FOCUS Learning Community

By taking part in FOCUS, you have access to a vast network of professional staff and qualified teachers that will assist with meeting your educational goals.

By taking part in FOCUS, you have the opportunity to develop the necessary academic skills required for success in college and life.

By taking part in FOCUS, you form lasting friendships that foster personal development and academic growth.

Discover. Connect. Change your future by being a part of the FOCUS Learning Community at DCC.

Call (845) 431-8090 for more information.

Prepare. Enhance. Achieve!

The mission of the Office of Academic Services and Testing is to support students in pursuit of their academic goals by providing programs and services that enable students to realize their individual potential.

FOCUS Contact Information
Office of Academic Services and Testing
Hudson Hall, Room 315
(845) 431-8090
sunydutchess.edu/academics/academic_services

FOCUS is a semester-based program that improves students’ academic skills, fosters personal development and creates a supportive learning community to promote success in both college and life.
What is FOCUS?

FOCUS is a learning community coordinated by the Office of Academic Services and Testing that brings students together to develop reading, writing and college success skills during their first semester. Entering DCC freshmen are invited to participate in FOCUS if their placement test scores indicate they would benefit from this college transition program.

The FOCUS program also offers fabulous extras such as:

- FOCUS Semester Kick-off
- Student Reunions
- End-of-Semester Celebrations
- Academic Advising
- Financial Aid Informational Sessions
- Peer Mentoring
- Academic Success Events

What is a learning community?

A learning community is a group of people who share common educational goals, and are actively engaged in learning together and from each other. It supports and inspires the intellectual and personal development of all members of the community.

Why FOCUS?

• 95% of FOCUS students surveyed said they would recommend FOCUS to a fellow student.

• 90% of FOCUS students surveyed indicated that participating in the FOCUS Learning Community had improved their learning.

Comments from FOCUS students

'FOCUS helped me to become a better student. I’m sure it can help anyone.'

'I definitely learned how to pay attention in class more and understand the material better.'

'I would definitely recommend FOCUS.'

'It is nice to have the same students in some of your classes. It makes for a stronger group. Making connections to each other helped us to support one another throughout the semester.'

What does FOCUS include?

Reading Course
Learn to read more effectively and acquire the skills and strategies necessary for college-level reading comprehension and analysis.

English Course
Develop fluency and accuracy in writing to prepare for college-level composition courses.

College Success Skills Course
Acquire necessary academic and personal development skills for success in college and life.

Campus Academic Support Services
Utilize one or more campus academic services for a minimum of one hour per week. Services could include use of: Student Academic Success Center, Writing Center, Math Center and/or Tutoring Services. You choose!

Peer Mentoring
Develop relationships with experienced FOCUS students by attending FOCUS peer mentor led events.

Academic Advising
Discuss academic, financial, personal and career matters, one-on-one with an advisor.

FOCUS On Your Future
DCC’s FOCUS Learning Community Program will help you create a vision for fulfilling your academic goals.