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Introduction - iY1 Perspectives, v. 1

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Introduction

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iY-1 Perspectives is a journal for international students enrolled in the International Year-One (iY-1) Program at Syracuse University (SU).¹ The iY-1 Program is designed to give access to higher education in the United States during their first two semesters of university while remaining in their home country. Students then travel to Syracuse to take courses during the summer and matriculate as second-year transfer students the following semester.

Students take credit courses that count towards degree completion and non-credit courses in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) in the two semesters (Fall and Spring) that they study in their home countries. All courses are hybrid, with an SU instructor providing instruction in synchronous online lessons and an instructor in the home country providing in-person instruction for each class. The articles published in this issue represent the work of students in EAP 2, taken in the second semester, in the online component of the course.

This inaugural issue contains papers written about topics related to a global issue, *sustainable development*, which was the theme of the course in the Spring 2023 semester. Students developed their papers over an eight-week period, during which they practiced the skills of analyzing, paraphrasing, summarizing, and synthesizing information from texts about a particular topic of interest related to the United Nations' *Sustainable Development Goals*. The 13 papers included here represent the efforts of students in the program to master key academic reading and writing skills that will help them to succeed as they continue on their higher education journey in the United States.

¹ <https://professionalstudies.syracuse.edu/academics/international-programs/international-year-one-iy-1-program/>

These papers are by no means perfect and are not intended to be. The purpose of the project is to give students a chance to engage in meaningful work, through which they explore a topic in depth and develop some expertise in it. The core belief behind the project is that undergraduate students, and even those who utilize English as an additional language, have something to say about important issues in today's world, and they deserve to be heard.