



Coaching, Mentoring, Persistence and Student Success

Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) - COMPASS:

Who:

- COMPASS selects new, first-time-in-college AA degree-seeking students.

What:

- COMPASS provides academic coaching and mentoring to help students overcome non-academic barriers to success.

Where:

- Academic coaching and mentoring services are housed in Enrollment Services, the Falcon HOPE Center, and the School of Student Life Skills.

When:

- Academic Coaches connect with selected students upon completing their admissions application and continue support throughout the first year.
- Selected students experience mentoring during office hours while enrolled in the required course SLS1122 (Student Life Skills).

Why:

- The initiative aims to ensure student success by identifying potential barriers early and providing students with guidance and access to resources in order to help overcome them.

- It fosters a sense of mattering and belonging, particularly for new, first-time-in-college AA degree-seeking students who may be unsure of available resources.

- Our goal is to increase retention and persistence.

How:

- Academic coaches help foster a sense of mattering and belonging by developing supportive relationships with students.
- Mentors develop long-term relationships to help students address and overcome academic and personal issues.
- Faculty will receive tool kits to assist in mentoring.
- Qualitative and quantitative assessment measures will determine the success of COMPASS.
- Institutional data, student surveys, and mattering and motivation assessments will be monitored.
- The QEP aligns with the College's 2020 – 2024 Strategic Plan, focusing on academic excellence, student success, partnerships, and institutional effectiveness.
- It addresses SACSCOC's components for a successful QEP.
- The SACSCOC evaluators will assess the viability of the COMPASS program during their visit

Other Important Information:

- The QEP is an integral part of the reaffirmation of accreditation process.
- It reflects DSC's commitment to enhancing institutional quality and effectiveness.