

# Guide to First-Year Success

## WELCOME, NEW PANTHERS!

At Ohio Dominican, we'll help you navigate through college and prepare for life. As you move through your four-year college experience at ODU, consider how you might make the journey your own!

- YEAR 1:** Connect with ODU
- YEAR 2:** Focus and Commit
- YEAR 3:** Community Engagement
- YEAR 4:** Integration and Celebration

Along the way, you will discover lasting connections with professors who mentor you, staff who encourage you, and classmates whose friendships will last a lifetime.

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## FIRST-YEAR FOCUS

### Connect with the ODU Community

- Who am I?
- Who am I as a college student?
- How will I get involved on campus?
- How will I create my own story at ODU?

#### Goals

- Develop life and study skills to be academically successful.
- Build relationships that will support your success.
- Focus interests and passions to declare a major.

#### Be Curious » Take a Chance » Make Mistakes » Don't Give Up

This is your opportunity to design a college experience that allows you to grow intellectually, spiritually, personally and professionally.



# CONNECT YOUR PASSION WITH A PURPOSE.



## FIRST-YEAR SUCCESS PLAN

### Academic

- Meet frequently with your Academic Advisor.
- Know your course requirements.
- Set realistic goals for the year.
- Introduce yourself to your instructors and visit them during office hours.
- Visit the ODU Library for research support, study space and collaboration.
- Use the Academic Resource Center for tutoring and learning strategies.
- Study with peers.

### Engagement

- Explore student groups and clubs.
- Learn about someone with a different background.
- Attend The Big Fair.
- Attend a Center for Dominican Studies event, athletic event, or any of the other exciting events happening on campus.
- Explore your leadership potential through programs, such as NSLS and Emerging Leaders.
- Serve on campus and in the community.

### Career

- Take a career assessment to identify goals, values and interest, and discuss results with a career advisor.
- Research career paths for majors that interest you.
- Activate Handshake: Create your profile and explore available career opportunities.
- Design your professional story by writing a resume and creating a LinkedIn profile.