"Programs That Really Work"

The University of Maryland ranks high among the nation’s colleges and universities in academic programs that lead to student success, according to several annual polls by U.S. News and World Report of college presidents and deans of students.

Maryland ranks among the nation's most outstanding learning communities, a category of celebrated “Programs That Really Work” to achieve student retention and graduation. The University Honors, College Park Scholars and CIVICUS living-learning programs at Maryland were cited.

Maryland also ranks high in the nation for its first year experience programs, or “Programs That Really Work” to make freshman students feel connected to their chosen university or college.

Maryland also is cited in the nation for its service learning programs, or “Programs That Really Work” by serving a campus’s neighboring communities through a variety of volunteer experiences and activities.

What are living-learning programs?

Living-learning programs are specialized residential programs initiated by and having direct connections with faculty and specific academic units/departments within the University's Division of Academic Affairs. In partnership with Resident Life staff and other student services staff at the University, these faculty and academic administrators link the curricular and residential experiences in ways that create opportunities for deeper understanding and integration of classroom material.

Why participate in a living-learning program?

Students who participate in these programs have higher retention and graduation rates and report higher satisfaction with their undergraduate experience at Maryland. These positive outcomes result from:
- the connections that are made with students who share similar interests,
- the substantial contact that occurs with individual faculty members outside the classroom,
- enhanced programmatic opportunities,
- specialized guidance on academic and career planning,
- frequent service learning opportunities, and
- creative utilization of the research, cultural, natural and political resources of the Baltimore-Washington, DC-Annapolis area.

Program Information

To learn more about Maryland’s living-learning programs, please click on the sites below.
- Beyond The Classroom
- CIVICUS
- College Park Scholars
- Gemstone
- Global Communities
- Hinman CEOs (Campus Entrepreneurship Opportunities)
- Honors Humanities
- Jimeénez-Porter Writers’ House
- Language House
- University Honors