

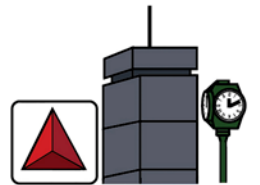
# Assessing the First-Year Experience

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Boston University College of Arts & Sciences

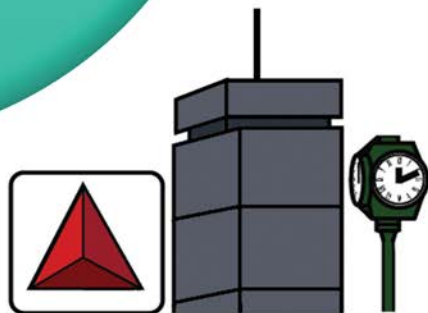


FY 101

# WHAT IS FY101?

Through activities, discussions and BU outings, FY101 is focused on creating BU **community**, promoting **health, wellness** and **safety**, building **academic pathways** & **success**, and exploring **identity**.

The class is supplemented by optional weekend excursions around Boston!



## FY 101

REGISTER ON  
THE STUDENT  
LINK:  
CAS FY101

1 CREDIT, 1 HOUR PER WEEK  
OPEN TO ALL NEW BU STUDENTS

ALLOWS YOU TO GET TO KNOW  
THE INS AND OUTS OF BU

TAUGHT BY A BU ADMINISTRATOR  
& AN UPPERCLASSMAN STUDENT

GIVES YOU OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



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For more information, visit [bu.edu/fye](https://bu.edu/fye)

# LEARNING OUTCOMES



## BU COMMUNITY

After successful completion of FY101, students will be able to:  
Identify appropriate campus resources and opportunities that contribute to their **campus engagement** and overall **sense of belonging**.  
Develop and apply skills that contribute to **building positive relationships** with peers, staff, and faculty.

## HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SAFETY

After successful completion of FY101, students will be able to:  
Explore and practice strategies to **balance** academics, social life, campus involvement, and personal well being.  
Locate and describe the **resources** that assist in keeping the campus community **healthy, safe, and well**.

## ACADEMIC PATHWAYS & SUCCESS

After successful completion of FY101, students will be able to:  
Explore and practice appropriate **academic strategies** to their courses and learning experiences  
Consider how **academic opportunities** will help them achieve their goals.

## YOUR IDENTITY

After successful completion of FY101, students will be able to:  
Reflect on how their **values** have been shaped by their **personal background**, including their **social identity**.

# Abstract

The CAS Office of Student Programs and Leadership would like to:

- Compare the college adjustment of FY101 students and non-FY101 students
- Assess overall engagement and compare with peer institutions
- Collect information about study habits, extracurricular involvement, social commitments, etc. and compare across a variety of variables

We found that there **was a difference** in first-year adjustment across populations and along a number of dimensions. Most notable differences were found among first-year males.





# Methods

We have selected the *Your First College Year (YFCY) Survey*, offered by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI). The YFCY survey has been offered since 2000, and has been adopted by institutions across the country with renowned First Year Experience programs. The YFCY survey specifically assesses the academic and personal development of students during their first year of college.

**469** first-year CAS students took the survey (104 male, 365 female)

**259** students did not take FY101 (65 male, 194 female)

**210** students took FY101 (39 male, 171 female)

Survey was given in Spring of 2017 and assessed the incoming Class of 2020

Emails, incentives, and more!



# Results – BU Community

How often do you interact with close friends at BU? (Q7)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Daily	67.80%	49.20%	74.40%	79.00%	74.40%	80.10%

How often do you feel isolated from campus life? (Q10)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Frequently	19.20%	18.30%	19.50%	15.80%	7.90%	17.70%

I feel valued at this institution (Q16)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Strongly Agree and Agree	64.20%	76.80%	59.80%	74.10%	74.30%	74.10%



# Results – BU Community, continued

I am satisfied with first-year programs (first-year seminars, learning communities, etc.) (Q11)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Very satisfied	11.70%	8.20%	13.00%	28.00%	32.40%	27.00%
Satisfied	19.10%	14.80%	20.70%	44.40%	37.80%	46.10%
Neutral	27.80%	37.70%	24.30%	19.00%	10.80%	21.10%
Disatisfied	4.80%	4.90%	4.70%	3.70%	8.10%	2.60%
Very dissatisfied	0.90%	0.00%	1.20%	1.10%	0.00%	1.30%
Can't Rate, No Experience	35.70%	34.40%	36.10%	3.70%	10.80%	2.00%

I feel a sense of belonging to this campus (Q16)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Strongly Agree and Agree	71.50%	78.60%	69.10%	79.50%	77.10%	80.20%



# Results – Health, Wellness, & Safety

Since entering college, how often have you felt unsafe on campus? (Q10)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Occasionally	23.50%	21.70%	24.10%	13.30%	7.90%	14.60%
Not at all	74.80%	78.30%	73.60%	86.20%	92.10%	84.80%

Since entering college, how often have you felt depressed? (Q15)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Frequently	25.70%	12.30%	30.30%	20.50%	13.90%	22.10%
Occasionally	52.30%	61.40%	49.10%	46.50%	50.00%	45.60%

# Results – Academic Pathways & Success

How satisfied are you with academic advising? (Q11)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Very satisfied	19.90%	13.30%	22.30%	23.30%	27.00%	22.40%

How satisfied are you with your overall academic experience? (Q11)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
Very satisfied	17.40%	21.30%	16.00%	23.80%	35.10%	21.10%





# Results – Identity Development

How would you rate yourself in your ability to see the world from someone else's perspective? (Q14)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
A Major Strength	31.70%	27.10%	33.30%	35.10%	41.70%	33.60%

How would you rate yourself in your tolerance of others with different beliefs? (Q14)

	Total not FY101	Male not FY101	Female not FY101	Total FY101	Male FY101	Female FY101
A Major Strength	43.40%	30.50%	47.90%	47.00%	52.80%	45.60%

# Limitations

- FY101 is self selecting
- Correlation does not equal causation
- YFCY instrument subjectivity



# Implications for Further Research

- Compare results to NSSE
- Statistical significance (working with IR)
- Follow up with qualitative assessment
  - Example: campus involvement, advising





# Questions?



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