a one session AOD education program to the 2008-2009 FYE classes. We appreciate the opportunity to share this important information with your students. In order to make sure this experience runs smoothly for everyone we are asking that you please e-mail Nisha Joshee Hardnett at [Nisha.hardnett@uconn.edu](mailto:Nisha.hardnett@uconn.edu) to schedule a session time and date that is convenient for your class schedule.

Our FYE presentation is based on a Harm Reduction Public Health Model. We will discuss strategies with your students that will empower them to make better decisions around alcohol and other drugs. You will also be offered the opportunity to join an important study that will assess our ability to decrease binge drinking on campus.

For more information contact: Liz Prince, Interim Director  
Telephone: 860-486-9436

- **Health Education:** Sexual Jeopardy is an educational, interactive game where students are challenged to answer questions about current sexual health issues that they may face during their college career. The CDC predicts that because 50-80% of the sexually active population will be exposed to the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) HPV in the college age group, it is important to discuss STD prevention and testing with this at risk population. This frank and honest approach has been appreciated by faculty, staff and students for the past 8 years.

Please contact Joleen Nevers, the Health Education Coordinator, to schedule this presentation for your class. You can call her directly at 486-0772 or email her at [joleen.nevers@uconn.edu](mailto:joleen.nevers@uconn.edu). For more information about Health Education, please check out our website at [www.healthed.uconn.edu](http://www.healthed.uconn.edu).

### **Special Events:**

The Fall 2008 Involvement Fair takes place Wednesday September 3, 2008 from 2 – 8 p.m. in the Student Union. With over 400 student clubs, organizations, and other campus-wide involvement opportunities including community outreach opportunities, intramurals and more, this is a great chance for your students to become involved. Go to [http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/inv\\_fair.html](http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/inv_fair.html) from more information about this year's Fair.

### **Coming Attractions:**

In the coming weeks we will introduce you to **Ask Ali** a new video series on study skills for your students.

Please note that all Digest's will be archived on our FYE ([www.fye.uconn.edu](http://www.fye.uconn.edu)) and HuskyCT Instructor Site.

**HAVE FUN PLANNING YOUR CLASSES!**