Start here. Change your world.



School of UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Find Yourself

First-year interest group

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

What is a FIG?

It's a **CONNECTION** with experienced students: upper-division 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 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, 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

Jackson School of Geosciences

The Jackson School of Geosciences First-year Interest Group provides a home for new students: a small group within a large school within a larger university. A weekly seminar will focus on strategies for success on college and current research in geology. Students will have the opportunity to meet faculty, staff, and other students, participate in school functions, go on field trips and outings, make friends, and learn about the resources and challenges a large university has to offer. Talk to your advisor if you would like to sign up.

Jackson School of Geoscience FIG Course Listings

The GEO FIG

- UGS 001 First-Year Interest Group SMNR-GEO
- CH 301 Principles Of Chemistry I (1)
- GEO 401 Physical Geology





"Being in a FIG not only teaches you about the university's outstanding resources, but most importantly teaches you about the wealth of resources that you can find within yourself."

- James Tolleson, Music Studies Senior

Pre-professional FIGs

Pre-professional First-year Interest Groups (FIGs) are organized around themes and preprofessional 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 201(

Pre-Law

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

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

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

Ethics and Leadership

UGS	303	Medical Ethics
PHL	304	Contemp. Moral Problems

Environment

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

Environment

UGS	302	Hidden Treasures of Plants
GEO	303	Intro to Geology

Film Studies

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

Human Rights & Social Justice

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

International Studies

(restricted to non-business students)

UGS 303 Your Global Money

EUS 305 Intro to European Studies

Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits

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

Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits

UGS	302	Separating Fact/Fiction: Mental Illness
SOC	308	Political Economy of Global Health
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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