ACTIVATE YOUR SUPPORT:

Getting your FYE group engaged early is a winning step. here are some tips to get you started. Contact your peer mentor; get acquainted. Establish rules of engagement. Decide on a facilitator who will be your 'buddy facilitator' for the year. Support is always a good thing!

START COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS:

Your group WhatsApp was created. Ensure you are made an administrator in the WhatsApp settings. Welcome the students to your group. Introduce yourself & the peer mentor. Do icebreaker and introductory activities to get to know the students. You can decide on FYE meeting time (typically Thursdays at 2pm) & meeting mode (zoom/google meet). Set up a recurring meeting

CREATE GROUP RULES:

Share your expectations with the group. Allow them to share their expectations. Together you can come up with some goals for the year (use FYE objectives as a guide) and decide on some guidelines for how the group will operate.

DISCUSS THE YEAR'S SCHEDULE AND STUDENTS' NEEDS:

Discuss what topics are to be covered in FYE. Ask about other desired topics. Be flexible. The main goal is to get our students any academic & social support needed and for them to feel connected to the UWI. Methods of achieving this can vary.

GROUP TECHNIQUES:

Once the group is underway, you may assign tasks and responsibilities to bring out certain skills and talents. FYE has curated icebreaker activities and games for you that can bring out student personalities. Eventually, activities and discourse in the groups will reveal strengths and weaknesses which, as a facilitator, you can develop.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ONE ON ONE RAPPORT:

One on one check in with your students (possibly via WhatsApp) can also develop a bond between facilitator and student. Use this feature to check on personal and social wellness as well as academic progress.

SUPPORT FOR YOU:

You can request one on one consultation for technical support, facilitator tips & tricks and engagement strategies at any time.

Technical/engagement: Alton Bodley -altonbodley@gmail.com, 876-899-4617 Tips & tricks/engagement: Simone Williams - simone.williams04@uwimona.edu.jm, 876-774-4912 & Tanya Dixon -tanya.dixon02@uwimona.edu.jm, 876-276-5869