



Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Title: Synergy

Institution: Miami International University of Art & Design

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Synergy is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that Miami International University of Art and Design (MIUAD) has developed as a comprehensive approach to improving the academic success of first-year students. *Synergy* will enable first-year students to succeed by providing an effective learning environment to improve their ability to complete classes and thrive academically. The purpose of the QEP is to structure the learning environment for new students so that they are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to be successful in their first year of study. This is directly related to the institutional mission, which seeks to help students develop their professional skills and achieve their career goals.

The QEP is structured around three pillars with two pillars being the fundamental base for the third pillar. Within this structure, the main indicator of QEP success is based on increasing the course completion rate (CCR) of first-year students (Quarter 1 to Quarter 3 population) from 62% to 75% during the next four years (i.e., by the end of Winter 2026). The three pillars and outcomes of each are provided below.

Pillar 1 – Engagement

- Outcome #1 – First-year students will improve their academic engagement and successfully integrate with the institution.
- Outcome #2 – Faculty will provide timely feedback on student's academic progress.

Pillar 2 – Learning Environment

- Outcome #1 – First-year students will successfully navigate the virtual learning environment.
- Outcome #2 – Faculty will use an improved standardized course shell including Time-On-Task techniques and Brightspace features to enhance the learning environment.

Pillar 3 – Academic Achievement

- Outcome #1 – First-year students will successfully pass foundational and 100-level courses.
- Outcome #2 – Faculty and academic staff will identify at-risk students and provide additional support.