UCCP 1102: First-Year Seminar II (Independent)
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Department of Undergraduate Studies ~ Spring 2018

Instructor: Melanie McMahon, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: M 8:00am-10:00am; W 8:00am-9:00am; MW 1:00pm-2:00pm
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Course Information:
- UCCP 1102.006 TR 9:30am-10:20am CS 103
- UCCP 1102.002 MW 12:00pm-12:50pm IH 158
- UCCP 1102.004 MW 2:00pm-2:50pm IH 158

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. The goal of UCCP 1102 is for students to participate in academic discourse and take ownership of their education in preparation for their future coursework and careers.

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
- 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.
- Discover relevance of learning in the learning community through real-world applications.

Major Course Requirements

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – 30%
Attendance is vital. Each class period is devoted to something crucial to your success. Three tardies constitute an absence. Cell-phone use will negatively impact your participation grade.

HOMEWORK, DISCUSSION and IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES – 25%
These are the activities we will do periodically throughout the semester to help you prepare for your major assignments, build academic skills, organize your thoughts, express yourself orally and in writing, integrate with your peers and gauge your learning. You will be responsible for leading the discussion once during the course of the semester.

FINAL PRESENTATIONS – 30%
The Final Presentation will be the culmination of a semester’s worth of thought, research and collaboration. It will be delivered in Seminar either alone or in groups of 2-3.

FINAL REFLECTION: 15%
This 2-3 page paper is a metacognitive exercise designed to allow you to reflect on your progress, accomplishments and learning at the end of the semester.
Important Dates
Tuesday, January 23       Last day to register or add a class
March 12-16               Spring Break
Friday, April 6            Last day to drop a class
Thursday, April 26         First-Year Research Conference
Wednesday, May 2           Last day of classes
May 4-10                   Final Examinations

Online Schedule
A detailed schedule for this course: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/MelanieMcMahon/Spring2018ClassPlansIndie

Course Policies

Late Work
Any major assignment (such as a portfolio or paper) will be accepted late, at a penalty of a letter grade per calendar day. Please contact me at least 24 hours in advance if there are extenuating circumstances that will cause you to miss a major due date.

Cell Phones & Other Technology
Please turn off your cell phones (or iPads, laptops, etc.), or turn them to silent, and put them away, before class begins, out of respect for your peers and me.

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. April 6th 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.