



## Flagler College QEP 2019 — Liberal Education and CitizenSHIP in a Diverse Democracy

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flagler College is proud to present its 2019 Quality Enhancement Plan, “Liberal Education and CitizenSHIP in a Diverse Democracy.” The Plan will utilize experiential and intensive learning opportunities to bridge what goes on in the classroom and on campus with the vibrant St. Augustine community and the broader world. The centerpiece will be a new signature academic experience: a Sophomore High Impact Practice (SHIP) requirement for all Flagler sophomores, focused on fostering diverse interactions and teaching productive dialogue-across-difference, in order to cultivate **global ethical citizenship** and build **intercultural competence**. SHIP courses will be offered through a new “intensive” Maymester interterm and related Spring or Summer experiential learning-based courses, and integrated with a holistic set of curricular and co-curricular initiatives, as well as a new and shared Strategic Planning vision, that encompasses all of Flagler.

During implementation of the plan, Flagler College will:

1. Implement a Sophomore High Impact Program required of all Sophomores, and implement the affiliated Maymester interterm;
2. Increase students’ intercultural competence and help them become global ethical citizens;
3. Increase the number of students who participate in learning experiences outside the classroom (CIE, Study Abroad, Undergraduate Research, and extra-curricular activities);
4. Iteratively assess its goals and outcomes, and revise our plan based on that data.

Flagler College’s QEP grew out of a broad based topic selection process, deep integration with the campus-wide strategic planning process, review of our Mission, and an honest assessment of institutional data. It was likewise informed throughout its process by feedback from constituent groups across the Flagler community, and consideration and review of research literature and best practices — especially the AAC&U’s comprehensive research on Liberal Education and HERI’s research on diversity and inclusivity. The Plan is also designed to be assessed robustly, and with processes to grow and evolve throughout its implementation.

Implementation of this plan will move past mere interaction among students to teaching students how to use encounters with difference as a means to produce new knowledge, approaches, ideas, solutions, and attitudes. It emphasizes the importance of respect for individual dignity and different points of view; the importance of both listening and thoughtful self-expression in moments of exchange; and the benefits beyond mere exchange for both individuals and groups that result when different perspectives work together productively.

The resulting changes allow us to live our Mission and Core Values. The Plan will strengthen our campus community, and better prepare our students to thrive as global ethical citizens in today’s world, where the problems we face as a diverse democracy affect different peoples differently, and require solutions built with the input of diverse stakeholders.