

CMU-Prefix Program

The First-Year Program: At CMU we take special care to make sure that incoming freshmen adjust successfully to university life. Helping students make the crucial transition from high school to college is the major goal of our First-Year Program. In addition to summer and fall orientation activities, the academic part of the First-Year Program consists of two interlinked orientation classes, CMU 101 and CMU 102. CMU 101 concentrates on issues of campus orientation, academic success, and orientation to the major. The second class in the sequence, CMU 102, concentrates more exclusively on issues related to the major, as well as leadership principles associated with a career in that major. By devoting extra effort to these details, we are carrying out the campus mission of training students to exercise ethical leadership in order to make a difference in the world.

Introduction to Leadership: In conjunction with CMU's mission of preparing students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility, we require students, at the earliest in their sophomore years, to take CMU201 Introduction to Leadership. This interdisciplinary course provides an introduction to leadership principles and theories using a combination of case studies, historical perspectives, and personal experience with effective leaders. By the end of the course, students should understand individual and group leadership issues and be able to identify personal leadership qualities to apply in their lives. (ROTC students may substitute MSL220 and MSL222.)

Study Strategies for Successful College Students: This course will help students develop the skills and strategies to be successful students who are responsible for their own college learning experience.

CMU-Prefix Courses

CMU101 Freshman Survival Skills. 1 hour. A First-year orientation class designed to orient the student to university life and discuss adaptations and skills necessary for success at the university level.

CMU102 Freshman Survival Skills II. 0.5 to 1 hour. The second part of the university orientation class, designed to prepare students for success by focusing on more discipline-specific issues.

CMU104 Study Strategies for Successful College Students. 2 hours. This course will help students develop the skills and strategies to be successful students who understand that they are responsible for their own college learning experience.

CMU130 Honor's Perspectives I. 2 hours. This course utilizes creative curriculum, incorporating critical thinking, creativity, and research skills to help honors students develop personal leadership styles and to recognize their place in a greater global and historical context. Built around hands-on, engaging learning activities, the course is also focused on developing a cohort for honors students in the freshman class. Prerequisite: Instructor's permission.

CMU132 Honor's Perspectives II. 1 hour. In a team-based environment, students will incorporate critical thinking, creativity, and research skills to develop personal leadership styles and to recognize their place in a greater global and historical context. Prerequisite: Honors eligibility and completion of one hour of honors credit. Course may be repeated for a total of two hours of credit.

CMU201 Introduction to Leadership. 1 hour. This interdisciplinary course provides an introduction to leadership principles and theories using a combination of case studies, historical perspectives, and personal experience with effective leaders. By the end of the course, students should understand individual and group leadership issues and be able to identify personal leadership qualities to apply in their lives. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. ROTC students may substitute MSL220 and MSL222.

CMU301 Life After Graduation: From Backpack to Briefcase. 1 hour. This course is intended to prepare students for life after graduation, including the job search process, networking, professional etiquette, finding a place to live, finances and debt management, and insurance plans and taxes. Guest speakers and a field trip will be included in the course. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing. January and May only. Offered on demand.

CMU420 IDS Capstone. 1 hour. Open only to seniors majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies. This is a Senior Capstone course. To receive credit in the course, students must complete an analysis of their areas of study as related to their intended occupation or vocation and write a research essay summarizing the benefits of the interdisciplinary work with their potential employment opportunities or another project of equivalent academic depth and rigor agreed upon by faculty and student. Spring.