

HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES (HIPs)

at San Diego State University



**SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Division of Academic Engagement & Student Achievement



HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES (HIPs): A Brief Overview

High Impact Practices (HIPs) at SDSU*

First-Year Success Pathways

Both commuter and residential first-time freshman have access to a variety of success pathways to help facilitate the transition to college life. Residential students may participate in success pathways (e.g. learning communities, freshman seminars) related to their housing assignment and/or a particular theme. Commuter students may participate in a variety of Commuter Student Success Pathways, including freshman seminars (also called Freshman Interest Groups or FIGs), Scholar Seminars (1-unit course add-on for large lecture courses that provide discussion and analysis opportunities in a small group setting), Integrated Curriculum communities (a small group learning cohort enrolled in two or more courses linked by the cooperation of instructors to create an integrated curriculum), and Learning Communities (see definition below). First-Year Success Pathways may also include coordinated mentoring programs.

Spring/Summer before First Year

1 Attend "Explore SDSU" (March) to learn about campus programs, student success pathways, courses and other opportunities.

2 Identify a first-year Student Success Pathway that interests you:

- Residential students should be informed about how your housing preferences and assignments impact your opportunities for different types of pathways
- Commuter students should attend the Commuter Student Success Pathways receptions (June) to learn about and choose a pathway
- Search the SDSU Class Schedule to see identify compatible General Studies 100 courses

3 Register for classes and participate.

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

Common Experiences

SDSU's Common Experience serves to facilitate increased interactions among faculty, staff, and students through a focus on common contemporary themes, related readings and academic endeavors. The Common Experience program selects timely and relevant themes and invites participation from across the campus to prepare a series of lectures, seminars, and complementary academic activities by faculty, authors, community and civic leaders for the academic year. Lectures and activities extend student learning and faculty-staff-student experiences beyond the classroom. Students will engage in deconstructing and exploring a common subject, treated and examined through multidisciplinary lenses, and learn to value intellectual- and personal-responsibility and apply academic thought towards finding meaningful solutions to real-world problems. To explore the Common Experience Program, visit: commonexperience.sdsu.edu

1 At the beginning of each year, check website for semester events, courses, etc.

2 Register for courses relevant to your graduation requirements, major requirements and interests, and note save-the-date for appealing events in your calendar.

3 Attend events, classes each semester.

Learning Communities

The key goals for learning communities are to encourage integration of learning across courses and to involve students with "big questions" that matter beyond the classroom. Students take two or more linked courses as a group and work closely with one another and with their professors. Many learning communities explore a common topic and/or common readings through the lenses of different disciplines. Some deliberately link "liberal arts" and "professional courses"; others feature service learning. Learning communities at SDSU are mostly offered by a specific program (e.g. Casa Azteca) or major (e.g. Nursing).

1 Attend Explore SDSU (March) to learn about campus programs, courses, and other opportunities.

2 Learn about learning communities your major/program require you to enroll in, or research communities you can participate in optionally.

3 Register for classes related to the learning community of your choice.

Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate research seeks to involve students with actively contested questions, empirical observation, cutting-edge technologies, and the sense of excitement that comes from working to answer important questions. SDSU continues to develop multiple pathways to undergraduate research. In a traditional sense, opportunities to complete research as an undergraduate grow out of relationships each student builds with faculty members with whom they share common research interests. And while this is the core of the undergraduate research pathway, students can also take one or more courses to help them plan and complete undergraduate research in a more structured pathway. *General Studies 290: Introduction to Undergraduate Research* and *General Studies 490: Undergraduate Research* are courses that both scaffold and complement the undergraduate research experience. It is important to remember that while undergraduate research is often more prominently promoted in science disciplines, undergraduate research is available in all disciplines. SDSU also offers an annual two-day Student Research Symposium (SRS) to recognize the outstanding scholarly accomplishments of SDSU students. The SRS provides a public forum where SDSU students present their research, scholarship or creative activities.

1 Explore Undergraduate Research websites: ansf.sdsu.edu/dus/scholarships/undergraduate_research.aspx?&spv=t and attend an SDSU Student Research Symposium (March) to learn about undergraduate research at SDSU.

