First-Year Experience (FYE) at Pacific University is your introduction to a holistic liberal arts education. It is designed to make your first year at Pacific unique and challenging, while at the same time provide you with the tools necessary to succeed academically. FYE incorporates a number of components, including:

The First-Year Seminar (FYS) Program provides students with an introduction to the kind of reading, writing, and analytical skills necessary to conduct college-level work. As a humanities-based course, it offers an opportunity for students to engage in personal and cultural critique while developing critical thinking skills. Every entering first-year student enrolls in this course, which fosters a common learning experience for the entire class.

Many co-curricular activities are available to first-year students. In the fall students will attend cultural events (e.g. a musical, play, concert, or opera) in Portland with their FYS class as well as other activities locally and in the Portland area.

Every two years, the Pacific community decides on a common Intersections theme, which unifies some of the academic offerings on campus. This year’s theme is "Social (In)Justice." Lectures, brownbag lectures, film series, and other events will explore the nature of capitalism, ideas about justice, and a host of other related subjects.

Voyages is an optional program that allows you to embark on an adventure with your fellow entering students, undergraduate leaders, and faculty members in August before school starts. You can learn more about this program at http://pacificu.edu/voyages.