

First-Year Odyssey Seminar Events Frequently Asked Questions

What is the First-Year Odyssey Seminar event requirement?

As part of the First-Year Odyssey Seminar program we want students to be aware of all the resources available on campus and to become engaged in the cultural and intellectual life of the University; therefore, students enrolled in First-Year Odyssey seminars will be required to attend at least three campus events during the semester that highlight some aspect of the mission of the University. There are many events to choose from, including musical performances, films, visiting speakers, and the Study Abroad Fair. In addition, students may participate in five hours of service to the community through VolunteerUGA as one event.

These events appear online on the FYO website at fyo.uga.edu under the Events tab:

<https://fyo.uga.edu/BrowseEvents.aspx>

Most students will select three events from those listed on the website; however, some instructors may specify particular events for their students to attend. The events specified by the instructor will count as FYO events even though they may not appear on the website. When students complete the course evaluation form at the end of the semester, they will be asked which events they attended and asked for their input about the events.

What is the role of instructors teaching FYOS seminars concerning the First-Year Odyssey Seminar Program Events Requirement?

As part of the First-Year Odyssey Seminar Program, students are required to attend three FYO events. Students are notified and reminded about this requirement directly via email from the FYO Program office. To assess the impact of the FYO events requirement, students will be asked about these events in the end-of-term Course Evaluation. While not required, instructors have the option of integrating the events requirement into their individual seminars. For example, some instructors have used the requirement as a basis for assignments, such as low-stakes writing assignments, and others have connected a specific event to the seminar content. If you have any questions about the FYO events requirement, please contact the FYO Program office at fyo@uga.edu or 706-542-6358.

Are instructors expected to keep track of student attendance at events?

Although three events are required of all students, instructors are not required to verify that students have attended campus events or to incorporate events into the seminar content. If instructors wish to connect events to the seminar content or use the requirement as the basis for assignments, such as low-stakes writing assignments, that is up to the individual instructor.

How will student attendance at events be tracked?

Students will be asked to report on the events they attended when they complete the course evaluation at the end of the semester. The instructor may also require students to report on the events they attended as part of their seminar requirements.

Will students need a receipt or some other proof of attendance at an event?

No, students are not required to provide proof of attendance at events unless the instructor asks for proof for the purpose of assigning credit.

Do students have to register for the events they choose to attend?

It depends on the event. Some events may require registration or ticket purchase in advance. Students should refer to the event description on the FYOS site or contact the event host:

<https://fyo.uga.edu/browseevents.aspx>

Will students have to complete written assignments related to the events they attend?

Only if the instructor requires such an assignment as part of his or her seminar.

Does attendance at events affect a student's grade in the seminar?

The requirement will not affect a student's grade unless the instructor chooses to make it a part of the graded assignments in the seminar or wishes to assign credit for event attendance.

If an instructor asks students to attend an event not listed on the FYOS website, will that event count in the requirement?

Any event that an instructor asks students to attend will count as one of the three events.

Which campus events are acceptable for meeting the FYOS requirement?

Events that appear on the FYOS website are approved FYOS events. These events appear online on the FYO website at fyo.uga.edu under the Events tab: <https://fyo.uga.edu/BrowseEvents.aspx>

Can students attend events that are not listed on the FYOS website?

Most students will select three events from those listed on the website; however, some instructors may specify particular events as part of their seminars. Any events specified by the instructor will count as FYOS events even though they do not appear on the website.

How are events added to the FYO events list?

Faculty and staff who have an event they would like to list on the site can go to fyo.uga.edu, click on the "For Faculty" tab at the top, and then click on the blue "Submit an Event" tab on the right. After logging in with a UGA MyID, click "Continue to Proposal" to enter the event information. The information will then be reviewed by FYO staff and posted on the site.