COURSE INSIGHTS FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS (via Illume Courses 5/13/19)

The following courses, when taken in the first year, have been identified as challenges for students. Advisors should be cognizant of these courses and encourage balancing these courses throughout the first four semesters when able. Students taking these courses should be encouraged to prioritize their assignments and attendance to better their chances of success.

Courses where students struggle the most or have high D/F/W rates. A passing grade (C or higher) may result in significantly higher persistence and graduation rates.

- UNIV 1002/1003 University Strategies
  - Encourage students to treat this class with as much time and respect as any academic course. The D/F/W rate in this course is nearly 14% higher than the average course.
- HIST 1483 American History to 1877
- HIST 1493 American History Since 1877
  - Students should not enroll in the above courses if they are deficient in Reading or English. Both courses are heavy in reading and writing and students should be well prepared or have a genuine interest in History prior to taking this course.
- MATH 1513 College Algebra
  - Encourage appropriate math pathway for intended major.
- COMM 1113 Fundamentals of Oral Communication
  - Students should complete ENGL 1113 Freshman Comp I prior to enrolling in COMM 1113 or have a high English ACT. Command of language and ability to write clearly are critical.
- DRAM 2843 Film Appreciation
  - Students will be required to understand artistic and technical concepts, as well as the history of film and its societal impact. This course should not be regarded as "easy." Students who withdraw or earn less than an A are only 38.2% likely to graduate, compared with 60.8% who earn an A.
- PSYC 1113 Intro to Psychology
  - Students will be required to understand broad concepts regarding cognitive behavior; heavy on theoretical concepts. Majors other than Psychology and Education may want to consider a different social/behavioral science course if applicable. Students with a C in PSYC-1113 who persist to the next semester are 48.0% less likely to graduate than persisting students with higher grades. This drop is 2.0X larger in PSYC-1113 than in the average 1st year course.
- HED 1113 Personal Health & NUTR 1653 Basic Nutrition
  - Personal Health/Basic Nutrition courses are sometimes perceived as "easy," but the data tell us that while students with a C are likely to persist to the next semester, they must earn an A or B in the course to be more likely to graduate. Encourage students to treat this course the same as any other course.