Welcome to UCCP 1101.W01! My goal for this course is to help you to succeed and assist you in your academic growth and development. This is a real course that will impact your GPA and must be completed as a University requirement in addition to the Core Curriculum. I anticipate a great semester and positive learning experiences. Please feel free to contact me any time or to come by my office and see me.

Course Description

UCCP 1101, First-Year Seminar I, is an important part of the Core Curriculum. The first-year learning communities—and especially the seminars—are designed to help you achieve success, academically and socially, as you make the transition from high school to the university.

Seminar will challenge you to engage in college-level intellectual work. You will develop your skills to work productively in an online forum. To develop your critical thinking skills, you will learn how to examine problems and questions from multiple perspectives. You will also complete research activities that will require you to locate, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information from a wide range of resources.

Course Objectives

The objectives of First-Year Seminar II are to advance the six intellectual and practical skills defined by the Texas Core Curriculum:

• Critical Thinking Skills
• Communication Skills
• Empirical and Quantitative Skills
• Teamwork
• Social Responsibility
• Personal Responsibility

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

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 20</td>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 24</td>
<td>Portfolio 1 Due at 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14-18</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 8</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 13</td>
<td>Portfolio 2 Due at 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 4</td>
<td>Reading Day-ALL WORK DUE</td>
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Evaluation

PORTFOLIOS – 60%
Two portfolios, each worth 30% (150 points) of your course grade, will be due during the semester. See the online description for a better understanding of the portfolios, which are due on the following dates:

- Portfolio 1: Personal Mission Statement – Due Wednesday, February 24 at 5PM
- Portfolio 2: College Readiness Due Wednesday April 13 at 5PM
- Portfolio 2: Alternate for Seniors Due Wednesday April 13 at 5PM

You will be provided with opportunities to meet with me prior to turning in Portfolio 1 and 2 (request appointment.)

PARTICIPATION – 30%
It is vital that you check your Blackboard account several times per week. Although this class is online, your participation is REQUIRED. There is nothing that we will do that is not important to your success in this course. There will be 12-13 weekly discussions on posted articles or videos. You need to participate in each weekly discussion which begin and ends Sundays at MIDNIGHT. (10 points per discussion/week)

FACILITATION – 10%
Each student in the course will be responsible for proposing and facilitating one weekly discussion. As part of this facilitation, the student will select the topic for discussion, create a list of provocative questions and/or prompts, and then moderate the responses the week the discussion is open. The assignment on the content page tells you what to do (Up to 50 points)

Other Information

Blackboard Mail
I check my blackboard mail obsessively, so it is your best bet for getting in touch with me.

Late Work
Portfolios will be accepted late, at a penalty of a half-letter grade per calendar day. Weekly discussion postings will not be accepted after the assignment deadline.

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 CCH 116. 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.

Respect for Diversity: We are the most diverse campus, in terms of self-disclosed ethnic identity, in the Texas A&M system. This means that we are all meeting and working with people who are different from ourselves in terms of their identities: whether that is defined by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and/or religion. Respecting and accepting difference is vital to your success in this class, on this campus, as a member of society, and in the global community.
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. April 8 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.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that his or her final grade reflects academic evaluation which is arbitrary, prejudiced, or inappropriate in view of the standards and procedures outlined in this class syllabus, may appeal the grade given for the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the student believes the matter is not satisfactorily resolved at the student-faculty level, an appeal of the final grade in the class may be submitted, in writing, to the Director of University Core Curriculum Programs. For complete details, please visit: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Seminar Coordinator.

Course Outline:

January 24 - Continue Strengths Quest Discussion, Analyze Results, Post to Discussion, Propose Discussion Topic
January 31- Continue Strengths Quest Discussion, Analyze Results Post to Discussion, Propose Discussion Topic
February 7- Complete Strengths Quest Posting by today. Propose Discussion Topic, Begin discussion 2, comment on each other’s posts –Closes February 14
February 15- Begin Discussion 3, comment on each other’s posts. Discussion Closes February 22
February 22- Begin Discussion 4, Closes February 28- Complete Portfolio 1
February 24- Portfolio 1 “Personal Mission Statement” due at 5PM
February 29- Begin Discussion 5
March 7- Begin Discussion 6
March 14-20 Spring Break
March 21- Begin Discussion 7
March 28- Begin Discussion 8
April 4- Begin Discussion 9
April 11- Begin Discussion 10
April 18- Begin Discussion 11

**April 15- Portfolio 2 Due at 5pm**

April 25- Begin Discussion 12

May 4- Reading Day- All work Due

I am glad that you have chosen to participate in this online seminar course. Welcome and have a great semester!