A learning community is more than a residence hall. It’s more than a social group. It’s an opportunity to live and learn with other first-year students like you, and it’s a sure path to success at Minnesota State Mankato.

Learning Community Components

1ST YEAR LEARNING COMMUNITY
Choosing to live in a learning community means you will live with other first-year students in a specific area of McElroy or Preska Residence Communities, and you will take a number of your classes together.

PEER MENTORS
Each learning community has a Learning Community Coordinator (LCC), an upper-class student dedicated to helping you set and achieve academic goals. LCCs also help develop study groups within your community, plan social events for community members, and help you navigate your new college life.

COURSE CONNECTIONS
When you enroll in a learning community, you and your fellow community members are automatically registered for a block of courses you’ll take as a group. Depending on which learning community you choose, the courses fulfill requirements for specific majors or University General Education. Details are online at www.mnsu.edu/learningcommunities/.

If you have already taken any of the courses offered through the learning community you are considering, you can still participate in the learning community. Just contact the Learning Community professional staff to ensure you won’t be enrolled in that course.

FIRST-YEAR FRIENDS
Worried about making friends your first year? Most first-year students feel the same. As part of a learning community, you’ll live and attend classes with people who share similar interests. Learning community members tend to make friendships that last as they learn, dream, and discover college life together.

THE BIGGER PICTURE
There is life outside of the classroom, and your learning community will help you make the most of it. Your LCC, fellow first-year students, faculty, and staff you meet through the community will help you find ways to get involved in student organizations, academic clubs, and the greater Mankato community.

GIVING BACK
Your learning community will choose and participate in a service project, either on campus or in the Mankato community. Often, faculty work with learning communities to choose projects related to the major or course subjects. For example, engineering majors volunteered for Habitat for Humanity while nursing majors participated in a community-wide Alzheimer’s Walk.

SHARED EXPERIENCE
All learning community students are expected to read a common book during the summer before they join the program in the fall semester. Details about the program and the book selection are online at www.mnsu.edu/newstudent/communities/commonread.html. When you arrive for Orientation, you will be able to buy the book at our on-campus Barnes and Noble bookstore, or you can buy the book at any bookstore or online book retailer. The selected book may be used in some of your classes, and you will have the opportunity to engage in the out-of-class activities and discussions as well.

IT’S EASY TO ENROLL.

1. **Apply for admission to Minnesota State University, Mankato.**

2. **Make a housing reservation.** You can apply for housing online at www.mnsu.edu/reslife/ or call Residential Life (507-389-1011) and let them know you’d like application materials.

3. **Complete your**
   1. Learning Community Enrollment Form, and Excellence in Citizenship Agreement. Go to https://orgsync.com/106034/forms/132107
   2. Priority Move-In Form. Go to https://orgsync.com/106034/forms/132245

The Learning Communities Program will notify you of your status once your forms are received. You will not be enrolled in a learning community unless you’ve completed your housing application and submitted your housing pre-payment.

No applications for 2015-2016 learning communities will be accepted after the conclusion of New Student Summer Orientation in July 2015.

There is no additional cost to participate in a learning community.
If you’re planning to pursue a degree in nursing, consider living and studying with other students who share your interest in healthcare. This learning community will help you develop a solid foundation in this challenging and competitive major. You’ll meet faculty and staff, enhance your academic skills, and learn about career options.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
*BIOL 220: Human Anatomy (4 credits)
*CHEM 111: Chemistry of Life Process Part II (Organic and Biochemistry) (5 credits)
*CHEM 111W: Chemistry, Caring and Team Building (3 credits)
ENG 101: Composition (4 credits)
ENG 101W: Introductory Cultural Geography (3 credits)
PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science (4 credits)

*It is highly recommended that you take college-preparatory biology and chemistry classes in high school (or CHEM 106) in order to prepare yourself for the challenging courses in the nursing program.

NOTE: This learning community is recommended only for students majoring in civil, mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering. It is NOT recommended for students with any other major, including the engineering technology majors.

