First Year Challenge Checklist
Suggested Guidelines

- Propose a project that will have a positive effect on the economic and/or community conditions in the South Bend, Mishawaka, or Niles areas.
- Written proposal should be 1200-1500 words maximum (For example, 600-750 words for understanding the problem, 600-750 words for your solution).
  - Written proposal due March 15, 2013
- 3 finalists will be selected to do a 10 minute presentation for the selection committee
  - Finalists will be chosen by April 1, 2013
  - Presentations will take place in April 2013
  - Winner will be announced by May 1, 2013

Understanding & Researching the Problem (Suggestions)

Read the program description

Suggested Readings (Links & APA citation)

- NPR Article: A Company Town Reinvents Itself in South Bend, IN
- Article: Rethinking Community Economic Development
- Website: The National Bureau of Economic Research
- Web Resource: Sustainable Urban Development
- Website: The Citizen’s Handbook
- Web Resource: Community and Economic Development Research
- Video: Benchmarking South Bend
- SBT Article: How does South Bend Measure Up?
- Website: STATS Indiana
- The Community Development Reader
- The Abundant Community
- The Short Guide to Community Development
- One Economics, Many Recipes
- The Price of Civilization
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Streets of Hope
___ Attend First Year Challenge events & presentations
   ___ First Year Challenge Introduction Event (September 2012)
   ___ Roundtable Discussion (November 2012)
   ___ Conversation with Mayor Buttigieg (January 2013)
   ___ Other Campus Events

___ Meet with the First Year Librarian (229 Coleman-Morse or the Hesburgh Library)

   You can make an appointment: Leslie Morgan: lmorgan1@nd.edu or attend a special FYC workshop:

   Wednesday, January 30, 2013
   3:00 – 4:30 pm
   222 Hesburgh Library

   Friday, February 1, 2013
   12:00 – 1:30 pm
   222 Hesburgh Library

___ Conduct your own research and data gathering
   (Suggested approaches: Research articles on your own, conduct interviews or focus groups, administer surveys)

Writing the Proposal
___ Schedule a help session with a FY Challenge Advisor (Email Sean Wernert: swernert@nd.edu or James Creech: jcreech2@nd.edu)
   The purpose of these help sessions is to help hone and develop the written proposal to help make it the best it can be.

___ Visit the Writing Center (203 Coleman-Morse)
   ___ Does your proposal have a concrete, clear thesis statement?
   ___ Is your thesis supported by facts & data?
   ___ Is your proposal well written with no grammatical or structural errors?

___ 600-750 words on statement of the problem
   ___ Citations from suggested readings and other outside sources

___ 600-750 words on local solution to the problem
   ___ Citations from suggested readings and other outside sources

Finalist Presentation (Top 3 Chosen Proposals Only)
___ 5-10 Minute Oral Presentation (Including Questions)
   ___ 8-10 Slide PowerPoint Presentation
   ___ PowerPoint sent to First Year Challenge Committee 24 hours prior to presenting (swernert@nd.edu)