College is different from high school!

...think you already knew that? It turns out that many first year college students don't really get what that means. For most high school students the transition to college is a challenge. You will be expected to think critically, adapt to a variety of class types and teaching styles, ask for help, gain career experience, stay organized, develop leadership skills, manage your own time (as most of your time will not be in the classroom), figure out a way of studying that works for you, and oh-so-much more. College students are expected to be well-rounded individuals - not just good test-takers - and those expectations begin as soon as you step foot on the campus. Though there are many helpful resources available to you here at UMBC, it will ultimately be your responsibility to take advantage of them...nobody will do it for you. That's where CWIT comes in! No, we won't do it for you...but we will teach you the tools to give you confidence that you can do it, and the support you will need when things get tough!

As a first-year student in the CWIT Living Learning Community, you will be taking part in a unique course experience tailored to help you navigate the transition to college and start off strong. We are offering FYE101 - a one-credit, interactive and informational weekly course exclusively for you! Because we are invested in you and we know how essential these lessons are to your success, participation in this course is required for first-year CWIT LLC residents and first-year CWIT Scholars.

After spending only about 15 hours of your time over the course of the entire fall semester in this seminar (that is less than 2% of your entire semester), you will be more connected with your peers, have the "tools" you need to be successful in college, be familiar with many of the helpful resources available to you on campus, and be ready to take on the rest of your college experience by storm! Through this course you will have an advantage to be learning these lessons early while many college students unfortunately find out the hard way.

This is what a few of last year’s students had to say about the course:

“It provided me with a lot of skills and helpful hints to get ahead of the game and know what to do in my second semester as a freshman.”

“This class helped me to communicate with my professors both in and out of class, get more out of lectures, and deliver a well-received presentation in my ENES class.”

“I learned about the numerous resources that are beneficial to my success as an UMBC student as well as various other opportunities at UMBC.”

TIME & DAY: This course will be once per week on Thursdays from 2:30-3:45pm. Please try to keep this time slot free in your schedule for the fall semester. You will need special permission to register for FYE101, section 01, but more information about how to register for this specific course will be provided to you at a later time before you register for courses at Summer Orientation.

EXPENSES: This course will cost you nothing. A grant from a CWIT corporate sponsor will allow us to buy any necessary materials and/or books for this course. You will be given your course materials and/or books at the first class.

Feel free to email me (kglasser@umbc.edu) or call me (410-455-8076) if you have any questions.

- Katie Glasser, Assistant Director of CWIT and Coordinator for the CWIT Living-Learning Community