Vol First-Year Experience
June 2020 Update

The Vol First-Year Experience (VFYE) focuses on ensuring first-year scholars, excluding transfers, have opportunities to engage with peers, faculty, and staff within their college while learning how to navigate college life at UT. In VFYE, scholars will attend a first-year seminar sponsored by their college and will also be co-enrolled in an academic course.

- Enroll first-year scholars in two courses: a first-year seminar and an academic course
- Support each scholar in building meaningful relationships with faculty, staff, and one another
- Aid scholars’ transition to UT by connecting them with resources designed to support their success
- Scholars will enroll in a college-specific first-year seminar that will include five university-level modules: Vol Success Teams & Academic Support, Careers, Diversity & Inclusion, Health & Wellness, and Leadership & Student Engagement

Modules for VFYE are summarized below.

Vol Success Team - Academic Support (asynchronous)
*Learning Objective and Outcome:* Scholars will identify their support network and how to utilize them concerning their academic and personal success goals by:

- Taking the CliftonStrengths Assessment
- Meeting with their academic coach for a strengths coaching session
- Required meeting with the academic advisor and One Stop counselor

Health Education and Wellness (asynchronous)
*Learning Objective and Outcome:* Feeling Your Best at UT - After completion of the Vol Module, scholars will be able to:

- Identify three (3) ways to improve their health and wellness
- Identify three (3) on-campus resources for health services
- Explain three (3) ways poor health behaviors can negatively impact academic success
Diversity & Inclusion (synchronous)

Learning Objective and Outcome: As a follow-up to the required Welcome Week diversity programming, scholars will learn and demonstrate an understanding of the power of perspectives and how those perspectives influence our world, policies, and personal choices. Scholars will also learn how their strengths connect with their perspective of the world. The content will be designed and delivered in collaboration with the Department of Sociology.

Leadership (asynchronous)

Learning Objective and Outcomes: Scholars will be able to expand their leadership capacity by:

- Exploring and understanding their unique leadership identity and how it relates to their strengths
- Developing an understanding of leadership as a process rather than a position
- Identifying opportunities to utilize their leadership strengths and skills to positively engage and serve the university and the broader Knoxville community

Career Development (asynchronous)

Learning Objective and Outcome: Scholars will learn to formulate career goals aligned with their leadership identity, personal strengths, and values