

# What is a FIG?

It's a **CONNECTION** with experienced students: upper class peer mentors with inside knowledge of university life.



"The FIG program is the best thing available to any UT freshman or transfer student. From making friends, to sharing the same classes, to familiarizing yourself with the school, a FIG can make all this happen."

- Marianna Dubinksy, Advertising Sophomore



It's a **resource** for getting to know The University of Texas at Austin.

It's a wonderful **Start** to your college education.

# It's a First-year Interest Group.

## Why join a FIG?

When you join a FIG, you instantly become part of a community formed by 20 students with similar academic interests. Led by a peer mentor and professional staff member, your FIG cohort takes courses

together, which means you'll actually know who's sitting next to you in class. You'll also take part in a weekly seminar, where your mentor will facilitate the exploration of common first-year issues such as academic resources and campus life. In addition, your mentor will plan activities to help you discover everything that UT and the city of Austin have to offer.

When you join a FIG, you'll be a part of a program that for 10 years and counting has helped students perform better in classes and maintain a higher GPA.

### How to join a FIG:

- 1. Review the FIG course listings and choose the FIG(s) right for you.
- 2. Meet with your academic advisor and tell them you would like to join a FIG.
- 3. Register for academic FIGs during summer orientation.
- 4. Get ready for a great year!



"I learned that uncertainty is not always something to fear, but rather something to learn from."

- Cathy Coussons, Engineering Junior

### **School of Undergraduate Studies**

The School of Undergraduate Studies serves students by sustaining a dynamic common curriculum and enriching the undergraduate experience through innovative advising, learning communities, interdisciplinary programs, and undergraduate research. FIGs in Undergraduate Studies offer students the chance to explore different interests, majors, and career paths during their first semester. If you are interested in enrolling a UGS FIG, please talk to your advisor, or call the Center for Strategic Advising at (512) 232-8400.

# UGS FIG Course Listings 2010

#### **Business and Money**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
ECO	304K	Introduction To Microeconomics
UGS	303	Your Global Money

#### **Exploring the Sciences and Engineering**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
UGS	303	Our Global Backyard
CH	301	Principles of Chemistry I

#### **Exploring the Health Professions**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
UGS	303	Medical Ethics
CH	301	Principles of Chemistry I

#### Leadership and Business

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
ECO	304K	Intro to Microeconomics
UGS	303	Leadership & Business

#### **Major Exploration**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
PSY	301	Introduction To Psychology
UGS	303	Amer Experience thru Autobiography

#### **Major Exploration 2**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
TD	301	Intro to Theater
SOC	302	Intro to the Study of Society

#### **Architecture and the City**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
ARC	308	Architecture & Society
UGS	303	Amer Experience thru Autobiography

#### The Nursing Profession

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
CH	301	Principles of Chemistry
UGS	303	Sleep: Are We Getting Enough?

#### The Environment

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
UGS	303	Sustaining a Planet
GEO	303	Intro to Geology

#### Communication

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
RTF	305	Intro to Media Studies
UGS	303	Journalism and/in Democracy

#### **Communication and Business**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
ECO	304K	Introduction To Microeconomics
UGS	RTF	Introduction to Media Studies

#### **Business and Music**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR-UGS
ECO	304K	Introduction To Microeconomics
MUS	307	History of Rock Music

### **Pre-professional FIGs**

Pre-professional First-year Interest Groups (FIGs) are organized around themes and pre-professional programs that fall outside of the traditional academic disciplines. These FIGs are open to all majors in all colleges (unless otherwise noted) and will give students the opportunity to explore a broad range of interests as well as network outside of their particular college. If you are interested in joining a pre-professional FIG, talk to your advisor during summer orientation. For more information, please call the FIG office at (512) 232-3447.

# Pre-professional FIG Course Listings

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	303	Constitution and Civil Liberty
PHL	304	Contemporary Moral Problems

#### Pre-Healthcare

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
BIO	311C	Introductory Biology I
UGS	303	Medical Ethics

#### **Business & Communication**

(for non-business majors)

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	303	Your Global Money

CMS 315M Interpersonal Comm Theory

"The FIG program really helped me adapt to college life in a small amount of time. FIG has helped me be a better student, make lasting friendships, learn about vital university resources and policies, and grow into a more well-rounded individual."

- Clay Sampson, Sophomore

#### **Great Minds**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	303	Ideas of the Twentieth Century
PSY	301	Introduction To Psychology

#### **Business in the 21st Century**

(restricted to non-business majors)

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	303	Your Global Money
M	408K	Differential Calculus

#### Leadership & Society

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	302	Ethics and Business
SOC	302	Intro to the Study of Society

#### **Health Professions**

UGS	001	First-Year Interest Group SMNR
UGS	302	Herbs to Drugs & Back Again
BIO	311C	Introduction to Biology I



The FIG Program is sponsored by

The School of Undergraduate Studies
Office Location: Flawn Academic Center, Room 1

For more information contact the FIG Office at (512)-232-FIGS, email fig@austin.utexas.edu, or visit www.utexas.edu/ugs/fig

# What is a Signature FIG?

A Signature FIG provides an opportunity for first-year students to take core courses in a group of 18 students and receive academic assistance from a Signature Course peer mentor. The small size of the cohort allows students to become friends with their classmates and also get to know their Signature Course instructor. These FIGs are open to all majors in all colleges (unless otherwise noted). The other courses in each FIG count toward core requirements and may count for a Bridging Disciplines Program (BDP) certificate, should a student be accepted into a BDP. It is our hope that this new program will significantly aid in making the transition from high-school level to college-level thinking and writing as well as encourage major and career exploration.

# Signature FIGs

# 20I0

#### Children & Society

UGS	302	Young People and Drugs
PSY	301	Introduction to Psychology
HDF	304	Family Relationships

#### **Cultural Studies**

UGS	302	Cultures in Contact
MUS	307	History of Rock Music
BDP	101	Intro to Cultural Studies

# Ethics and Leadership - Democracy & Communication

UGS	303	Journalism and/in Democracy
PHL	304	Contemp. Moral Problems

#### Ethics and Leadership - Healthcare

UGS	303	Medical Ethics
PHI.	304	Contemp Moral Problems

#### **Environment - Sustainability**

UGS	303	Sustaining a Flanet
BIO	301M	Ecology, Evolution, & Society

#### **Environment - Ecology & Geology**

UGS	302	Hidden Treasures of Plants
GEO	303	Intro to Geology

#### Film Studies

UGS	303	Italian Cinema
HIS	306N	Films & History of Latin America
RDP	101	Intro to Film Studios

#### **Human Rights & Social Justice**

UGS	302	Representing Justice
SOC	308	Gender/Race/Class in Amer Soc

#### **International Studies**

(restric	ted to n	on-business students)
UGS	303	Your Global Money
EUS	305	Intro to European Studies

# Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits - Change and Advocacy

UGS	302	How to Change the World: Advocacy
BDP	101	The Organization of Culture

# Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits - Social Understanding & Social Structures

UGS	302	Separating Fact/Fiction: Mental Illness
SOC	308	Political Economy of Global Health
PSY	301	Introduction to Psychology

#### Social Inequality, Health, & Policy

UGS	303	Global Inequalities and Health
BIO	307D	Biology of AIDS

#### **Contact the Signature Course Office**

Email - sigcourses@austin.utexas.edu

Phone - (512)-471-4421

Website - www.utexas.edu/ugs/sig/

Office Location: Flawn Academic Center, Room 1