Instructor Name: Sean Britt, MA  
Office Location: FC 130  
Office Phone: 825-2985  
Office Hours: MW 4-5pm, TR 8-9am, F 12-1pm, and by appointment  
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Website: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/SeanBritt/Home

Course Information:  
UCCP 1101.023  TR 10-10:50am  BH 128

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.

Online Schedule
A detailed schedule for this course can be found at: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/SeanBritt/FA18SeminarCS1435

Evaluation

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE ~ 30%
It is vital that you attend each and every class. There is nothing that we will do in here that is not important to your success in the learning community! Your attendance each class day is recorded; however, this grade will be adjusted based on your level of engagement in the class. Blackboard will display your percentage in the Attendance column, and there are only 4 possible scores (Present, Late, Absent, and Excused), but the “late” category (80%) may result from behavior other than just tardiness. Disengagement or lack of participation, failure to inform me in advance of an excused absence (unless unavoidable), and/or a variety of other reasons that may impact your level of involvement in the day’s activities could also earn 80% of that class day’s score, which will show in your gradebook as “late.” Conversely, if you are especially engaged (leading discussions, demonstrating well developed ideas, contributing thoughtful questions or comments to discuss, etc.) could earn you extra participation points which will be added to your score at mid-term and at the end of the semester. Your willingness to learn and interact are all you need to do well in this part of your Seminar grade!

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES ~ 10%
Much of the work we will do in this course will relate to your other courses in the learning community. To reward and encourage success and attendance in the linked courses, you will complete assignments for Seminar connected to Computer Science and/or Math, as well as your development as a college student, in order to earn 10% of your final grade.

MIDTERM REFLECTION ~ 10%
At the midpoint of the semester you will be asked to reflect on your progress thus far as a student in the Computer Science LC, as well as set out goals for successfully completing the Fall 2018 semester. More details will be provided in the form of an in-class discussion and online assignment description several weeks before the midterm reflection is due on October 19th.
FIRST-YEAR SYMPOSIUM PROJECT – 30%
All learning community students will participate in First-Year Symposium (FYS) at the end of the Fall 2018 semester. Your presentation at First-Year Symposium will be based on a multi-step team coding project. More information about the team project will be provided near the beginning of October in the form of class discussion and assignment description.

FINAL PORTFOLIO – 20%
Your final project for Seminar will be to compile a portfolio that includes evidence of your growth as a student throughout the semester. In preparation for this assignment, due on December 5th, you are encouraged to keep everything from all of your classes so that you will have as many potential items of evidence as possible.

Important Dates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 4</td>
<td>Last day to register/add a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 9</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 21-23</td>
<td>Reading Day/Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 5</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7-13</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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Late Work
Any major assignment (such as a portfolio) will be accepted late, at a penalty of a half a letter grade per calendar day late. Please contact me in advance if there are extenuating circumstances that will cause you to miss a deadline. There will be no make-ups for missed daily grades.

Electronic Device Policy
Please turn off or silence your cell phones (or tablets, laptops, etc.) and put them away before class begins, out of respect for your peers and me. I will let you know when you will need devices for the day’s activities.

Think About It
All UCCP 1101 students are required to complete the Think About It training to prepare you for the unique challenges associated with being a university student. You should have received an email prompting you to take the course before you arrived on campus. Please complete the training before October 1 to avoid a registration hold that will prevent you from registering for Spring 2019 classes. If you did not receive the email, please talk with me or contact thinkaboutit@tamucc.edu for a new access link.

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 at (361) 825-5816.

I-CARE
TAMU-CC is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our campus community. If you need support or have a concern about the behavior or safety of a fellow student, you may share your concerns with I-CARE by submitting an online referral to icare.tamucc.edu. Your report will help us to provide outreach, support, and early intervention.

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 your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me before you decide to drop this course. 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 9 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/index.html.