Continued from column 1

One introductory engineering course from the following:
CIVE 201: Introduction to Problem Solving and CIVE Design (2 credits) CIVE majors
ME 201: Introduction to Problem Solving and ME Design (2 credits) ME majors
EE 107: Introduction to Electrical/Computer Engineering II (3 credits) EE and CE majors

*Enrollment in the Alpha Engineering Learning Community is based on ACT Math and Accuplacer Math Placement Scores. In order to enroll in this learning community, you must be eligible to enroll in MATH 115: Precalculus Mathematics or higher based on ACT Math or Accuplacer Math Placement Test scores. See the Introduction to Science, Engineering, Technology Learning Community if you place into MATH 112: College Algebra or lower.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: E Hall, 1st floor (women) and 2nd floor (men)

*Please note: McElroy E Hall is charged at the Basic Room rate.
For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Dr. Julie Hebenstreit
School of Nursing
507-389-6828
julia.hebenstreit@mnsu.edu

Ms. Kasi Johnson
School of Nursing
507-389-6022
kasi.johnson@mnsu.edu
Choosing and Changing Majors

Join other first-year students in a learning community that gives you an opportunity to learn about yourself while exploring majors and career opportunities. You’ll learn new tools to help you set and reach personal goals and become a successful lifelong learner.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- BIOL 100: Our Natural World (4 credits)
- CMST 102: Public Speaking (3 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

Spring Semester:
- CSP T10: Decision Making for Career and Life (3 credits)
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science (4 credits)
- ENG 101: Composition (4 credits)

Students in this learning community are also urged to take an introductory-level course in a major of interest. Students will work with academic advisors to determine an appropriate course.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
Preska Residence Community: L Hall, 4th floor (men and women)

* Please note: Preska L Hall is charged at the Semi-Suite Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Ms. Nicole Stock
Office of New Student and Family Programs
507-389-5498
nicole.stock@mnsu.edu

Dental Hygiene

If you’re a future dental hygienist, this learning community will give you camaraderie and support as you complete dental hygiene prerequisite courses, participate in activities, and develop relationships with faculty from the dental hygiene department.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- DHYG 100: Perspectives in Dental Hygiene (1 credit)
- BIOL 220: Human Anatomy (4 credits)
- HLTH 101: Health and the Environment (3 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

It is recommended, although not a part of the learning community courses, that students also register for:
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science (4 credits); OR
- CHEM 106: Chemistry of Life Process Part I (General) (3 credits) for students with limited chemistry background or for students who did not take chemistry in high school; OR
- MATH 098: Intermediate Algebra (4 credits) for students with limited math background

Spring Semester:
- CHEM 111: Chemistry of Life Process Part II (Organic and Biochemistry) (5 credits)
- SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (3 credits)
- STAT 154: Elementary Statistics (3 credits)
- CMST 102: Public Speaking (3 credits)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: F Hall, 1st floor (women) and 2nd floor (men)

* Please note: McElroy F Hall is charged at the Basic Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Dr. Lynnette Engeswick
Department of Dental Hygiene
507-389-1313
lynette.engeswick@mnsu.edu
Diverse Cultures and Global Communities

Thoughtfully consider your own background, appreciate the diversity and unity of human lifestyles across time and space, and immerse yourself in the rich Mankato-area Native American history with engaged faculty and staff in this learning community. Most courses offered fulfill University General Education requirements, so any student interested in learning about the diverse cultures in our global community can take part, regardless of major.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)
- AIS 102: The Story of American Indian Country to 1900 (4 credits)
- ANTH 260: Vampires, Werewolves, and Zombies: Folklore of Fear (3 credits)

Spring Semester:
- HIST 171W: World Civilization, 1500-Present (4 credits)
- AIS 103: The Story of Indian Country 1900 to Present (3 credits)
- ANTH 101: Introduction to Anthropology (4 credits)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: F Hall, 3rd floor (men) and 4th floor (women)

Who to call:
Dr. Chelsea Mead
Department of Anthropology
507-389-1302
chelsea.mead@mnsu.edu

Elementary Education

In this learning community, future teachers develop an understanding of teaching and professionalism through active learning experiences like tutoring, shadowing, and mentoring in school settings. Your commitment to the field will be strengthened while living and studying with fellow elementary education majors.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- ART 100: Elements and Principles of Art (3 credits)
- HLTH 240: Introduction to Drug Education (3 credits)
- ENG 101: Composition (4 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

It is recommended, although not a part of the learning community courses, that students with a limited math background also register for MATH 098: Intermediate Algebra (4 credits) during the fall semester.

