

HIGH SCHOOL AA PEER LEADERS FALL 2026

Spotlight on our High School AA Peer
Leaders for GPS's IDS 1107!

FSU

**GRADUATION PLANNING
AND STRATEGIES OFFICE**

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Sofia Arango, IDS 1107 (42)



Major:

- Political Science

Minor:

- Sociology

Hometown:

- Miami, FL

AA Degree Institution:

- Miami Dade College

Q. Why did you choose to become a high school AA peer instructor?

- I want to help students feel more supported and confident as they begin their college journey. During my first year at FSU, the people who guided me made a huge difference in how I adjusted, and I want to be that same source of support for other students. I enjoy mentoring others, and I hope to create a classroom environment where students feel comfortable asking questions and learning skills that will help them succeed.

Q. What do you think students will gain from your class?

- Students will learn time management skills, the importance of self-advocacy, and awareness of campus resources. Most importantly, I hope students leave my class feeling like they belong at FSU and have someone in their corner. I want students to know that success is not about having everything figured out right away, but about being willing to grow and ask for help.

Q. What do you like most about FSU?

- What I like most about FSU is my community. FSU would not feel like home if it were not for the people who helped me grow into myself during my first year. The people I met inspired me to get involved, step outside of my comfort zone, and become part of the campus community in a meaningful way.

Q. What are you most proud of from your FSU experience?

- I am most proud of the way I have grown into a more confident leader and student. Through my involvement on campus and different work experiences, I have stepped outside of my comfort zone and become the best version of myself. I have made the most of the opportunities FSU has given me, and I hope to continue using those experiences to support and encourage other students.

Jeremiah Durrett, IDS 1107 (43)



Majors:

- Marketing & Advertising

Minor:

- Psychology

Hometown:

- Tampa, FL

AA Degree Institution:

- Hillsborough College

Q. Why did you choose to become a high school AA peer instructor?

- As a current HSAA student, it has always been a passion of mine to share the knowledge and resources I have discovered throughout my journey. During my own first year, I found taking the IDS 1107 course and having an instructor with a similar path to mine to be incredibly beneficial. That experience inspired me to continue the tradition by becoming an instructor myself, so I can provide incoming students with the same guidance, advice, and resources that helped me during my transition to FSU.

Q. What do you think students will gain from your class?

- My biggest focus is introducing first year students to the resources I have found to be the most crucial to my own success. In addition, I hope to provide students with advice on how to make the most of their time at FSU, encourage them to build healthy habits, and help them navigate the transition into a four-year university. More than anything, I hope students leave this class having formed meaningful connections with their peers and feeling positive about their first semester and year at FSU.

Q. What do you like most about FSU?

- FSU has allowed me to discover more about myself than ever before. The community, opportunities, and events have encouraged me to build meaningful connections with peers while also strengthening my work ethic.

Q. What are you most proud of from your FSU experience?

- I am most proud of my acceptance into the Advertising program, my involvement in student organizations, like AMA, and becoming an IDS 1107 instructor!

Kinley Rice, IDS 1107 (44)



Major:

- Public Relations

Minors:

- French & Political Science

Hometown:

- Ocala, FL

AA Degree Institution:

- College of Central Florida

Q. Why did you choose to become a high school AA peer instructor?

- I chose to become a high school AA peer instructor for IDS 1107 because I want to help freshman students acclimate better to university life! Things really are so different when you're on-campus at a large university like Florida State, and an Engage 100 course like this really could have helped me during my own freshman year!

Q. What do you think students will gain from your class?

- Students will learn about important life skills such as professionalism, budgeting, and time management. Students will also learn about social opportunities on campus and around Tallahassee as well as the numerous FSU resources available to them!

Q. What do you like most about FSU?

- What I like most about FSU is the opportunities available to students and the environment of the student body! The campus is beautiful and I always feel recharged and recentered after spending some time on Landis Green. The campus cats are a big bonus too!

Q. What are you most proud of from your FSU experience?

- I am most proud of the opportunities I have been granted at FSU. Since arriving, I've served on three executive boards, interned with TMH Animal Therapy, and interned at the FSU College of Law First Amendment Clinic! I now have the honor of serving as a peer leader for IDS 1107 and I couldn't be prouder!

Erline Constant, IDS 1107 (45)



Majors:

- Public Health & Political Science

Minors:

- Psychology & Women's Studies

Hometown:

- Bradenton, FL

AA Degree Institution:

- State College of Florida

Q. Why did you choose to become a high school AA peer instructor?

- I chose to become a high school AA peer instructor for IDS 1107 because it's a great opportunity to give back and support students in a way I wish I had as a freshman. Having previously been a mentor in the HSAA mentorship program, I really enjoyed that kind of work and found it meaningful to help other students succeed. This role feels like a natural next step where I can continue making an impact while sharing my experiences.

Q. What do you think students will gain from your class?

- Students will get a much better idea of how to go about their college life. My aim would be for them to develop confidence and become comfortable enough to ask questions and participate. Additionally, it would be nice if they felt like they belonged and could always find someone to turn to.

Q. What do you like most about FSU?

- What I like most about FSU is that they provide lots of opportunities for students to explore. It doesn't matter if you are exploring through your courses, internships, extracurricular activities, or taking on a leadership role; it's all very valuable in helping you to discover who you are and where you want to go in life.

Q. What are you most proud of from your FSU experience?

- The thing that I am most proud of regarding my time here at Florida State University is taking myself out of my comfort zone and accepting the challenge of teaching this course. Another thing that I am proud of is balancing a job alongside my studies as a full-time student.