Instructor Name: Lili Peña Cook
Office Location: FC 126
Office Phone: 825-6084
Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:00pm, T 9-9:20am and 11:50am-12:30pm (in IH 157), R 8:50-9:20am and 1:30-2:00 pm, and by appointment
Email Address: Lili.Cook@tamuc.edu
Website: http://falcon.tamucc.edu/wiki/LiliPenaCook/Home

Course Information:
UCCP 1101.160     TR 11-11:50 am     IH 157
UCCP 1101.161     TR 12:30-1:20 pm    IH 157

Course Description
UCCP 1101, First-Year Seminar I, is an important part of Triad B. This first-year learning community—especially the seminar—is designed to help you achieve success, academically and socially, as you make the transition from high school to the university.

This seminar will challenge you to engage in significant learning in college-level intellectual work. You will develop your skills to work productively in small groups. To develop your critical thinking skills and your information literacy, you will learn how to examine problems and questions from multiple perspectives.

Course Objectives
The primary objectives of First Year Seminar are for students to:
• Explore the interconnections among the Triad/Tetrad courses;
• Develop critical thinking skills and significant learning;
• Clarify personal values, goals, and strengths;
• And develop the ability to learn through study, discussion, writing, cooperation, and collaboration

Student Learning Outcomes
• Students will apply interdisciplinary knowledge to address and analyze real-world issues
• Students will interpret and evaluate various research materials and/or perspectives

Evaluation
PORTFOLIOS and REFLECTIONS – 25%
There will be a reflection and a Portfolio for this course. The Mid-semester reflection will be worth 10% of your grade and DUE ON 10/18/2012. The final portfolio will be DUE ON 11/20/2012. Details on each will be explained in class and be posted online.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – 35%
It is vital that you attend each and every class. There is nothing that we will do in here that is not important to your success in this triad. To encourage attendance, I will be taking up something from you (daily writings, quizzes, group tasks) every time we meet. However, you are allowed two absences. Use them well. After the second absence, any extra absences will affect your grade.

LEARNING COMMUNITY ASSIGNMENTS – 20%
Most of the work we will do in this course will relate to your other courses in the learning community. To reward and encourage success on learning community assignments and projects, will also count for credit in your First-Year
Seminar course. There are four learning communities assignments (5% each) that will count in Seminar and in lecture. These will be discussed as the semester progresses and include: The Sociological Imagination, Hunting and Gathering, Social Stratification, and Investigating the Developing World.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ASSIGNMENT - 20%

There is an experiential component to this learning community. You will be participating in a “Norm Busting” project. Details will be forthcoming. DUE 10/9/12.

Online Schedule
A detailed schedule for this course can be found at: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/LiliPenaCook/Home

Late Work
No late work will be accepted.

Electronic Device Policy
Please refrain from the use of electronic devices during class, as it is distracting to not only you, but also to your instructor and peers. Laptops will be permitted for particular activities as deemed appropriate by the instructor. No cell phones are allowed to be used in class.

Academic Honesty
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possessions of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism.

Notice to Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. November 2nd is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.