Spring Semester:
- CHEM 100: Chemistry in Society (4 credits)
- GEOG 100: Elements of Geography (3 credits)
- MATH 201: Elements of Mathematics I (3 credits)
- CMST 100: Fundamentals of Communication (3 credits)

* Successful completion of Math 098 OR Minimum ACT Math Subscore of 22 OR Minimum Accuplacer Elementary Algebra score of 76 or 50 on Accuplacer College Level Math is prerequisite to enroll in MATH 201.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: H Hall, 3rd floor (men) and 4th floor (women)

* *Please note: McElroy F Hall is charged at the Basic Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Ms. Karen Colum
Department of Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
karen.colum@mnsu.edu

Dr. Ron Browne
Department of Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
ronald.browne@mnsu.edu
If you’re planning to pursue a degree in nursing, consider living and studying with other students who share your interest in healthcare. This learning community will help you develop a solid foundation in this challenging and competitive major. You’ll meet faculty and staff, enhance your academic skills, and learn about career options.

NOTE: This learning community is only recommended for students who have a strong background in chemistry and math. Generally, students who enroll in this learning community took chemistry during their senior year of high school with high achievement.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll enroll in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- CHEM 111: Chemistry of Life Process Part II (Organic and Biochemistry) [5 credits]
- NURS 101W: Courage, Caring and Team Building [3 credits]
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science [4 credits]
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar [1 credit]

Spring Semester:
- BIOL 220: Human Anatomy [4 credits]
- GEOG 103: Introductory Cultural Geography [3 credits]

It is highly recommended that you take college preparatory biology and chemistry classes in high school in order to prepare yourself for the challenging courses in the nursing program.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: E Hall, 2nd floor (men) and 3rd floor (women)

* Please note: McElroy E Hall is charged at the Basic Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
- Dr. Julie Hebenstreit
  School of Nursing
  507-389-6828
  julia.hebenstreit@mnsu.edu
- Ms. Kasi Johnson
  School of Nursing
  507-389-6022
  kasi.johnson@mnsu.edu

If you’re interested in working in the healthcare field but haven’t narrowed to a specific profession, this learning community may be for you. You’ll develop strong connections to faculty and staff in the College of Allied Health and Nursing who will guide you through the wide variety of careers in healthcare. The courses offered fulfill requirements for many health-related majors as well as University General Education requirements.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- BIOL 220: Human Anatomy [4 credits]
- CAHN 101W: Health Care Professions [3 credits]
- ENG 101: Composition [4 credits]
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar [1 credit]

Spring Semester:
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science [4 credits]
- HITH 101: Health and the Environment [3 credits]
- HITH 210: First Aid and CPR [3 credits]

It is recommended that students also enroll for a required Mathematics course (will vary by chosen major) that will concurrently satisfy General Education Goal Area 4 during Spring semester.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: E Hall, 1st floor (men) and 2nd floor (women)

* Please note: McElroy E Hall is charged at the Renovated Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
- Ms. Shirley Murray
  College of Allied Health and Nursing
  507-389-5194
  shirley.murray@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Lynnette Engeswick
  Department of Dental Hygiene
  507-389-1313
  lynnette.engeswick@mnsu.edu
**Exploring Psychology**

If you’re considering pursuing the fascinating and challenging field of human psychology, you will find yourself immediately immersed in coursework and out-of-class experiences designed to engage you in the major and career in this learning community. You will connect with faculty in the Department of Psychology from the first day of classes, get exposed to research and service opportunities, and dive right into challenging issues in psychology today.

