**uawordmark**

**College of Arts and Sciences and Housing and Residential Communities**

**Capstone Living Learning Communities**

**College of Arts and Sciences**

**Academic Initiatives and Outcomes**

**The Capstone Living Learning Community in Parker-Adams Hall:** *The Parker-Adams Year,* which began in fall 2000, serves a maximum of 96 Arts & Sciences first year students. *The Parker-Adams Year* focus is on the first year transition and mentoring by faculty, student fellows and Resident Advisors. The staff consists of a faculty-in-residence, academic advisor, community director, a graduate hall director, five RAs, and five fellows, who are sophomores or above who have living-learning experience. The program is composed of common English 101 and 102 sections, and a common two-semester compass course. As part of the compass course and residential program students have interaction with faculty as mentors who visit the hall, give talks, dine with students monthly and serve as academic and personal resources. Students are required to complete four hours per week of supervised study hall, attend a minimum of three cultural events per semester and community service. The in class and out of class experiences are woven together to create a seamless learning environment that actively promotes student engagement in the community as citizens and scholars.

**Learning Objectives**

* Provide students with meaningful opportunities to be engaged with their communities.
* Encourage students to make healthy choices regarding academic, and student life.
* Challenge students to excel, develop intellectual curiosity and cultural enrichment.

**Learning Outcomes**

* Students will develop a supportive network of peers
* Students will participate in service projects as a citizen and scholar
* Students will link involvement in campus organizations and group activities with leadership skill development
* Students will utilize resources designed for academic and personal success (writing lab, math lab, counseling center, center for teaching and learning)
* Students will engage in discussions with faculty as active learners
* Students will develop an academic plan that ensures persistence to graduation
* Students will participate in creative activity and cultural arts events

**The Capstone Living Learning Community in Harris Hall:** The Harris Living Learning Program, which began in fall 2003, grew out of an assessment of the success of the *Parker-Adams Year*. Initiated by the College of Arts and Sciences, with a focus on pre-professional education and the linkages between professional and liberal arts education, the program involves four colleges (Arts and Sciences, Communication and Information Sciences, Human Environmental Science, and Nursing). It is a first year coeducational community of approximately 200 students. Programming consists of cohort-scheduled classes and a common compass class taught by faculty members in each of the colleges. As part of the compass class, the students have required attendance at study hall, and they must attend campus cultural events. As part of the compass course, faculty from the four colleges visit the hall to engage students in discussion of a variety of topics designed to assist with academic success, social adjustment, community engagement both in the Harris community and the larger University Community, freshman to sophomore retention, and persistence to graduation for each of the participating colleges

**Learning Objectives**

* Provide students with meaningful opportunities to be engaged with their communities.
* Encourage students to make healthy choices regarding academic, and student life.
* Challenge students to excel, develop intellectual curiosity and cultural enrichment.

**Learning Outcomes**

* Students will develop a supportive network of peers
* Students will participate in service projects as a citizen and scholar
* Students will link involvement in campus organizations and group activities with leadership skill development
* Students will utilize resources designed for academic and personal success (writing lab, math lab, counseling center, center for teaching and learning)
* Students will engage in discussions with faculty as active learners
* Students will develop an academic plan that ensures persistence to graduation
* Students will participate in creative activity and cultural arts events