



WARNER UNIVERSITY QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

VITAL: VALUE IN TASKS, ACHIEVEMENT, AND LEARNING

Executive Summary

Warner University's QEP has been termed VITAL, short for "Value in Tasks, Achievement, and Learning." With the targeted outcome of "decreasing the number of Ds, Fs, and Ws" contained within the University's 2023–2028 strategic plan, Warner University proposes a student-success-related QEP based on the concept of Utility-Value Interventions (UVIs), with UVIs being assignments that require students to reflect about the perceived usefulness or relevancy of course tasks in light of their future plans. In prior studies, UVIs have been found to promote academic achievement.

The purpose of VITAL is to employ UVIs to promote academic success among undergraduate students enrolled in three first-year courses: ENG 1010 Composition I, ENG 1020 Composition II, and BST 1010 Christian Life: Faith and Practice. While QEP research will involve all students in these courses, the University hopes to further disaggregate data related to first-generation, underrepresented minoritized students (FG-URM).

The stated outcomes of the QEP are to

- (1) improve DF rates by 3 percent—3.5 percent for FG-URM students—in selected courses;
- (2) improve overall persistence in selected courses (term-to-term) by 5 percent and disaggregate data for FG-URM students;
- (3) improve overall retention (fall-to-fall) of students in selected courses by 2 percent and disaggregate for FG-URM students;
- (4) demonstrate with both direct and indirect measures that students found UVIs helpful:
 - a. seventy-five percent of students will demonstrate a holistic coding score of greater than or equal to 4;
 - b. Seventy-five percent of students will self-report that the UVI was helpful.

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