**What you’ll take:**
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

**Fall Semester:**
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science (4 credits)
- CMST 100: Fundamentals of Communication (3 credits)
- PSYC 202: Careers in Psychology (4 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

**Optional, but Recommended (Fall):**
- ANTH 220: Human Origins (4 credits)
- MATH 098: Intermediate Algebra (4 credits) OR MATH 112: College Algebra (4 credits)

**Spring Semester:**
- HLTH 240: Drug Education (3 credits)
- PSYC 103W: Psychology Today (3 credits)
- PSYC 202: Careers in Psychology (1 credit)

**Optional, but Recommended (Spring):**
- MATH 112: College Algebra (4 credits)
- BIOL 100: Our Natural World (4 credits)

**NOTE:** By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4 years.

**Where you’ll live:**
Preska Residence Community: L Hall, 3rd floor (men and women)

* Please note: Preska L Hall is charged at the Semi-Suite Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website [www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/](http://www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/).

**Who to call:**
Dr. Kathy Bertsch
Department of Psychology
507-389-1133
kathy.bertsch@mnsu.edu

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**Government Service**

This learning community is designed for students considering careers in public service or government, including law enforcement, corrections, aviation, political science, or military science. The courses offered will help you explore different interest areas, as well as get you on the right path toward your career in service. Most courses fulfill University General Education requirements.

**What you’ll take:**
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

**Fall Semester:**
- POL 111: United States Government (3 credits)
- CORR 106: Introduction to Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits); OR
- LAVFE 131: Introduction to Law Enforcement (3 credits); OR
- AVIA 101: World of Aviation (3 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

**Spring Semester:**
- CMST 102: Public Speaking (3 credits)
- HLTH 210: First Aid and CPR (3 credits)

**NOTE:** By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4 years.

**Where you’ll live:**
McElroy Residence Community: E Hall, 3rd floor (women) and 4th floor (men)

* Please note: McElroy E Hall is charged at the Basic Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website [www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/](http://www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/).

**Who to call:**
Mr. Tom Peterson
Department of Aviation
507-389-5094
thomas.peterson@mnsu.edu
If you’re interested in pursuing any major within the science, technology, engineering, or math fields, but feel you need additional preparation and/or support, this learning community is for you! We will provide you with the support and coursework to build a strong foundation in your challenging field. You will have opportunities to connect with faculty from various disciplines and find your place within the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be able to choose from special Honors designated sections of the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)
- ENG 100: Composition (4 credits)
- HIST 180: European History to 1648 (4 credits)
- KSP 220W: Human Relations in a Multicultural Society (3 credits)
- Language Study (Depends on language – see Honors Program Advisor for more information)

Spring Semester:
- PSYC 103W: Psychology Today (3 credits)
- DANC 225W: World of Dance (3 credits)
- Language Study (Depends on language – see Honors Program Advisor for more information)

* Enrollment in the ISET Learning Community is based on ACT Math and Accuplacer Math Placement Scores. This learning community may not be appropriate for students who place into MATH 115: Precalculus Mathematics and above. Please contact us if you have questions.

NOTE: Be sure to contact the professional staff of the Honors Program at 507-389-5191 for Honors Program Application information or visit www.mnsu.edu/honors/. Acceptance in the Honors Learning Community first requires acceptance into the Honors Program.

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
Preska Residence Community: I Hall, 1st floor (women) and 2nd floor (men)

* Please note: Preska I Hall is charged at the Renovated Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Dr. Christopher Corley
Honors Program
507-389-5191
christopher.corley@mnsu.edu

If you’re interested in pursuing any major within the science, technology, engineering, or math fields, but feel you need additional preparation and/or support, this learning community is for you! We will provide you with the support and coursework to build a strong foundation in your challenging field. You will have opportunities to connect with faculty from various disciplines and find your place within the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- *MATH 098: Intermediate Algebra (4 credits) OR
- *MATH 112: College Algebra (4 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)
- SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (3 credits)

Spring Semester:
- *MATH 112: College Algebra (4 credits) OR
- *MATH 113: Trigonometry (3 credits)
- MUS 126: Pop Music U.S.A - R & B to MTV (3 credits)
- CMST 102: Public Speaking (3 credits)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
McElroy Residence Community: H Hall, 1st floor (men) and 2nd floor (women)

* Please note: McElroy H Hall is charged at the Renovated Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Mr. Ken Adams
College of Science, Engineering & Technology
Student Advising Center
507-389-1521
kenneth.adams@mnsu.edu

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.

Introduction to Science, Engineering & Technology

Students who meet the Honors Program requirements* will be challenged through their coursework and out of class experiences while participating in this learning community and throughout their academic career. For details and information about enrollment in the Honors Program and this learning community, please contact Dr. Chris Corley in the Honors Office at 507-389-5191.
If you are entering college planning to continue advanced education by attending medical school, veterinary school, physical therapy school, or other professional programs, your path is going to be complex and challenging. This learning community will offer you support in your coursework, answers to your questions, and guidance in the process of pursuing these demanding programs.

What you’ll take:
As a part of the learning community, you’ll be enrolled in the following courses:

Fall Semester:
- MATH 115: Precalculus Mathematics (4 credits) OR MATH 121: Calculus I (4 credits)
- SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (3 credits)
- FYEX 100: First Year Seminar (1 credit)

Spring Semester:
- PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychological Science (4 credits)
- MUS 126: Pop Music U.S.A. – R & B to MTV (3 credits)

Where you’ll live:
Preska Residence Community: I Hall, 3rd floor (women) and 4th floor (men)

* Please note: Preska I Hall is charged at the Renovated Room rate. For more information about room rates, please see the Residential Life Website www.mnsu.edu/reslife/rates/.

Who to call:
Mr. Ken Adams
College of Science, Engineering & Technology
Student Advising Center
507-389-1521
kenneth.adams@mnsu.edu

Ms. Marie Slotemaker
College of Science, Engineering & Technology
Student Advising Center
507-389-1521
marie.slotemaker@mnsu.edu

Pre-Professional Sciences

The Sophomore Elementary Education Learning Community experience continues the commitment to “campus and career connectedness.” In this learning community, you’ll:

• Transition successfully from a residential living community to independent living*
• Receive intensive academic advising to prepare for admission to the Elementary Education major
• Develop a sense of community and commitment to the profession of education
• Continue to develop an understanding of the knowledge, dispositions, and skills needed for teaching elementary-aged students.

What you’ll take:
Fall
- MATH 202: Elements of Mathematics II (3 credits) (Prerequisite – MATH 201 with grade of “C” or higher.)
- AST 101: Introduction to Astronomy (3 credits)
- EEC 215: Introduction to Educational Psychology and Instruction in the Elementary (4 credits)
- EEC 499: EEC Learning Community Seminar I (1 credit)

Spring
- GEOL 100: Our Geologic Environment (3 credits)
- EEC 222W: Human Relations in a Multicultural Society (3 credits)
- HIST 190: United States to 1877
- MATH 203: Elements of Math III (Prerequisite – MATH 202 with grade of “C” or higher.)
- EEC 499: EEC Learning Community Seminar II (1 credit)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
*While there is not a required residential living requirement for the sophomore learning community experience, you may still choose to live in the residence hall via the University’s Housing Application process, thus allowing you to return to the same residence hall/floor upon your request.

Who to call:
Ms. Karen Colum
Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
karen.colum@mnsu.edu

Dr. Ron Browne
Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
ronald.browne@mnsu.edu

Looking Ahead… Sophomore Learning Community Opportunities

Sophomore Elementary Education – NEW for 2015-16

The Sophomore Elementary Education Learning Community experience continues the commitment to “campus and career connectedness.” In this learning community, you’ll:

• Transition successfully from a residential living community to independent living* 
• Receive intensive academic advising to prepare for admission to the Elementary Education major 
• Develop a sense of community and commitment to the profession of education 
• Continue to develop an understanding of the knowledge, dispositions, and skills needed for teaching elementary-aged students.

What you’ll take:
Fall
- MATH 202: Elements of Mathematics II (3 credits) (Prerequisite – MATH 201 with grade of “C” or higher.)
- AST 101: Introduction to Astronomy (3 credits)
- EEC 215: Introduction to Educational Psychology and Instruction in the Elementary (4 credits)
- EEC 499: EEC Learning Community Seminar I (1 credit)

Spring
- GEOL 100: Our Geologic Environment (3 credits)
- EEC 222W: Human Relations in a Multicultural Society (3 credits)
- HIST 190: United States to 1877
- MATH 203: Elements of Math III (Prerequisite – MATH 202 with grade of “C” or higher.)
- EEC 499: EEC Learning Community Seminar II (1 credit)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
*While there is not a required residential living requirement for the sophomore learning community experience, you may still choose to live in the residence hall via the University’s Housing Application process, thus allowing you to return to the same residence hall/floor upon your request.

Who to call:
Ms. Karen Colum
Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
karen.colum@mnsu.edu

Dr. Ron Browne
Educational Studies: Elementary and Early Childhood
507-389-2431
ronald.browne@mnsu.edu
Sophomore Essence of Nursing

Year 1 Elements of Nursing and Anatomy of Nursing Learning Community students have expressed the desire to have the Learning Community experience extended into the Sophomore year…year after year! The students value the advising, student support and academic co-enrollment. The Sophomore Learning Community GPAs have been consistently higher than 1st year-only learning communities GPAs. The Essence of Nursing Sophomore Learning Community has been very successful with tracking students quickly through the prerequisite coursework. Participants in the Sophomore Learning Community demonstrate a higher percentage of students being able to complete the coursework and are able to apply in the fourth semester to be admitted to the School of Nursing.

What you’ll take:

Fall 2015
* KSP 235: Human Development (3 credits)
* BIOL 330: Principles of Human Physiology (4 credits)
* FCS 242: Nutrition for Health Professionals (3 credits)  
  (Prerequisites – BIOL 220, and CHEM 106 or CHEM 111.)

Spring 2016
* BIOL 270: Microbiology (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisites – One BIOL course and one semester of Chemistry from among CHEM 104, CHEM 106, CHEM 111, or CHEM 201.)
* NURS 282: Pathophysiology for Healthcare Professionals (3 credits)  
  (Prerequisites – BIOL 220, BIOL 330).

* NURS 284: Pharmacology for Healthcare Professionals (3 credits)  
  (Prerequisites – BIOL 220, BIOL 330, CHEM 111.  
  Corequisite – BIOL 270)

* NURS 286: Relationship-based Care in Nursing Practice

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
*While there is not a required residential living requirement for the sophomore learning community experience, you may still choose to live in the residence hall via the University’s Housing Application process, thus allowing you to return to the same residence hall/floor upon your request.

Who to call:
Dr. Julie Hebenstreit  
School of Nursing  
507-389-6828  
julia.hebenstreit@mnsu.edu

Ms. Kasi Johnson  
School of Nursing  
507-389-6022  
kasi.johnson@mnsu.edu

Sophomore Exploring Psychology – NEW for 2015-16

The Sophomore Exploring Psychology Learning Community will provide second year psychology majors opportunities to continue a cohesive cohort experience in psychology while collaborating with faculty and advanced students to develop career goals and plan and engage in college and community activities to support their career goals. Opportunities will include psychology-related research, volunteerism, campus RSO engagement, and community engagement. Participants will engage in faculty and student led psychology activities and being active participants in collaborating to develop unique opportunities for their cohort.

What you’ll take:

Fall
* PSYC 201: Statistics for Psychology (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – MATH 112) OR
* PSYC 211: Research Methods and Design (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – PSYC 201)
* PSYC 240: Personal Adjustment (3 credits)
* PSYC 340: Social Psychology (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – PSYC 101) OR
* PSYC 455: Abnormal Psychology (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – 8 PSYC credits) OR
* PSYC 456: Personality Theories (3 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – 8 PSYC credits) OR
* PSYC 458: Cultural Psychology (4 credits)

Spring
* PSYC 211: Research Methods and Design (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – PSYC 201)
* PSYC 433: Child Psychology (4 credits)  
  (Prerequisite – PSYC 101) OR
* PSYC 436: Adolescent Psychology (4 credits) OR
* PSYC 466: Psychology of Aging  
  (Prerequisite – PSYC 101) (4 credits)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
*While there is not a required residential living requirement for the sophomore learning community experience, you may still choose to live in the residence hall via the University’s Housing Application process, thus allowing you to return to the same residence hall/floor upon your request.

Who to call:
Dr. Kathy Bertsch  
Department of Psychology  
507-389-1133  
kathy.bertsch@mnsu.edu
Leadership/Career Development
Sophomore students who choose to enroll in this learning community should have an interest in developing their leadership skills and abilities, both within the Honors Program and on campus in general. In recent years, a survey of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) has shown that an overwhelming number of employers look for job candidates who have outstanding leadership skills. We are encouraging students to develop these in various ways throughout our program and within the learning community. Students will enroll in the HONR 401: Developing Your Mentor Philosophy course, which provides opportunities for in-depth investigation into the mentor’s role in facilitating knowledge through guided discovery and development of personal mentor philosophies. This course is intended to help students develop their leadership competency by identifying and personal leadership values; critiquing leadership models or styles within group contexts, reflecting upon roles within group and team settings; and practicing group member skills and abilities to work together toward a common goal.

Academic Development
Students who choose to live in this learning community will be progressing through their upper-level Honors coursework and their leadership competency development via the HONR 401: Developing Your Mentor Philosophy course and the HONR 450: Service Learning course. They will also be progressing through their language competency development via the language courses they are taking. The Honors Program strongly encourages member students to finish their language classes by the end of their sophomore year, and this learning community would encourage them to do so.

Civic Engagement and Community Service
Students will enroll in the HONR 450: Service Learning course, which introduces students to various principles of service learning that they apply during a short-term service away experience in Cincinnati, OH. Prior to the experience, students will prepare for and orient themselves to the experience through exploration of service and community within Mankato as well as personal and group reflections. During the experience, students will engage in the reality of the community setting and reflect throughout the process. After the immersion experience, students will engage in critical personal reflection and class dialogue in order to synthesize components of the experience and apply them to their personal and/or professional growth.

What you’ll take:
Fall
* HONR 401: Developing Your Mentor Philosophy (1 credit)
* Language Study (Depends on language – see Honors Program Advisor for more information)

Spring
* HONR 450: Service Learning (3 credits)
* Language Study (Depends on language – see Honors Program Advisor for more information)

NOTE: By enrolling in 15 credits or more per semester, you are more likely to complete your Bachelor’s degree in 4-years.

Where you’ll live:
*While there is not a required residential living requirement for the sophomore learning community experience, you may still choose to live in the residence hall via the University’s Housing Application process, thus allowing you to return to the same residence hall/ floor upon your request. Students who choose to join the Honors Program after their first semester on campus or students who did not choose to live in our first year learning community are WELCOME to take advantage of the opportunity to pursue connections with other students in the HONORS program through the Learning Community experience.

Who to call:
Dr. Christopher Corley
Honors Program
507-389-5191
christopher.corley@mnsu.edu
Join a community that supports your academic success and eases your transition to college life. You’ll have all the advantages of a small campus learning environment with all the resources of one of Minnesota’s outstanding larger universities.

SURE SUCCESS
Research on learning communities tells us that participants are more likely than non-learning community students to have higher grades, to find opportunities to interact with faculty, to get involved in campus activities and events, and to report greater satisfaction with their overall college experience.

REQUIREMENTS
To enroll in a learning community, you must be admitted to Minnesota State Mankato as a first-year student, have a residence hall reservation, and meet the program requirements for the specific learning community you select. Details are online at www.mnsu.edu/learningcommunities/.

“If it is a really great way to make friends who have common interests and to be successful your first year at school.”
– Nursing major

“If with a learning community there is always someone around to ask a homework question, and there are always professors that you can ask too. I felt like I belonged and fit in right away.”
– Mechanical Engineering major

NEED MORE INFORMATION?
CONTACT THE LEARNING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM:

www.mnsu.edu/learningcommunities/