What are learning communities?

A Freshman Learning Community is a cluster of two general education and/or lower division courses taken by the same students during the same semester. The cluster of courses are taught by a separate instructor but share a theme, so that students find connections between disciplines. Many national studies have shown that students who participate in Freshman Learning Communities enjoy their courses more, form stronger friendships with classmates, and are more likely to return to college for their second year.

Benefits of being enrolled in Freshman Learning Community:

- Students begin their college experience in small classes
- Students are assured excellent instructors
- Students have the mentoring support and are able to have good peer to peer connections to form new friendship
- Students receive FAFSA, Financial Aid & Scholarship Support
- Students become part of a small community within a larger environment
- Classes are offered at the best times
- Students are more likely to stay in college if they are successful their first semester

MORE INFO:
MAUI.HAWAII.EDU/FYE
Liana Horovitz: In this survey of world cultures (circa 4,000 BCE to 1500 CE) we investigate both the common patterns in human development and the remarkable diversity of human experience. Our learning community, joined with Hawai‘i: Center of the Pacific, will focus on our connection to place and identity through an exploration of local and global history. By looking at environmental and geographic influences, a comparison of religion and spirituality in world societies, the impact of empires and the role of trade and migration in the human experience, we strive to understand why, in specific historical conditions and circumstances, human beings behaved in the ways they did -- and how those choices impact our community and our world today. We pay close attention to how the language, stories, and artistic accomplishments of early societies shape the world we live in today. The support and guidance of two teachers and classes working in cohort will support First-Year-Experience (FYE) students in exploring their own educational goals, their connections to the place they live, and our shared human journey.

Aubrey Matsuura: This course is designed to introduce students to an extensive range of topics through an indigenous perspective. I aim to guide students in knowing the true history our place and developing a deeper understanding through visual and creative mediums and meaningful discussion and reflection. Truth empowers our students which empowers our greater community.

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A Project Based Research Experience

Tom Blamey: In this Introduction to Statistics & Probability (exposure to background of research methods) we investigate both quantitative and qualitative measures for research. Our learning community, joined with Composition I, will focus on our connection to the pathway to research methods. The support and guidance of two teachers and classes working in cohort will support First-Year-Experience (FYE) students in exploring their own educational goals, and our shared educational journey.

Derek Snyder: ENG 100 helps students grow more comfortable as writers and researchers. You will discover and apply concepts of purpose, audience, and tone in writing. The course emphasizes evaluating written texts and writing various types of essays, including writing from sources. Importantly, the course focuses on critical thinking. Having the opportunity to be enrolled in Statistics & Probability at the same time as ENG 100 in our learning community will provide you with the advantage of increased assistance and knowledge when crafting your research papers.
Ryan Locke: This course will introduce students to the concepts and application of purpose, audience, and tone in writing, and will emphasize the evaluation of written texts from a variety of sources. Joined together with Art 101, students will continue to build their writer's arsenal by working through various descriptive pieces, conducting research on art techniques and artists, and utilizing various senses to describe things such as color, shape, size, and all other elements that can be found in a real landscape.

Mike Takemoto: This course introduces basic technical information and in-class, hands-on experience in the fine art of printmaking. Techniques covered include: monoprints, collagraphs, gel prints, relief prints, reduction prints, and screen printing.