

# **First Year Experience Program 190 Inquiry Learning Objectives**

## **General Education Program Pacific Lutheran University**

### **Framing Language and Program Goals**

As the foundation of Pacific Lutheran University's General Education Program, the First Year Experience Program (FYEP) focuses on the broad themes of thinking, literacy, and community. The FYEP prepares students for successful participation in PLU's distinctive academic and co-curricular culture by promoting critical thought, purposeful inquiry and effective expression in learning communities that are both supportive and challenging. The program promotes intellectual and social engagement to facilitate students' transition into the university in ways that strengthen our community and enhance student retention and success.

The program contributes two courses, Writing 101 and 190 Inquiry, as well as a requirement that students enroll for their first January term. Writing 101 and 190 Inquiry meet in small sections reserved for first year students and teach students to utilize the methods and understand the perspective of diverse disciplines. The J-term requirement ensures students have more early exposure to what PLU has to offer in terms of experiential learning, intensive classes, co-curricular programs, and global education, and gives them an opportunity to participate in EXPLORE!, a retreat that encourages reflection on the theme of vocation.

### **General Education Description**

#### **Embracing the Life of the Mind: First Year Experience Program**

This program prepares students for successful participation in PLU's distinctive academic and co-curricular culture by promoting critical thought, impassioned inquiry, and effective expression in learning communities that are both supportive and challenging.

*Inquiry Seminar:* These four credit seminars introduce students to the methods and topics of study within a particular academic discipline or field. Students practice the academic skills that are at the center of the General Education Program.

### **General Education Program Goals**

Upon successful completion of the 190 Inquiry Seminar, students will be able to:

1. identify the topics of study, the kinds of questions scholars pursue, and what counts as valid evidence in the discipline/field;
2. discuss the discipline/field in terms of its relationship to other areas of inquiry and practice;
3. describe and begin to apply the primary methods of study and research skills in the discipline/field;
4. identify and apply the basic reading strategies, conventions of writing, and other forms of communication valued within the discipline/field; and,
5. explain how the above objectives support the university mission and enable reflection on vocation.

Alignment to the ILOs:

#### **Critical Reflection**

- Select sources of information using appropriate research methods, including those employing technology, and make use of that information carefully and critically.

#### **Expression**

- Communicate clearly and effectively in both oral and written forms.

**Interacting with Others**

- Develop and promote effective strategies and interpersonal relationships for implementing cooperative actions.