FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE
PEER MENTOR 2013-2014
Position Description

QUALIFICATIONS

• All Peer Mentors must have completed a minimum of one year (2 semesters) as a student at UW-Superior. Junior or Senior status will be considered an asset.
• Current UW-Superior student in good academic standing with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 or above, GPA of 3.0 or higher will be considered an asset.
• Must be enrolled as an on-campus student at least part time for the Fall Semester 2013
• Ability to attend assigned FYS class offering time at least once per week. (i.e. fall class schedule must be set)
• Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
• Willingness and ability to communicate professionally with faculty and staff.
• Ability to work with and facilitate group interactions.
• Highly responsible, motivated and interested in facilitating the success of fellow students.
• Interest in and willingness to mentor first year students with transitioning successfully into UW-Superior.
• Demonstrated involvement on campus or in the community (student organizations, intramurals, hall programming, volunteer positions, etc.)
• Ability and willingness to be flexible with changing situations
• Previous experience as a peer mentor or similar positions, considered an asset.

RESPONSIBILITIES

General:
• Attend at least one FYS class period per week (FYS classes will be pre-assigned to mentors for the semester)
• Be open and accessible to regular meetings and communication with their FYS instructor beginning in the spring prior to service and extending through the semester of service
• Attend end of semester FYS Expo (unless it conflicts with your class schedule, work schedule not excused)

Mentor/Role Model:
Peer Mentors will model appropriate behavior both in and outside the classroom and help new students to transition successfully to the university. Peer Mentors fulfill these roles by:
• Being approachable and available to students
• Upholding the University Pledge
• Modeling an appropriate balance between academics and involvement
• Helping students engage in healthy and responsible decision making
• Creating and maintaining an appropriate professional relationship with students
• Demonstrating empathy towards students’ needs and problems
• Setting an example of what a successful student looks like (positive attitude, regularly attending classes, participating in class activities and discussions)

Resource:
Peer Mentors serve as a resource to their instructor, students, and peers by:
• Connecting students to resources on campus
• Providing the peer perspective on what it means to be a UW-Superior Yellowjacket
• Promoting the relationship between students and FYS instructors (provide feedback on the course, assist instructor in identifying student concerns within the limits of confidentiality)
• Supporting other Peer Mentors through their experience (idea sharing, collaborative problem solving, etc.)
Facilitator for learning:

Peer Mentors supplement and enhance the FYS instructor by:

- Contributing to the design of the course by meeting and talking with instructor on an effective integration with the FYS course
- Learn about and assist with FYS Expo project as determined by FYS instructor
- Building community within the classroom
- Facilitate in and out of class discussions regarding student transition and success
- Lead meaningful and engaging class/out of class activities with students

TIME COMMITMENT & TRAINING

Training Commitments:
Attendance at all training sessions are a requirement for this position. No exceptions will be made.

- Meeting with FYE Director: prior to April 16th
- Spring Leadership Academy (recommended): TBD
- Team Training, Phase I dates: May 20-22 (time TBD)
- Team Training, Phase II dates: TBD at May training

General Time Commitments:

- Peer Mentors are expected to work 5-7 hours per week during the semester of service. (determined with Director and other mentors)
- Must attend bi-weekly Peer Mentor staff meetings (determined as a group)
- Must attend bi-weekly 1:1 meetings with the FYE Director and/or Lead Peer Mentor (determined with Director)

COMPENSATION

- Peer Mentors will be paid a monthly stipend of $125 Sept.-Dec. for a total of $500.

REPORTS TO

- The Director of First Year Experience
- Secondary supervision by FYS instructor

QUESTIONS AND SELECTION INFORMATION

- For questions regarding the selection of Peer Mentors, please contact the Director of First Year Experience at 394-8024 and/or jbird2@uwsuper.edu.