


Reality Check

Not all freshman courses
are created equal.



Freshman Transition is about helping students understand **why** their education is important and getting them to develop **10-year** plans that take them beyond high school, beyond college or training, and into self-sufficient adult life. Does your current freshman course make the grade? Run through this list to see how your school's course measures up against the **Freshman Transition Standards**. The results may surprise you.

Do students in your freshman course:

- Learn to project into the future and understand the consequences of their actions and the choices they make today?
- Analyze the effect of personal interests and aptitudes upon educational and career planning?
- Develop meaningful 10-year, career-inclusive educational plans?
- Understand the impact their commitment to education has on their future lifestyle and life satisfaction?
- Recognize the impact of career choice on personal lifestyle?
- Demonstrate the skills to locate, analyze and apply career information?
- Know the process for career planning and educational preparation?
- Know how to apply the skill sets required to succeed?
- Demonstrate the importance of productive work habits and attitudes?
- Complete formal assessments and surveys to help them establish and consolidate their identity?
- Know the process used to locate and secure entry-level employment?
- Know how societal change impacts career opportunities?
- Know how many skills are common to a variety of careers and that these skills can be transferred from one career opportunity to another?

For information about The George Washington University's **Freshman Transition Initiative**, visit <http://gsehd.gwu.edu/FTI>. To view a **ten-step plan** for implementing a Freshman Transition course in your school, visit www.principals.org/plarticle.

THIS INFORMATION IS USED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE FRESHMAN TRANSITION INITIATIVE AT GWU.