2 Identify, research and connect with potential faculty mentors:

- Review: department websites; faculty bios; existing research projects; faculty abstracts, publications and books; SDSU Student Research Symposium archives

- Find 3 faculty members whose interests match yours
- Update your resume: add relevant courses, awards, interests, leadership, service, etc.
- Send inquiry about potential research partnership and resume to faculty

3 Enroll in special study in your department (299/499 level courses) or in Undergraduate Research pathway courses (General Studies 290/490).

High Impact Practices (HIPs) at SDSU*

Diversity/Global Learning

SDSU offers Study Abroad programs that help students explore cultures, life experiences, and worldviews different from their own. These studies—which may address U.S. diversity, world cultures, or both—often explore "difficult differences" such as racial, ethnic, and gender inequality, or continuing struggles around the globe for human rights, freedom, and power. Frequently, intercultural studies are augmented by experiential learning in the community. Some majors and programs require study abroad, and in order to ensure you meet your graduation and major requirements in a timely manner, start planning early so your study abroad experience does not negatively impact your ability to graduate on time.

Service Learning, Community-Based Learning

In these programs, field-based "experiential learning" with community partners is an instructional strategy—and often a required part of the course. The idea is to give students direct experience with issues they are studying in the curriculum and with ongoing efforts to analyze and solve problems in the community. A key element in these programs is the opportunity students have to both apply what they are learning in real-world settings and reflect in a classroom setting on their service experiences. These programs model the idea that giving something back to the community is an important college outcome, and that working with community partners is good preparation for citizenship, work, and life.

Internships

Internships are experiential learning opportunities in a professional setting that allow you to apply your academic knowledge. Through hands-on experiences, internships allow you to explore your passion and career options while developing your professionalism and building your professional network. Internships are a great way to decide the major you would like to pursue, as well as if the career field you are interested in is a good fit for you.

Spring/Summer before First Year

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

1 Plan ahead! Visit Aztecs Abroad to explore program options.
2 Apply for a passport (or renew).
3 Attend a Study Abroad Information Session.

4 Create a budget: factor in Financial Aid and Scholarships.
5 Talk with your family about your plans.
6 See a study abroad advisor for additional advice.

7 Narrow your program options in Aztecs Abroad.
8 Visit with a Study Abroad Advisor as needed.
9 Consult with your Academic Advisor(s).

10 Submit an application on Aztecs Abroad by the application deadline.
11 Apply for study abroad scholarships.
12 Review resources to learn more about the program and study abroad location.

1 Research SDSU Service Learning and Community Engagement Programs website to learn about service learning opportunities on campus: <http://servicelearning.sdsu.edu/dus/service/>.

2 Research service learning opportunities during study abroad: https://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/studyabroad/saservicelearning.aspx.

3 Search the SDSU Class Schedule and check the "Class Type" box for "Service Learning" to see all related courses on campus during a semester.

4 Enroll in courses. Make sure to plan for time in your schedule to complete field work.

1 Visit and explore the Career Services Internship website: internships.sdsu.edu

2 Search for internships:

- Search Aztec Career Connection for internships. Aztec Career Connection: career.sdsu.edu and click "Students"
- Contact your major's Department Internship Contact. Internship Resources: goo.gl/Jwnfyw
- Go to the Internship Resources page to access internship search websites. Internship Resources: goo.gl/OhoSrt
- Access GainGlobal through your Aztec Career Connection account to find international and domestic internships

3 Develop your resume. Come to Career Services (SSE 1200) for a Fast 15 Walk-in to meet with Career Counselor to get feedback on your resume. Fast 15 Walk-ins available Monday-Thursday 1-2:45pm and Friday 10-11:45am.

4 Practice interviewing by using Big Interview through your Aztec Career Connection account- go to career.sdsu.edu and click "Students."

5 Attend Career Services workshops and events including Career Fairs. Go to goo.gl/nxiBK4 to see the current schedule.

*Modeled after: *High-Impact Educational Practices: What They Are, Who Has Access to Them, and Why They Matter*, by George D. Kuh (AAC&U, 2008).

Shaded color area represents the planning phase.

Solid color area represents the participation phase.

