Instructor Name: Nikki Grafnetterova  
Office Location: Classroom East building, Room 201B  
Office Phone: 361-825-2104  
Cell Phone: 717-809-1158  
Office Hours: MW 11-12 PM, TR 1-2 PM, and by appointment  
Email Address: nikola.grafnetterova@tamucc.edu  
Website: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/StudentAthleteSeminar  

Course Information: UCCP 1101.910 TR 8:30 – 9:20 AM CS 114  
UCCP 1101.911 MW 12:00 – 12:50 PM OCNR 133  
UCCP 1101.912 MW 2:00 – 2:50 PM OCNR 133  

Course Description  
First-Year Seminar is a two-semester course sequence required of all full-time first-year students. As the central component of a learning community, Seminar helps students achieve success, academically and socially, as they make the transition to the university. Seminar provides students with opportunities for meaningful interactions with faculty and peers about substantive matters as well as timely, constructive feedback about their learning. Students are immersed in an active learning environment with a purposefully integrated and contextualized curriculum, fostering the development of transferable skills and engaging them in the academic community. In UCCP 1101, students are introduced to college level work and responsibilities, and provided with appropriate support and resources to navigate their first semester.  

Course Objectives  
The objectives of First-Year Seminar I 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  
- Reflect and integrate learning from learning community courses, including development of critical thinking skills, social and/or personal responsibility.  
- Interact with faculty and peers about substantive matters through daily activities and discussions.  
- Demonstrate competence of knowledge related to the learning community discipline(s) in a public forum.  

Evaluation:  

Weekly Journal Entries - each entry worth 20 points  
You are a first year college student once in your lifetime. To reflect on your experiences this semester, you are required to complete at least one weekly journal entry via Blackboard. Your weekly journal entries can be as short or long as you like. They should include thoughts, feelings, and questions you have about class reading(s), topics, and/or any of your first semester experiences. All entries are confidential and will not be read by anyone but the instructor of this course. At least one journal entry per week is due by 11:59 p.m. every Sunday. First journal entry is due August 28th.  

Completion of Alcohol-Wise Course – 30 points  
Alcohol-Wise is an online alcohol prevention course required for each incoming student under the age of 21. You will receive an email from 3rd Millennium Classrooms at your Islander email-account. This email will include instruction for completing the course as well as password to log-in. You must complete all five lessons included in the course by September 30th to receive 50 points. No points will be given for any course completion following this date. Please submit a screenshot of the last screen of the course confirming you completed the course (via Blackboard).
Campus Involvement – 25 points for each event report

As a student-athlete, you will be busy with academics and athletics. However, college offers more than that. You have the opportunity to engage in various social activities. I require you to attend four different events coordinated by Campus Activities Board (CAB) or any officially sponsored student organization and then provide a written reflection on this event in a form of a report. (Choose wisely as some events may be relevant to your team’s service learning project in your ENGL 1302 this semester. No athletic events can be selected for this assignment.) More information will be provided in class with details about this assignment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUE DATE (by beginning of class time):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday/Wednesday sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event #4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance and Participation – every class worth 5 points

We will have 28 class sessions this semester. I expect all of you to be on-time, attend, and actively participate in every class session. If you are late, I reserve the right to deduct points. If you are on your cell phone or are distracted in any other way, I reserve the right to deduct points.

Note: I know some of you are in-season this fall and travel with your sport. However, I expect you to come to remind me at least 24 hours prior to you missing a class (email or in-person). Yes, I know your athletic schedule since I work in athletics. However, I want you to get in a good habit of communicating with your professors about your travel schedule and missing classes. If you fail to communicate your absence due to athletic obligations, you will not receive any attendance points for that day.

Portfolios – 350 points total (Midterm Portfolio = 150 points, Final Portfolio = 200 points)

Two portfolios will be due during this semester. More information will be provided in the form of class discussion and an online assignment description in this class. Note: If you are enrolled in ENGL 1302.910/.911/.912, part of this grade will come from integrated activities with this course.

First-Year Symposium Attendance and Participation – 100 points

All learning community students will participate in First-Year Symposium (FYS) at the end of the Fall 2016 semester (November 29/November 30). First-Year Symposium is an opportunity for students to share their academic work with the campus community. More information will be provided in the form of class discussion and an online assignment description in this class as well ENGL 1302 that is part of our learning community.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal Entries (14 x 20):</td>
<td>280 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-Wise Completion:</td>
<td>30 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Involvement (25 x 4):</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Class Attendance (28 x 5):</td>
<td>140 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio 1 (midterm):</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio 2 (final):</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Symposium Attendance and Participation:</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total points possible:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading:

A = 900 – 1000 points
B = 800 – 899 points
C = 700 – 799 points
D = 600 – 699 points
F = 599 and below
**Important Dates**

- **Wednesday, August 31**: Last day to register/add a class
- **Friday, November 11**: Last day to drop a class

---

**Online Schedule**

A detailed schedule for this course can be found at:

http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/StudentAthleteSeminar/Fall2016ClassPlans

---

**Late Work**

No assignments will be accepted late. However, under extenuating circumstances, you can request an extension in person or via email at least 24 hours in advance of the due date of any assignment. There will be no make-ups for missed daily grades unless it is an excused absence, e.g., intercollegiate athletic competition.

---

**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. Note about cell phones: do not use them during class unless specifically instructed by instructor to do so for class activities. I reserve the right to ask you to leave our session if you do not pay attention to lecture due to cell phone use. You will lose all participation points for the session as well.

---

**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.

---

**Notice to Student Veterans**

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.

---

**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 11th** 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 Chair of the Department of Undergraduate Studies. For complete details, please visit:

http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures