

The Freshman Leadership Program Experience

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The Freshman Leadership Program (FLP) is a collaborative program between the Student Activities Office and the Department Residence Life. This program's primary focus includes building a strong community rooted in service, leadership education, and our Jesuit mission. Student involved in FLP participate in weekly service, attend weekly seminars on leadership, and take a course together that bridges their learning inside and outside of the classroom. Students are also required to create a leadership portfolio that is a reflection on their year in the program. Through the creation of the portfolio students have provided valuable information about the learning that is occurring within the program.

The FLP Portfolio was created in 2011 as a resource for FLP students to have a tangible take away from the program, a way for students to reflect on their experiences [within the program], and to provide the program with data about the learning (or not learning) that was occurs through participating in the FLP. The portfolio requires students to reflect on 7 parts of their experience within FLP and also present on their experience. These 7 parts are:

- Mastery of Program Knowledge Base
- Definition of Leadership and Reflection
- Personal Mission Statement and Reflection
- Leadership Plan
- FLP Course Reflection and Writing Samples
- Service and Social Justice Reflections
- Overall Experience and Conclusion Reflection
- Portfolio Presentation

The FLP Portfolio has three main learning objectives which include:

1. Freshman completing FLP will be able to demonstrate effective communication skills.
2. Freshman completing FLP will be able to demonstrate a mastery of leadership concepts and theories.
3. Freshman completing FLP will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the Jesuit mission and philosophy as it relates to their daily lives.