Instructor: Rachel Johnson  
Office Location: Faculty Center 115A  
Office Phone: 825-3469  
Office Hours: TR 12:00 – 2:00 pm; W 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
Email Address: Rachel.johnson@tamucc.edu  
Website: Blackboard  

Course Information:  
UCCP 1102.061 and UCCP 1102.091  
MW 1-1:50PM  OCNR 255  
UCCP 1102.071  
MW 2-2:50PM  OCNR 255  

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  

REFLECTIONS – 30%  
Two reflections, each worth 15% of your course grade, will be due throughout the semester. See the online description for a better understanding of the portfolios, which are due on March 8th and May 1st.  

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 this course and the learning community as a whole. To encourage attendance, I will either be taking attendance or taking up some activity completed in class. You are allowed two free absences. Use them well. After the second absence, any extra absences will affect your grade. Egregious tardiness and/or disruptions will negatively impact your participation grade.  

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES – 20%  
Throughout the course of the semester, you will complete assignments for other classes in the learning community that will also count for credit in Seminar. You will also have assignments in Seminar that will count as part of this grade. These will be small assignments throughout the semester that contribute to your engagement as a member of this learning community. These Engineering (EN) learning community assignments will collectively account for 30% of your final grade in Seminar.  

LEARNING COMMUNITY PROJECT – 20%
As students in the engineering program, you will select a project that aligns with your interests and that will showcase your growth as an engineer. The theme for this learning community is “Building a Foundation” and this project will align with your development as an engineering student.

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 22</td>
<td>Last day to register or add a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11-15</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, April 5</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 25</td>
<td>First-Year Research Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 1</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3-9</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
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</tbody>
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**Online Schedule**

A detailed schedule for this course can be found through Blackboard.

**Course Policies**

**Late Work**

Any major assignment (such as a reflection, writing, or presentation) may be accepted late, at a possible penalty of up to a letter grade per calendar day late. 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 IPods, laptops, etc.), or turn them to silent, and put them away, before class begins, out of respect for your peers and me. I will try to remember to do the same!

**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.

**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. April 5th 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](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/index.html).

**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.