HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must apply to the graduate program through the Graduate College at Kennesaw State University. Official college transcripts from each college or university attended, GRE scores (or equivalent), two letters of recommendation, and a letter of application/personal statement are required with the online application.

Application Deadline
June 1

Graduate Assistantships Available
Scholarship Available

For more information about the program, visit http://uc.kennesaw.edu/msfys or email msfys@kennesaw.edu
“Given the increased diversity and complexity of incoming first-year students, faculty and staff who teach and support these students need advanced and unique skill sets that go beyond what most graduate programs currently offer. I am thrilled that KSU has developed a program that fills this critical gap, and am confident that it will generate a new level of expertise ready to infuse the ever-changing landscape of higher education.”

Michael L. Sanseviro, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President and Dean of Students
Kennesaw State University

“Our graduate program will elevate and advance this new discipline. The Master of Science in First-Year Studies, the first academic program in this discipline, has been designed for any prospective faculty or staff member who aspires to work with or teach first-year students or other populations of students in transition.”

Stephanie M. Foote, Ph.D.
Director, Master of Science in First-Year Studies
Professor of Education
CETL Faculty Fellow for High-Impact Practices
Kennesaw State University

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
This fully online graduate program encompasses the theory and study of factors affecting the initial college experience, including foundations of students’ transitional experiences and research on various programs that promote a successful transition. Grounded in decades of research, this is the only graduate degree program dedicated to the discipline of first-year studies.

Through an innovative curriculum, students in the Master of Science in First-Year Studies (MSFYS) graduate program develop skills and knowledge needed to create and manage curricular and co-curricular programs, and engage in research that extends the collective understanding of first-year and transition studies. The MSFYS program is designed for anyone interested in working with or teaching first-year college students, including residence hall directors, academic advisors, teaching staff, faculty, and administrators.

Program Highlights
- 100% online
- Only degree program in first-year studies
- Innovative curriculum and method of delivery
- Unique preparation for faculty, staff, and administrators who are interested in first-year and transition studies

CURRICULUM
- FYS 5000 Introduction to First-Year Studies
- FYS 5100 Methods and Assessment of First-Year Programs
- FYS 5200 History of First-Year Studies
- FYS 5300 Fundamentals of Designing First-Year Programs and Experiences
- FYS 5400 Cognitive Development of First-Year College Students
- FYS 5500 Development and Organization of First-Year Programs
- FYS 5600 First-Year Student Success: Theory and Practice
- FYS 5700 Multiculturalism of First-Year Students
- FYS 5900 Directed Study (Elective)
- FYS 6000 Practicum: Teaching a First-Year Seminar (Elective)
- FYS 6100 Seminar on Current Topics in First-Year Studies (Elective)
- FYS 6200 Thesis