

UCCP 1102: First-Year Seminar II
Triad F: The Personal is Political
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Department of Undergraduate Studies ~ Spring 2019

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Course Information:
- UCCP 1102.291 8:30-9:20 IH 158
- UCCP 1102.290 11-11:50 IH 158
- UCCP 1102.292 12-12:50 IH 158

Course Description

Learn what it means to be a student and member of the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi community in the two-semester sequence of First-Year Seminar (FYS). FYS explores different facets of college knowledge for academic and social success. As the integrative engine of a learning community, FYS engages students in a collaborative learning experience. By attending learning community courses with students, FYS faculty facilitate meaningful connections between linked courses. FYS students gain confidence in their individual skills and develop abilities for use in the academic community and beyond. UCCP 1102 emphasizes student success after the first-year.

Student Learning Outcomes
- Synthesize connections between learning community courses by engaging in integrative experiences and assignments.
- Evaluate learning processes in learning community courses through self-reflection.
- Demonstrate academic development from learning community participation by completing integrative assignments and presenting in a public forum.
- Locate and utilize campus resources connected to learning community courses and university life.

Course Goals and Objectives
- Integrative Learning
- Learning to Learn
- Academic Development
- Higher Education Navigation

Important Dates
- Monday, January 21st MLK Holiday—NO CLASSES
- Tuesday, January 22nd Last day to register/add a class
- March 11th-March 15th Spring Break—NO CLASSES
- Friday, April 5th Last Day to Drop a Class
- Tuesday, April 30th Last Day to Withdraw from the University
- Wednesday, May 1st Last day of classes
- Thursday, May 2nd Reading Day—NO CLASSES
- May 3rd-May 9th Final Exams
PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – 30%
There is nothing that we will do in class that is not important to your overall success in the learning community; therefore, attendance is imperative. Missing class will affect your grade, as will not being prepared or not participating in a meaningful way. Students are expected to contribute to class discussions and to compose thoughtful short assignments. To encourage attendance, I will take attendance each time we meet. In addition, individual and group exercises will be assigned each class meeting through which I will evaluate your performance and engagement. Simply being present in class will not earn you full points for the day. I will take into account participation, preparedness, and promptness when assigning daily participation grades. In addition, any disruptive behavior or use of electronic devices (including any use of laptops, cell phones and/or portable music devices) will be noted, resulting in a deduction of daily participation points. I reserve the right to award daily or average points to students who continually surpass classroom expectations. I also reserve the right to deduct daily or average points from students who consistently lack engagement or disregard classroom rules. I allow two absences. You will earn a zero as your daily grade for every class missed thereafter.

TRIAD F REFLECTIONS – 20% MIDTERM/FINAL REFLECTION
Two reflections, each worth 10% of your course grade, will be due during the semester. The Triad F Midterm Reflection will be completed in class on Tuesday, March 5th. The Triad F Final Reflection will be completed in class on Tuesday, April 23rd. YOU MUST BE IN CLASS ON BOTH OF THESE DAYS TO COMPLETE THE REFLECTIONS. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUPS OR EXTENSIONS GIVEN FOR EITHER ASSIGNMENT. More information for these reflections will be provided in the form of class discussion and an online assignment description.

FIRST-YEAR RESEARCH CONFERENCE PROPOSAL—5%
First-Year Research Conference is the culminating event in the spring semester. All first-year students will work on projects that they may elect to present at FYRC. As part of this process, all students must submit a proposal for First Year Research Conference. Please note, every student is not required to present at FYRC, only to submit a proposal for the event. All students are expected to attend at least one session on Thursday, April 25. FYRC and Proposals will be discussed more thoroughly in class.

POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECT—25%
The dominating assignment for this dyad is a research project and essay based on the 2019 State of the Union Address that will be given on January 29, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. We will focus on this project in Seminar extensively. You will have three project deliverables, due at different points in the semester, to help you prepare for the final essay: a topic proposal, a research log, and an outline. Each of these deliverables will count as 5% of your grade in Seminar (15% total) and the final essay will count for 10% of your overall grade in Seminar (as well as 15% of your overall grade in Poli Sci).

IN-CLASS FACILITATIONS OF POLI SCI PODCASTS—10%
Part of the expectations of the Political Science course is active reading of the assigned material from the textbook as well as listening to and analyzing several podcasts assigned that relate to topics covered during lecture. At five different points in the semester, groups of 4-5 students will facilitate and in-class discussion based on the podcast and supplemented by the textbook readings. These facilitations will last roughly 20 minutes, to be completed at the beginning of class (on the assigned day for each group). The details and requirements of this assignment will be discussed more thoroughly in class.

LEARNING COMMUNITY INTEGRATED ACTIVITY—10%
This final portion of your grade will be comprised of several different projects and events scheduled throughout the semester. You will have several opportunities to acquire points from a “menu” of options that focus on engagement in the Islander community, social and personal wellness, and increased political awareness. This “menu” and the complete details of this assignment will be discussed more thoroughly in class.
Online Schedule
A detailed schedule for this course can be found at: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/ErinCofer/ClassPlans

Other Information

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 integrative learning community assignment, please email your professor’s at least 48 hours before the due date if there are extenuating circumstances that will cause you to miss an assignment deadline. In the email, you will need to propose a new due date that does not exceed SEVEN days (one week) past the original due date. Upon submission of the final product, documentation that proves an extension was granted must be provided. This policy includes weekends. NO ASSIGNMENTS RELATED TO LEARNING COMMUNITY COURSES WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER EMAIL. NO EXCEPTIONS.

OFFICE HOURS Attending office hours is a key to success in higher education. Because of FERPA regulations, we cannot discuss grades in the classroom; this must be done during office hours. We want to give you feedback on your writing or any of the course content. In order to be fair, please abide by the following guidelines: we can’t spend more than 15 minutes with you during office hours if other students are waiting. Obviously, we are delighted to spend more time with you if our schedules permit. We are happy to answer specific questions about assignments via email. However, we will not provide any detailed feedback via email.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION Please consider e-mail as official correspondence. All email correspondence will be sent to your Islander email and via Blackboard. 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.
- No email correspondence on the day before an examination or deadline.
- E-mail communications should be about class business. E-mail is not the place for summaries of lectures, discussions, or readings, however.
- 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. Unprofessional emails will result in non-response.

Electronic Device Policy
Use of electronic devices for class purposes (look up a word, find an article to support an argument, etc) is allowed. However, using electronic devices to launch Twitter or Instagram, play Fortnite etc is distracting not only to you but also to your instructor and peers and thus will not be allowed. The electronic device policy will be discussed more thoroughly in class.

Rights Responsibilities and Civil Discourse: In this course we will engage in active learning including frequent group activities and interactions. We will be exploring real world topics that may at times result in contentious discussions as we meet the objectives of the course. To meet these many significant learning objectives, class dialogue that no one individual dominates the discussion and that the diverse opinions of others can be respected. Students are expected to read and follow the University Code of Conduct, Student Handbook, and state and local laws.

Respect for Diversity
We are the most diverse campus, in terms of self-disclosed ethnic identity, in the Texas A&M system. This means that we are all meeting and working with people who are different from ourselves in terms of their identities: whether that is defined by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and/or religion. Respecting and accepting difference is vital to your success in this class, on this campus, as a future professional, and in the global community.

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.

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 5 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 First-Year Learning Communities Coordinator. For complete details, please visit: 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 toicare.tamucc.edu. Your report will help us to provide outreach, support, and early intervention.