First Year Inquiry Program

Mission
To give our students the best possible start at NC State, First-Year Inquiry (FYI) courses focus directly on first-year students. FYI courses provide students with a small class setting that enables them to develop a connection with a faculty member and a group of peers. FYI instructors teach using a pedagogical approach, inquiry-guided learning, tailored to develop critical and creative thinking. The program also strives to help improve student written and oral communication skills and to help students become independent learners.

History
The University Honors Program was founded in 2000 at the impetus of then-Provost Kermit Hall. The mission of the UHP was refocused in 2003 to its current emphasis upon research and scholarship in the discipline. The Honors Village was also launched in Fall 2003. A coordinated campus fellowship advising effort originated in the UHP as a part-time effort by one of its staff members. A full-time fellowship adviser position was created in 2005, lost to budget cuts in 2008, and recreated in 2011.

People
- One professional staff.

Activities
The First Year Inquiry Program offers General Education courses that provide active learning opportunities exclusively to first-year students. The courses provide:
- small classes (size <22) making discussions easy and productive
- close student-student & student-Instructor relationships & communication
- focused development of critical and creative thinking skills
- active participation through inquiry-guided learning
- support & assistance in making the transition from high-school to university-level thinking
- an instructor who knows you & your work well enough to write credible letters of recommendation.

Participation
- 10% of first-year students reached through FYI courses in 2011-2012
- ?? faculty participating
- ?? courses

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