



NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY



First Year Programs Namm 506

Who We Are

First Year Programs guides new City Tech students by providing academic pathways in order to ease their college transition while supporting academic success. In support of these goals, we offer several programs including:

- First Year Summer Programs, for incoming and continuing students
- First Year Learning Communities
- Peer Mentor Programs
- Math Preparatory Workshops

First Year Summer Programs (FYSP)

FYSP offer incoming freshmen and continuing students an opportunity to take tuition-free developmental immersion courses in math, reading, writing, and ESOL during the summer sessions and in January.

All FYSP students receive:

- Tuition-free classroom instruction in developmental courses
- An opportunity for eligible students to retake CUNY Assessment Tests

FYSP: Immersion Program for Incoming Students: After receiving acceptance to City Tech, incoming freshmen requiring developmental reading, writing, math, and/or ESOL classes will be offered and registered for free FYSP classes by the New Student Center. In addition to providing free courses to advance college readiness, the summer classes include orientation activities to help students successfully transition to college life, as well as develop strategies to address personal and academic challenges. This unique, supportive, and intensive classroom time provides students an academic “head start” on fall semester studies. All incoming freshmen in the Immersion Program also receive specialized orientation and copies of *The Companion for the First Year at City Tech*, a guidebook created by the First Year Programs office. Attendance policies in these courses are rigorous.

FYSP: June Programs for Continuing Students: Continuing students who completed a developmental or ESL course in the spring semester may be eligible to repeat or advance their developmental coursework in the June programs. These free four-week intensive developmental reading, writing, math, and ESOL courses provide eligible students with the opportunity to improve skills, retake



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CUNY Assessment Tests, and ultimately become qualified to enroll in credit-bearing courses. Attendance policies in these courses are rigorous.

January and June Express Immersion Courses: These eight-day tuition-free immersion courses in reading, writing, and math are offered to students who were enrolled in developmental courses the previous semester and who came close to passing. The express classes not only refresh students' understanding of the materials, but also allow them to retake the required CUNY proficiency tests with no penalty and no financial cost. Attendance policies in these courses are rigorous. Consult the FYP office or Mathematics and English Departments for specific qualifying criteria.

First Year Learning Communities (FYLC)

Learning Communities are two courses taken by the same group of students, linked together with an interdisciplinary theme, providing an innovative way for students to learn and form bonds with the college and each other. First year and transfer students, regardless of major, can choose to participate in Learning Communities. The program aims to encourage stronger interactions between faculty and students, a vital aspect of college life that is often a challenge for students attending a large commuter college.

Student benefits include:

- Demonstrated increase in grades and retention
- Designated Peer Mentor support and guidance for anxieties typical to students transitioning into college
- Collective FYLC events offering students social networking opportunities
- Peer support and accountability

Peer Mentors

First Year Program Peer Mentors act as role models for students participating in First Year Learning Communities (FYLC) and the First Year Summer Program (FYSP). They are experienced student leaders who are eager to share their college expertise and knowledge with new students adjusting to college life. Peer Mentors stay in regular contact with their mentees via email, Open Lab, social media, classroom visits, monthly workshops, and in-person meetings. Because they are successful students themselves—both academically and socially—Peer Mentors are able to provide personalized, judgment-free guidance to students who otherwise may be hesitant to seek help from faculty and staff. They are trained to guide new City Tech students in recognizing their academic strengths, as well as in identifying and addressing personal challenges. Peer Mentors also strive to promote strong connections to the college community, encouraging student achievement and success.



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Math Preparatory Workshops

First Year Programs, in conjunction with the Mathematics Department offers free Preparatory Workshops in mathematics prior to the start of each semester. These Workshops provide students with a preview of select math concepts, creating a strong foundation of understanding for students planning to enroll in the course. Visit the Math Department or First Year Programs to learn more about a specific Math Workshop, when it's offered, and how to apply.

Preparatory Workshops Include:

- Introduction to Trigonometry (Prep for MAT 1275)
- Introduction to Pre-calculus (Prep for MAT 1375)
- Introduction to Calculus I (Prep for MAT 1475)
- Introduction to Calculus II (Prep for MAT 1575)
- Fast Track to Quantitative Reasoning (Prep for MAT 1190)

FYP Staff

Lauri Aguirre, Director
Iman Abdulfattah, Office Assistant
A.E. Dreyfuss, Academic Affairs Liaison
Sarah Paruolo, Peer Mentor Coordinator

Contact Us

Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00
(718) 260 – 5967
Namm 506
<http://fyp.citytech.cuny.edu/>