

FIRST-YEAR PROGRAM

The First-Year Program in the Common Core is made up of the Chicago Quarter (Discover or Explore Chicago), the Focal Point Seminar, First-Year Writing, and Quantitative Reasoning.

The First-Year experience begins when incoming students in autumn take a Chicago Quarter (CQ) course. From over a hundred different topic offerings, students select either Discover Chicago, where students come a week early for an intensive Immersion Week followed by the first seven weeks of Autumn Quarter, or Explore Chicago, which meets during the regular fall term and includes excursions throughout the quarter. Regardless of type, CQ instructors use both traditional and experiential pedagogies to teach students not only relevant course content, but also information about the city's people, communities, institutions, and system of public transportation. All CQ classes further include a co-curricular component called the Common Hour, which is designed to facilitate students' transition to the college experience, and give them initial exposure to DePaul's distinctive mission.

Students take additional Common Core courses during their first year. The WRD 103 and WRD 104 sequence introduces different conventions of writing, and instructs students on how to analyze readings, write for different audiences, and take a rhetorical stance. Some students may be required to take preparatory writing classes before being eligible to enroll in WRD 103.

Offered during winter and spring quarters, each LSP 112 FOCAL POINT SEMINAR employs a multi-disciplinary approach to investigate a significant person, place, event, text, or idea. As with the Chicago Quarter, students may choose from an array of more than 100 course offerings taught by faculty from throughout the university. Focal Point courses stress seminar behavior: active learning through critical questioning, speaking, listening and discussion driven by ideas gleaned from readings that include original works, primary sources and secondary literature. Writing and revision further sharpen the academic skills needed to succeed in and get the most out of college.

Lastly, first-year students take MAT 120 QUANTITATIVE REASONING designed to teach them how to critically evaluate real-world issues and problems by applying quantitative reasoning and analyzing quantitative information. Some students may be required to take preparatory math classes before being eligible to enroll in MAT 120, while other students may have this course met by AP scores, transfer credit, or proficiency tests. Not all majors require MAT 120.

Courses

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Chicago Quarter		
LSP 110	DISCOVER CHICAGO	4
or LSP 111	EXPLORE CHICAGO	
or HON 110	HONORS DISCOVER CHICAGO	
or HON 111	HONORS EXPLORE CHICAGO	
Focal Point Seminar		
LSP 112	FOCAL POINT SEMINAR	4
First-Year Writing		
WRD 103	COMPOSITION AND RHETORIC I	4

or WRD 103X	COMPOSITION AND RHETORIC I (FOR MULTILINGUAL WRITERS)	
WRD 104	COMPOSITION AND RHETORIC II	4
or WRD 104X	COMPOSITION & RHETORIC II (FOR MULTILINGUAL WRITERS)	
Quantitative Reasoning		
MAT 120	QUANTITATIVE REASONING	4