First-Year Experience
Goals & Objectives

1. **The First-Year Experience Program will help ORIENT you to the community.**

   A comfortable community environment helps you learn better. For this reason, our first goal is to welcome you and familiarize you with our community. We want to help you learn where things are, how to solve problems, and how to work with faculty, advisors, administrators, staff, and other students.

   Our objectives to help you reach this goal are to make sure you:

   - Are better able to locate and communicate with course instructors and advisors.
   - Are able to identify obstacles to personal academic success and use appropriate university or community resources to address these obstacles.
   - Discover the community through extra-curricular academic, athletic, artistic, or cultural events.

2. **The First-Year Experience Program will help you DEVELOP critical academic and personal management skills necessary for academic success.**

   It is impossible to learn and develop all the skills needed for academic success in only one semester, so our goal is to encourage and improve skills in many areas. Personal and study skills that might be addressed include Note-Taking, Textbook Reading, Networking / Human Relationships, Personal Safety, Stress Management, Test-Taking, Decision-Making, and Academic Planning.

   To support you as you attain this goal, our objectives are to help you:

   - Have a better understanding of critical thinking and academic success skills.
   - Be more aware of the obstacles challenging your personal academic success.
   - Begin developing mutually supportive relationships with members of the UNA community.

3. **The First-Year Experience Program will encourage you to EXPLORE major and career possibilities.**

   This goal encourages you to explore a vision for your future. If you know what you want, it is a chance to learn more about your chosen path; if you don’t know, it’s an opportunity to see what paths are available, and perhaps to explore a few. The goal here is exploration, not decision or selection.

   Our objectives to reach this goal are to help you:

   - Become more aware of your personal strengths and weaknesses while focusing on possible majors and professional career opportunities.
   - Develop an academic plan with goals and objectives for your career at UNA and beyond.