

University of Louisville

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Quality Enhancement Plan – Executive Summary

Find Your Fit

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FIND YOUR FIT

QEP Executive Summary

The University of Louisville’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is titled Find Your Fit (FYF). This initiative is an opportunity to foster a campus-wide conversation about student learning and success in the crucial second year of undergraduate studies. At the heart of FYF is the design, implementation, and assessment of a new, three-credit seminar, ECPY 302: Personal and Academic Inquiry, designed to enhance the academic and personal success of undecided and pre-unit second-year students. As our QEP helps our students “find their fit” academically and align their goals with a career path, it is poised to have long-term implications for how we support our undergraduate population both inside and outside of the classroom.

To identify our QEP, we analyzed university data and identified a distinctive hurdle faced by many undergraduate students: navigating the challenges of the second year and successfully transitioning into the third year. This transition appeared to be a point of critical weakness in the university’s persistence plans. Although improved retention is one of the expected outcomes of the new QEP, the project centers upon enhancing the learning and the learning environment for pre-unit and undecided students, who are collectively known as “exploratory students” on our campus and whose particular struggles are evident in the university’s

second-year performance data. The purpose of FYF is to enhance students’ inquiry and decision-making skills in order to help them thrive academically and personally.

The FYF initiative offers our campus key opportunities to bring innovative pedagogical practices to the foreground as we provide exploratory students with a high-touch, small seminar experience. The seminar will engage students in critical, intellectual inquiry activities and provide opportunities for students to actively participate in the major and career discernment process with focused support from a faculty mentor, an advisor, and an instruction librarian. The university’s new Student Success Center was established to foster an integrated approach among career, academic success, and advising for our lower-division student population. FYF aligns closely with the mission of the Center and is a signature program offered through the Center. In line with SACSCOC expectations, a demonstration of FYF’s effective impact should lead to the eventual adoption of the course, or its effective activities, assessments, and pedagogical practices, into our undergraduate curriculum and/or advising practices.

For more information about **Find Your Fit**, contact *Patty Payette*, QEP Executive Director, University of Louisville, patty.payette@louisville.edu

LEARNING OUTCOMES



Students will demonstrate informed decision-making marked by identifiable measures of reflective learning, independent inquiry, and critical thinking.



Students will increase their sense of academic and social belonging or fit.



Students will increase their sense of decidedness.



Student will increase their sense of self-regulated learning behaviors.