



NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE® AND STUDENTS IN TRANSITION

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Engaging the Unengaged: Helping Students Find their Purpose in College

About the Instructor:

David Waddell is the Associate Director of First-Year Experience and directs the Second Year Success Program at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He also oversees New Student Orientation and First-gen support. David has spent the last 20 years leading university level initiatives. He was the founding director of BYU's Office of Experiential Learning, directed the integration of career and academic advising in the colleges of humanities and social sciences, and created curriculum and training for professional competency development and the college-to-career transition. Currently, he oversees a pilot effort to improve student success and retention among second-year students. David has also been developing training for using AI in program framing and evaluation.

David's teaching experience at the university spans 20 years, from history and humanities to student development topics like grad school prep and career and self-exploration. He holds BA and MA degrees in History and is currently pursuing a PhD in Instructional Psychology and Technology.