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

ATTENDANCE — 15%
Regular attendance is unequivocally the most important step in ensuring you are successful in this course, and as a consequence, is worth a large portion of your final grade. I will be taking attendance every day. Students are allowed 2 absences without penalty. Each successive absence will deduct 5% from your attendance grade. Students with approved documentation from the university will have their absences excused from this deduction.

PARTICIPATION — 15%
The seminar course, by its very structure, requires students to be present and engaged in course material and discussions. Students will have several in-class and online assignments that comprise their final participation grade. This grade will be at the discretion of the professor based on class engagement.

THEORY ASSIGNMENT — 20%
Alone, or in pairs, students will make a ten minute presentation regarding a theory of motivation. More information will be given in class.

FACILITATIONS—20%
In the second half of the semester each student will facilitate a class discussion on a motivation topic in a field of his or her choice. This facilitation should be based on the research you are doing for the final project.
MOTIVATIONAL REASONING PROJECT—20%
This is the culminating project for Independent Seminar. Students will be asked to present research on a topic of their choice as long as it pertains to motivation. Students will present their research in class as a facilitation and in a poster session at the First Year Research Conference (see below).

FIRST-YEAR RESEARCH CONFERENCE – 10%
Students in this seminar community will be required to participate in, and serve as engaged audience members at, the First-Year Research Conference (held at the end of the spring semester.) FYRC is an opportunity for students to begin professional research initiatives and share their academic work with the greater campus community. More information will be provided in the form of class discussion and an online assignment description. The FYRC is on April 26, 2018. Please plan accordingly.

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 can be found at: [http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/AmyCarter/Spring2018ClassPlans](http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/AmyCarter/Spring2018ClassPlans)

Course Policies

**Electronic Device Policy**
This classroom is a no phone zone! Unless, I instruct you otherwise, please keep your phones, laptops, tablets, etc. in your bag.

**Late Work**
I will NOT accept late daily work assignments in Seminar because those assignments are, in essence, part of your attendance and participation grade. There will be no make-ups for missed daily grades. For any major assignment, please email me at least 48 hours before the due date if there are extenuating circumstances that will cause you to miss a due date. You will need to propose a new due date and documentation that proves an extension was granted. If you do not meet your new deadline your assignment will be penalized a letter grade each day the assignment is not turned in. This policy includes weekends.

**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 filing 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/](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/).