Instructor Name: Nesime Can, M.S.Ed.
Office Location: FC 113
Office Phone: 825-5979 (Only during office hours)
Office Hours: TR: 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment
Email Address: ncan@islander.tamucc.edu
Website: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/NesimeCan/Home

Course Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCCP 1102.213</td>
<td>TR: 10:00 - 10:50am</td>
<td>OCNR-133</td>
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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

Habits of mind are ways of approaching learning that are both intellectual and practical.

- They are crucial for all college-level learners.
- Beyond knowing particular facts or completing mandatory readings, students who develop these habits of mind approach learning from an active stance.
- These habits help students succeed in a variety of fields and disciplines.
- They are cultivated both inside and outside school.

These habits include:

- **Curiosity** – the desire to know more about the world.
- **Openness** – the willingness to consider new ways of being and thinking in the world.
- **Engagement** – a sense of investment and involvement in learning.
- **Creativity** – the ability to use novel approaches for generating, investigating, and representing ideas.
- **Persistence** – the ability to sustain interest in and attention to short- and long-term projects.
- **Responsibility** – the ability to take ownership of one’s actions and understand the consequences of those actions for oneself and others.
- **Flexibility** – the ability to adapt to situations, expectations, or demands.
- **Metacognition** – the ability to reflect on one’s own thinking as well as on the individual and cultural processes used to structure knowledge.
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.

Course Requirements

ATTENDANCE – 15%
It is vital that you attend every class. There is nothing that we will do in here that is not important to your success in this learning community. To encourage attendance, I will be taking attendance every time we meet. However, students are permitted only TWO free absences without penalty during the semester. Any extra absences will affect your grade.

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 of record based on class engagement. Leaving early, coming in late, or refusing to participate in in-class work may result in the loss of points.

INTEGRATED ASSIGNMENT – 15%
For the integrated assignment, students will use what they learn in each of the classes of the Learning Community to advocate, organize, and/or promote some kind of political change through writing. Students will be choosing an issue of your choice (per instructor approval) associated with either a national political issue with local implications or a local issue with national political implications. This research proposal will be something that you will be working on in Seminar and Composition while also using the knowledge gained from your POLS class. This assignment will count in ALL of your Triad D classes.

PRESENTATION – 15%
All learning community students will participate in presenting the Integrated Assignment. These in-class presentations are an opportunity for students to share their academic work with their peers. Along with presenting, all students will be required to fill out evaluation forms of their peers. More information will be provided in the form of class discussion and an online assignment description.

MIDTERM AND FINAL REFLECTION PORTFOLIOS – 30% (15% each portfolio)
The Midterm and Final Reflection Portfolio asks students to analyze the work performed during the semester and demonstrate how you achieved each course outcome. I expect you to exhibit skills for effective writing and use evidence to prove how you met each of the course outcomes this semester. To do this, you should refer specifically to the work you did throughout the semester.

LEARNING COMMUNITY POINTS – 10%
Throughout the semester, there will be various events on campus. The list of events will be shared with you during the first week of the class. You will be earning points by attending events you choose from the list and responding to a few structured questions after your participation. You will turn in your response per each activity, and your points (up to 10 points) will be added to your overall grade. Points can be earned by responding to articles posted on Blackboard from time to time, using CASA, attending specific SI sessions, attending approved campus events, etc. This assignment will count in both your Seminar and Political Science classes.
Please note the due dates for Learning Community Points throughout the semester. Each event will be worth 2 points apiece every three weeks five times over the semester. If you fail to ask for an extension before the due date for the submission, you will not be able to turn it in by the end of the semester.

For more information and an up-to-date list of events, go to: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/NesimeCan/ClickHere

***The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.***

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**Course Evaluation**

Course grades will be based on the following:

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<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attandence</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Portfolio</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated Assignment</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Community Points</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Final letter grades will be assigned based on the percentage of points accumulated on the following basis:

- 90% - or more = A
- 80% - 89.9% = B
- 70% - 79.9% = C
- 60% - 69.9% = D
- 59.9% - or less = F

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**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/NesimeCan/Spring2018ClassPlans
Course Policies

Late Work/Extensions
If there is a crisis that prevents you from meeting a deadline or attending class, you can request an extension to complete or turn the work in late. The approval of an extension is entirely at my discretion and will depend on the reason for your absence, your record of completion of work, and attendance. You must send me an email before the due date/time for an extension. In the email, you will need to also include a new due date and time. I will reply to your email letting you know if your request is accepted. If you fail to do so, I will deduct 10% from the assignment grade. All extensions must be confirmed by email.

In-Class Conduct
In general, treat each other and the instructor with respect and follow standards of common courtesy. Here are a few specifics:
- Please turn off all cell phones or other electronic communication devices and place them out of sight (in a bag, purse, pocket) while in class.
- Do not use your time in Seminar to work on assignments for other classes.
- Use of laptop and/or phone is permitted on the basis that it is for Triad D work.

Email Communication
Please consider e-mail as official correspondence. Efforts will be made to address your e-mail within 24 hours. If you do not receive an email within 24 hours, please send a follow-up email. 
- Please use the subject line in a way that indicates the content of the message. Please use professional language and include your full name and a complete inquiry in the body of the message.

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/.