Integrated Learning Outcomes

Mindfulness

Community & Communication

Critical Thinking

Resource Management

Self-Discovery

Active Learning

"The First Year Experience has helped spark enthusiastic discussions of the many personal interests and cultural contexts that shape musicians' work in the world—from music and social justice to the role of musicians and other artists in addressing environmental sustainability."

—Jill Gatlin,
NEC Liberal Arts faculty

"My liberal arts seminar students have noted important outcomes from their work in FYE, specifically how it has helped them understand their core values, identities, definitions of success and awareness of their role in the community."

—Patrick Keppel,
NEC Liberal Arts faculty

"We are all doing our best to build a bridge across the digital divide, and the FYE program is a wonderful example of one way we are attempting to construct it."

— Karen Holvik,
NEC Voice faculty and
FYE mentor

"I firmly believe that FYE is providing students with powerful tools to clarify their interests and expectations and to build a solid foundation for their future."

—Lautaro Mantilla,
NEC Contemporary
Improvisation faculty and
FYE mentor

"The mentor sessions have been eye-opening for me—being able to have focused discussions with a professional musician has shown me that a successful musical career requires much more than making progress in a practice room."

—Davis You '24,
Cello Performance

The First Year Experience (FYE) weaves together coursework in the liberal arts, music history, health and wellness, and entrepreneurial musicianship to connect classroom learning to performance practice through six integrated learning outcomes:

The skills and mindsets students learn in the First Year Experience will prime them for success in future courses at FYE and in their creative work as professional artists. FYE faculty worked together to build an interconnected, responsive curriculum, featuring multiple learning modalities to reinforce and expand on each learning outcome.

first year experience

N|E|C
New England Conservatory

Integrated Learning Outcomes

Mindfulness
Reflection
Metacognition
Self-assessment
Resilience
Stress management

Community & Communication
Collaboration
Global citizenship
Networking
Audience engagement
Cultural and academic conversation
Writing and presentation

Critical Thinking
Systems thinking
Pattern recognition
Close reading
Problem solving
Applying/testing theories
Engaging with multiple points of view/perspectives

Resource Management
Researching and accessing resources
Time management
Money management
Creative energy management

Self-Discovery
Self-advocacy
Self-efficacy
Individually determined definition of success
Interdisciplinary artist-citizen

Active Learning
Iterative learning
Experimentation
Remove fear of failure