

## Essential Elements

### **Student Progress**

#### DEgree Year One

All students begin in a learning community of 20-25 students. They take developmental level coursework in reading, writing, and a college success course as a learning community. They receive math instruction including supplemental tutoring based on individual placement scores. Each learning community is assigned a resource specialist (coach, mentor, advisor, college success instructor) who works intensively with each student during his or her first year at the college.

Students progress as a learning community taking the next sequence of reading and writing courses, plus a study skills course. Students are also individually enrolled in the next needed math class and continue to be offered supplemental supports. The resource specialist teaches the college success and study skills courses in order to provide more holistic support by getting to know students as individual learners. Students are encouraged to take a 12 credit load each term and expected to take a class during summer term.

#### DEgree Year Two

Students have begun to fully transition into college-level coursework and work toward a certificate or degree. They are supported by a completion advisor who works in collaboration with other advising staff providing “intrusive advising” and connecting students to college resources and supports as needed