

LLC: Practicing First Year Integration

Assignment Prompt for All LLC Classes, Fall 2020

First-Year Integration is a component of the Core Curriculum. This semester you will participate in a 2020 Fall Integration Series related to your LLC theme where you will be able to practice making connections between disciplines (for example: “Advocate Integration Series”). Your Practicing First Year Integration assignment will consist of completing this written assignment after participating in the Integration Series.

For each Integration Series event, two or more professors across multiple disciplines within your LLC theme will discuss a real-world topic that is related to your theme. In line with USD’s mission and vision, these interdisciplinary faculty team-led events will often confront humanity’s urgent challenges, such as Black Lives Matter, homelessness, climate change, or immigration.

This written reflection assignment allows you to practice integrating your knowledge across disciplines so that you can later successfully demonstrate your ability to meet the two First Year Integration learning outcomes.

The First Year Integration learning outcomes are:

- **Recognize** broad connections between multiple disciplines, perspectives, and/or approaches to learning.
- **Articulate** how the integration of different disciplines, perspectives, and approaches to learning can **enhance one’s understanding of practical issues and problems.**

Recognizing multidisciplinary approaches is important to enhance one’s understanding of a common problem. This reflection assignment is designed to allow you to practice recognizing these different approaches and how they might contribute to your own thinking on a problem or topic.

Please complete this assignment and submit it to your LLC professor by his/her/their designated due date. She/he/they will use the “Feedback Rubric for Practicing First Year Integration” to provide you with feedback on your assignment. Your professor will provide you with this rubric prior to the assignment, to help you see the level of expectation. While there is not an official word count, it is likely that one would need at least 100 words per answer to respond with an appropriate amount of depth to most questions posed.

Practicing First Year Integration

Student Name: _____

LLC Theme (please select your LLC theme):

- Advocate:** Social justice in a local and/or global context.
- Collaborate:** Civic Engagement that leads to a participatory democracy.
- Cultivate:** Think critically. Act mindfully. Build your foundation of sustainability.
- Illuminate:** Shining light on the complex realities of the 21st century.
- Innovate:** Creativity is the power to see things differently.

PART 1: Your Course

List the LLC course you are taking this semester _____
(E.g., FYW150 First-Year Writing)

Describe how the LLC theme connects to the course you are taking.

PART 2: Practicing First Year Integration

If your professor is presenting at an Integration Series event, use your professor's discipline plus one other discipline for your assignment. If your professor is not presenting, choose any two disciplines to focus on from the event.

List the title of the Integration Series event you chose to use for this assignment: _____

If it's not evident from the event title, also list the main topic addressed in this event: _____

1. List the discipline of your LLC professor* (e.g., theology, psychology, etc): _____
How does a person in your LLC professor's* discipline view the topic addressed in the Integration Series event? i.e., what questions is a person from this discipline interested in asking, and how does this person go about tackling those questions? What assumptions, facts, or approaches would this person use? What challenges do they face? Provide specific examples from the Integration Series event to support your answer. (Use more space, if needed.)
**Remember, if your LLC professor is not presenting, you may choose any other professor who is presenting at the event.*

2. List the discipline of a second professor who presented at your Integration Series (e.g., political science, biology, etc): _____
How does a person in that discipline view the topic addressed in the Integration Series event? i.e., what questions is a person from this discipline interested in asking, and how does this person go about tackling those questions? What assumptions, facts, or approaches would this person use? What challenges do they face? Provide specific examples from the Integration Series event to support your answer. (Use more space, if needed.)

PART 2: Practicing First Year Integration, continued

3. Consider the topic addressed at the Integration Series event. How does this topic link to your LLC theme? (Use more space, if needed.)

PART 3: Making Connections Between Disciplines

Having experienced the Integration Series event, you have now witnessed a given topic through the lenses of at least two disciplines. How have these different approaches/perspectives contributed to your own thinking about the topic? (Use more space, if needed.)