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Course Information:
UCCP 1102.P04 M-R 3:00-3:50 CCH 118

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

July 8  Classes begin
July 9  Last day to register or add a class
July 29 Last day to drop a class
August 7 Last day to withdraw from the University
August 9 Last day of classes
          Summer Session II final examinations
August 10 Summer Commencement
August 13 All Summer grades due

GRADE BREAKDOWN

Engagement and Participation -- 15% Much of the work completed for Seminar involves in-class discussion, group work, and drafting. This portion of your grade is meant to reflect your engagement in these activities. Every student starts off each class with a full 10/10 credit for the day. Showing up late, failure to collaborate, consistently showing up unprepared to contribute to class discussion, and being on a cell phone or laptop instead of engaging with your colleagues are some of the behaviors that can cause you to lose your daily participation points. Naturally, being absent causes you to earn a grade of zero for the day. This grade cannot be made up. See my attendance policy for additional information.

Daily Work – 20% Daily work activities are assigned at random points throughout the semester and vary in terms of length and structure. Some examples include: note-taking quizzes, reading reflections, summaries, progress checks, group activities, mini-presentations, take-home activities, etc. These assignments are not accepted late and cannot be made up if a student is absent from class. They are designed to assist you in your preparation for large lecture, promote communication between classmates, and ensure regular attendance in Seminar.

Presentation Self-Evaluation -- 15% You will complete two “formal” presentations in COMM over the course of the semester. In order to help you prepare for these major
assignments, I am asking you to film yourself completing each presentation outside of the classroom. You will submit the video of your practice presentation along with a piece of reflective writing in which you evaluate your performance. These submissions will be scheduled 24 hours prior to your presentation in COMM.

**(Integrated) Written Responses – 20%** Shared assignments prepared and evaluated by Professor Friley and myself. These activities are based on the content from your COMM textbook and lecture.

**(Integrated) Individual Presentation – 15%** A shared assignment prepared and evaluated by Professor Friley and myself. This assignment is a group activity based on concepts from the textbook and personal research.

**LC Reflection – 15%** At the end of the semester, you will be asked to complete a reflection discussing your progress over the semester within the LC. This assignment will challenge you to engage in metacognitive thought about the choices you have made as a scholar and the products of those choices. This will be considered your “final project” for this course.

**CLASS POLICIES & OTHER INFORMATION**

**Attendance** – Everything we do in our class is important to your overall success in LC Z; therefore, attendance is critical. Any missed class counts as an absence unless excused by TAMUCC policies. After your 2nd absence, additional absences will negatively impact your grade. You are responsible for contacting a classmate to obtain any missed materials or class notes. I also strongly encourage you to review the class plans for any absence to keep up with the rest of the group.

If you show up more than 5 minutes late for a class, you will be marked tardy. If you are more than 15 minutes late for a class you will be marked absent.

**Late Work** – I will NOT accept late daily work assignments in Seminar. There will be no make-ups for missed daily grades. For any non-integrated major assignment, please email me at least 48 hours before the due date to request an extension. You will need to propose a new due date and documentation that proves an extension was granted. However, if you do not meet your own deadline, you will receive a zero on the assignment. This policy includes weekends. All integrated assignments will be submitted as instructed by Professor Friley. Her late-work policy will be observed for these assignments.

I reserve the right to alter this document at any point in the semester. You will be informed of these revisions as they occur.
Email Communication  Please consider e-mail as official correspondence. Efforts will be made to address your e-mail within 24 hours.

- 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. You will need to avail yourself to scheduled office hours or make an appointment to discuss these.
- 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.

Graded Events If you feel that you were graded unfairly & disagree with a grade that you earned, please follow these steps: 1.) Read the rubric or assignment description… did you follow all of the guidelines? 2.) Look on your paper for my specific comments…do these shed any light? 3.) Next, come see me during office hours or schedule an appointment to see me to discuss your concerns. If you are disappointed in your performance and believe that the assignment you turned in is not representative of your best work, please come and see me as well. I am open to discussing ways to help you improve the grade you earned. You must observe a 24-hour waiting period and meet with me personally to discuss these options.

Office Hours Attending office hours is a key to success in higher education. I expect that you utilize office hours for one on one feedback on your writing and to be able to address your learning needs on an individualized basis. Because of FERPA regulations, I cannot discuss grades via email; this must be done during office hours. I am happy to answer specific questions re. Assignment Descriptions via email; however, I will not provide any detailed feedback on your writing via email.

Technology Use Out of respect for your peers and me, please turn off your cell phones or turn them to silent, and put them away, before class begins. Laptops and other electronic devices will be permitted for particular activities as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Classroom discussion related to Learning Community Z content may not be recorded on any device without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor. If a recording is being requested for disability accommodation as requested by TAMU-CC Disability Services, the instructor’s consent will be given in compliance to reasonably accommodate students. Presentations that are made by classmates or guest lecturers cannot be recorded without the prior and explicit written permission of each of the presenters. Students creating unauthorized recordings violate an instructor’s (or classmate's or guest's) intellectual property rights.

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 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.

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