First Year Seminar Course (SSC 100)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is First Year Seminar (SSC 100)?

First Year Seminar (SSC 100) is a one-credit, sixteen-hour course designed to assist students in building a strong foundation of skills for a successful transition to Delaware Technical Community College. Students learn about their program of study/major, college/campus resources and support services, academic opportunities, and future career. To accomplish this, the course provides information on the College processes and technology; resources for self-assessment and reflection; strategies for academic and career success; and opportunities for college involvement. The course is offered in a variety of days, times, and sessions to meet students' needs and schedules. Faculty are trained and equipped with instructional tools which promote active student participation in their learning process in SSC 100.

2. Who must take SSC 100?

Effective fall 2016, all new, transfer, and readmit award-seeking students with 0-11 college-level credits are required to successfully complete SSC 100. This includes all award-seeking and undeclared students who are enrolled in an associate degree or diploma program (students enrolled in credit certificate programs are not required to take SSC 100). Students who entered prior to fall 2016, have earned more than 12 college-level credits at Delaware Tech or will transfer 12 or more college-level credits to Delaware Tech will be exempt from the requirement. Exemptions are at the discretion of/authorized by the Dean of Student Affairs or designee.

3. Why are students required to take SSC 100?

Delaware Tech data show that the completion of First Year Seminar (SSC 100) increases student retention, GPA, and credits earned. Due to these positive outcomes, SSC 100 has been approved as a requirement for all degree and diploma students.

4. How is the SSC 100 requirement implemented?

SSC 100 is programmed as a prerequisite or concurrent course for all developmental and one hundred level courses. Award seeking students must register for SSC 100 in their first semester, or the registration system will not permit them to register for other courses.

5. What will happen if students do not complete SSC 100 in the first semester? The first year?

Students who do not successfully complete SSC 100 in their first semester will need to re-register for the course, preferably within the first semester, but if not, in their second semester. Students who have not passed the course by their third semester will be required to take another Student Success Course (SSC) as a substitution. The SSC course will be determined in consultation with the department chair or his/her designee who will submit the course substitution.

Please keep in mind that unsuccessful attempts (U, W, F) in SSC 100 count against academic progress and may also affect financial aid eligibility.

6. Are English as a Second Language (ESL) students required to take SSC 100?

SSC 100 is not required to complete the ESL certificate. ESL students will be required to complete SSC 100 if they pursue a degree or diploma program. ESL students must complete or be exempt from Intermediate Listening and Speaking (ESL 038) before taking SSC 100. ESL students may be advised to take SSC 100 with EAP coursework.

7. Will students who started prior to fall 2016 but change their major in/after fall 2016 or after be required to fulfill the SSC 100 requirement?

Students who enroll prior to fall 2016, but then change their major in that term or after, will be required to complete SSC 100 unless they have already earned 12 college-level credits.

8. What if the student previously completed SSS 101, Mastering College Life?

The SSC 100 curriculum and objectives are different from those of SSS 101. Students who previously completed SSS 101 but do not have 12 college-level credits will need to complete SSC 100.

9. What if the student already has a college degree?

Students who have previously graduated from an accredited college with an associate or bachelor's degree, and coded as "documented by degree," may elect not to take SSC 100 regardless of number of transferable credits. Students should discuss this with an Academic Counselor. The Academic Counselor will forward the request for exemption to the Dean of Student Affairs. Upon receiving approval from the Dean, the Registrar's Office will award "advanced credit" for SSC 100. This will appear on the student's Delaware Tech transcript.

10. Does SSC 100 count toward graduation?

Yes. Effective fall 2016, SSC 100 is a graduation requirement.

11. Does SSC 100 transfer to other two-year and four-year institutions?

It may. As with all college-level courses, transferability is determined by the institution to which the student transfers.

12. Is it possible to transfer SSC 100 into Delaware Tech?

Because SSC 100 is specific to the policies, procedures, and resources of Delaware Tech, transfer credit for SSC 100 is not offered.

13. Why are transfer students with fewer than 12 transferred credits required to take SSC 100?

Delaware Tech wants to assist all students achieve success in their educational goals, including those who started their experience at another institution. Since SSC 100 is designed to assist students in their transition to Delaware Tech in their first semester, students who have fewer than 12 credits that transfer to Delaware Tech benefit from the course since they have not completed Delaware Tech's equivalent of a full-time semester (12 credits or more).

14. What if transfer credit has not been evaluated in advance of the student's registration?

It takes approximately 3-6 weeks for transfer credit to be evaluated once the official transcript has been received by the College. Students may register for classes prior to the transfer credit evaluation; however, the student will be required to register for SSC 100. Once transfer credit has been evaluated, the student may drop the SSC 100 class if 12 college-level credits have been approved for transfer. It is the student's responsibility to drop the class. The procedures for withdrawing from a class are available at https://www.dtcc.edu/academics/college-catalog/academic-policies-and-procedures. It is the student's responsibility to understand how dropping or withdrawing from a class will affect the student's account. Students receiving financial aid should discuss the ramifications of withdrawing from a class with the Financial Aid Office.

Students may choose to enroll in a late start SSC 100 to allow more time for the transfer credit evaluation to be completed.

Academic counselors may also compare a student's transcript to the transfer course equivalencies listing (https://www.dtcc.edu/academics/transfer-options/course-equivalencies) to determine if the student is likely to have 12 transferable credits. If this is the case, the counselor may temporarily override the student's SSC 100 requirement for the first semester registration. The counselor's preliminary review is not official, and the student is responsible for ensuring the SSC 100 requirement is completed.

15. Will dual enrollment high school students who apply to the College need to take SSC 100?

Dual enrollment students who later attend as award-seeking students will be required to take SSC 100 unless they have completed 12 transferable college-level credits prior to transferring from a non-award seeking student to an award-seeking student.

16. Will SSC 100 appear on the course sequence sheets for each program of study?

Yes. SSC 100 is listed as a first semester requirement on the sequence sheets for all degrees and diplomas.

17. Will SSC 100 appear on Degree Works for each program of study?

Yes. SSC 100 is listed as a first semester requirement in Degree Works for all degrees and diplomas.

18. Will SSC 100 add 1 required credit to each program of study?

Yes.