UCCP 1102: First-Year Seminar II (Triad BU)

What is Justice?
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Department of Undergraduate Studies ~ Spring 2019

Instructor Name: Melanie McMahon, PhD
Office Location: FC 124
Office Phone: 361-825-2306
Office Hours: MW 11-12 and 2-3; Tues 11-12
Email Address: melanie.mcmahon@tamucc.edu
Website: http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/MelanieMcMahon/Home

Course Information:
- UCCP 1102.302 10:00-10:50 BH 202
- UCCP 1102.300 12:00-12:50 BH 202
- UCCP 1102.301 1:00-1:50 BH 202

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

Evaluation

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – 30%
Attendance is vital. Each class is devoted to something crucial to your success here and in the learning community overall. Three tardies constitute an absence. **Cell-phone use negatively impacts your participation grade.**

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES, QUIZZES, DISCUSSION and HOMEWORK – 30%
These refer to various methods of daily class engagement. They are designed to help you prepare for major assignments, build academic skills, organize your thoughts, express yourself orally and in writing, bolster your critical thinking capacities, strengthen your ability to analyze texts, keep up with the readings, communicate with your peers and gauge your learning.

ETHICAL DILEMMA PROJECT (INTEGRATED ASSIGNMENT) – 15%
Your integrated assignment—or the Ethical Dilemma Project—will combine aspects of all three courses in the triad (or both courses in the dyad). Accordingly, it will “count” in all/both courses. You will choose from a list of possible ethical dilemmas, provided by Professor Toma, to which you will apply two theories covered in large lecture. This analysis will either take the form of a COMM presentation or a Seminar paper. More details will be forthcoming.

ETHICAL DILEMMA (INTEGRATED ASSIGNMENT) PROPOSAL [which may also be used to apply to the FIRST-YEAR RESEARCH CONFERENCE] – 10%
This is a one-page plan of your Ethical Dilemma project/paper submitted for feedback roughly midway through the semester. *Much like Symposium in the fall semester, 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. All students are expected to attend at least one session on Thursday, April 25.

**REFLECTIVE WRITING – 15%**
Metacognitive exercises such as self-reflection are one of the student learning outcomes for First-Year Seminar. We will produce a final reflection in the form of an essay (due at the end of the semester), a series of journal entries submitted throughout the semester or a combination of the two.

**Important Dates**
- Tuesday, January 22: Last day to register/add a class
- March 11-15: Spring Break
- Friday, April 5: Last day to drop a class
- Wednesday, May 1: Last day of classes
- May 3-9: Final Exams

**Online Schedule**
http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/MelanieMcMahon/Spring2019ClassPlans

**Late Work**
Major assignments will be accepted late, though at a penalty of a half a letter grade per day. Please contact me in advance of the due date to request an extension. There will be no make-ups for missed daily grades.

**Electronic Device Policy**
Please refrain from the use of electronic devices during class as it is distracting not only to you but also to your instructor and peers. Laptops will be permitted for particular activities as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

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

I-CARE
TAMU-CC is committed to the safety and well-being 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.