



*The Exploration & Discovery
Living-Learning Community's*

**STUDENT
RESOURCE GUIDE**

Leadership Team



Dr. Ladanya Ramirez Surmeier
LRamirez2@admin.fsu.edu

Faculty Director



Justina Harsche, MS
jmh24f@fsu.edu

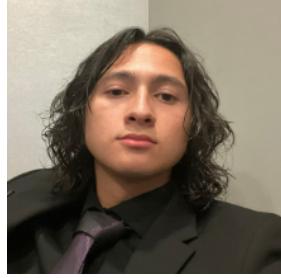
Program Coordinator



Tanushree Dhage
TSD23@fsu.edu

Assistant Coordinator

2025-2026 Peer Mentors

| | | |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
| Alex Ramirez 2020-2021 Cohort | Magali Carneli-Sanchez 2022-2023 Cohort | Ibraheem Saqib Ellahi 2023-2024 Cohort |
|  |  |  |
| Isabella Saavedra 2023-2024 Cohort | Niko Prieto 2024-2025 Cohort | Olivia Hudson 2024-2025 Cohort |

Goals of the ED-LLC

Community:

- Peer Mentors offer guidance and host fun events to foster connection within the ED-LLC and FSU, more broadly.
- Networking opportunities with past ED-LLC students and alumni through The Explorer's Guild student organization.

Academic Exploration:

- Small interactive classes for personalized learning, and increased opportunities to connect with peers and faculty.
- Early access to research, study abroad, and fellowship opportunities.

Career Development:

- Exclusive Discovery Network courses for mentorship and career development opportunities.
- Internship and leadership support from campus resources.

Our long-term goal:

- Increase student retention & graduation rates

Student Support

ED-LLC Faculty

The Faculty Director and Program Coordinator host office hours for students to drop by to say hi, ask questions that they may have about the ED-LLC, more specifically, or any broad questions about classes, FSU, or Tallahassee, or share anything exciting that happened.

Peer Mentors

As previous ED-LLC students, Peer Mentors ensure Bryan Hall feels like home to incoming students by hosting several events a semester and providing a candid account of their time as an ED-LLC member.

The Explorer's Guild

A student-run organization designed to foster connectedness beyond freshman year and support future career exploration.

Students have the opportunity to engage with past ED-LLC students and alumni through mentorships or events. Peers can serve as resources about potential internship opportunities.

Once a year the Explorer's Guide welcomes back one of our alumni to talk with our students about their journey that began in the ED-LLC, and ended with a successful career.

In-House Courses

In the fall, courses are offered to satisfy a CoreFSU requirement, available only to students who are enrolled in the ED-LLC, providing students with smaller class sizes to form better connections with faculty.

With several options each semester, students have the opportunity to choose courses based on their interests and begin their major exploration efforts.

In the spring, students enroll in our Discovery Networks where lectures are paired with hands-on opportunities to explore a specific career field.

Requirements of the ED-LLC

| Fall Semester | Spring Semester |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Successfully complete the ED-LLC colloquium & enroll in the Peer Mentor led discussion sections | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Successfully complete a Discovery Network course |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Enroll in one in-house course | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Get involved by attending the three required ED-LLC community events, including the Graduation Reception |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Get involved by attending ED-LLC community events, such as bowling, and one Peer Mentor social per month* | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend one Peer Mentor social event per month |

*Community events are mandatory and require 100% attendance, including faculty and Peer Mentors, to events such as Paint-A-Pot. Peer Mentor events are smaller group interactions and could include events such as Craft Night.

Other Considerations

To succeed in the ED-LLC, it is best to have an open mind. We are here to help you explore a variety of majors that may or may not interest you, but it is all a learning experience and can narrow down your choices.

Fall 2025 In-House Course Offerings

Courses are subject to change each fall semester

- **Course Name:** Research, Genre, and Context
- **Course Code:** ENC 2135, sections: 0039, 0131
- **Course Description:** This course teaches writing as a recursive process involving drafting, collaboration and more. Students will learn research skills that allow them to effectively incorporate outside sources into their work and compose.

- **Course Name:** Ethical Issues & Life Choices
- **Course Code:** PHI 2630, section: 0011
- **Course Description:** An introduction to central philosophical problems, this course will help student learn how to construct, criticize arguments, and provide evidence for their own argument.

- **Course Name:** Social Movements: *Hunger Games* Trilogy
- **Course Code:** IDS 2393, section: 0001
- **Course Description:** An introduction to the sociological study of collective behavior and social movements through themes featured in the *Hunger Games* Trilogy. Throughout the semester, students will learn how to research a movement of their choice.

- **Course Name:** Intro to Academic Major Exploration
- **Course Code:** SLS 1203, section: 0030
- **Course Description:** This course helps students begin their major exploration efforts by analyzing their values, interests, and skills. Students will learn how to apply thoughtful introspection, disciplined thinking, and objective analysis as they discover and explore FSU's major offerings to reach a confident decision.

Spring 2026 Discovery Network Offerings

Courses are subject to change each spring semester

- **Course Name:** **Seminole Athletics 360: The Teams Behind the Teams**
- **Course Code:** IDS 1107, section 0010
- **Course Description:** College athletics takes collaboration between several departments and systems to help student-athletes succeed. Students will get an inside look at college athletics and the administrators who help our teams succeed.
- **Course Name:** **Media, Marketing, and Communications**
- **Course Code:** IDS 1107, section 0011
- **Course Description:** Students will learn from and work with professionals in journalism, public relations, marketing and communication as they explore content creation, multimedia storytelling, brand marketing and public relations.
- **Course Name:** **Government Relations**
- **Course Code:** IDS 1107, section 0012
- **Course Description:** Students will have an inside look into Florida's legislative process such as how laws and policy decisions are made, and how stakeholders work to achieve their goals. Students will track the Florida Legislative Session in real time, following bills, debate, and events as they happen.
- **Course Name:** **Pre-Law Mentorship Journey - Exploring Law, Building Skills & Shaping Futures**
- **Course Code:** IDS 1107, section: 0013
- **Course Description:** Aspiring law students will have a comprehensive introduction into law, its specializations, and skills to succeed in law school and beyond.
- **Course Name:** **STEM**
- **Course Code:** IDS 1107, section 0014
- **Course Description:** Students interested in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) career will engage in active learning opportunities, professional workshops, peer interactions, and networking opportunities. They will learn about resources and opportunities related to STEM at FSU and beyond.