Mentors and Mentored Inquiry
University Studies employs a unique strategy for addressing student success at Portland State University. During the year-long freshman course (Freshman Inquiry) and term-long sophomore courses (Sophomore Inquiry), upper-division undergraduate and graduate peer mentors are partnered with faculty to deliver these courses. The mentor program is a community of mentors trained to provide leadership and academic support to students in mentor sessions. Mentor sessions are designed to help students gain experience doing high quality academic work in small groups.

What is a mentor?
Mentors are capable, creative, high-achieving, and experienced students who help other students make the most out of their academic careers. Undergraduate Peer Mentors are juniors or seniors who work with first-year students in year-long Freshman Inquiry courses. Graduate Peer Mentors come from all academic disciplines and work with Sophomore Inquiry courses.

What does a mentor do?
Mentors plan and facilitate 50-minute mentor sessions for Freshman Inquiry and Sophomore Inquiry courses. Successful mentors are flexible, perform multiple roles, and approach topics through a variety of lenses. Mentors serve as colleagues and teachers helping students learn the academic culture. They bridge faculty and students and help build positive learning communities among students. They work closely with their faculty partners and are creative team players in implementing course objectives. Mentors commit to working 10-20 hours per week.

Want to learn more?
Visit us at www.mentors.unst.pdx.edu

Portland State is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.
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