UCCP 1102: First-Year Seminar I - Triad I
First-Year Learning Communities Program
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Spring 2020

Instructor Name: Dr. George Potter
Office Location: FC 113
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
             12:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Email Address: george.potter@tamucc.edu
Website: http://firstyearwiki.tamucc.edu/wiki/GeorgePotter/Home

Course Information: UCCP 1102.371 TR 8:30-9:20 a.m. CS-108
                   UCCP 1102.373 TR 1:00-1:50 p.m. BH-128

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
Seminar Course Evaluation

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – 30%

There is nothing we will do in class that is not important to your overall success in the learning community; therefore, attendance and participation are 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. To encourage attendance, individual and group exercises will be assigned during randomized class meetings 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 considering this grade. You are allowed two absences. Use them well. After the second absence, any extra absences will affect your grade.

REFLECTIVE ASSIGNMENTS – 30%

Twice this semester, you will be asked to show evidence of learning by writing a reflective assignment. Each time you do so will be worth 15% of your overall grade. Your reflections will include specific examples and will be used to gauge your growth this semester.

“GET PSYCHED” INTEGRATED ASSIGNMENT – 20%

This assignment will count in both UCCP 1102 and PSYC 2301 and provide the basis for a polished in-class presentation. More information about this assignment and due dates will be provided in class. Please refer to the syllabi and online course websites for each other course in this learning community for more information. Please note that students who drop Seminar risk forfeiting the chance to earn points for the integrated assignment in the other courses in the learning community.

“GET PSYCHED” PRESENTATION – 10%

This assignment will count in UCCP 1102, PSYC 2301, and ENGL 1302 and provide the basis for a possible presentation at First-Year Islander Conference on April 22 and 23. Please note that this grade is contingent on attendance at FYI Conference, which is mandatory. More information about this assignment will be provided in class.

ISLANDER COMMUNITY POINTS – 10%

Throughout the semester, there will be multiple opportunities for you to engage in and with the campus community. More information will be provided in Seminar regarding campus events, your responsibility to gain points, etc.

Important Dates

Tuesday, January 28  Last day to register/add a class March 9-13  Spring Break
Friday, April 10  Last day to drop a class Wednesday, April 22 &
Thursday, April 23  
First-Year Islander Conference

Wednesday, May 6  
Last day of classes May 8, 11-14 Final Exams

Online Schedule

A detailed schedule for this course can be found at:
http://firstyearwiki.tamucc.edu/wiki/GeorgePotter/Spring2020ClassPlansDyadI

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 major assignments, points will be deducted for every day that assignment is late. Please refer to your other LC faculty members' syllabi regarding their late work and missed assignment policies.

E-Mail Communication

Consider e-mail to be official correspondence. All email correspondence will be sent to your Islander email and via Blackboard. Efforts will be made to address your message within 24 hours. If you do not receive an email within 24 hours, please send a follow-up email. Please note:

● 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

Please refrain from the use of electronic devices during class, as it is distracting to not only 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.
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. Friday, April 10 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.

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.
Student Mental Health & Well-Being Statement

As a student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily life. If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional distress or mental health issues, please visit the Counseling Center located in the Driftwood Building or call (361)825-2703. Counselors are available by phone 24/7. Services are free and confidential. For more information and to access on-line and mobile friendly self-help resources including TAO and At Risk for College Students, visit the Counseling Center website at https://counseling.tamucc.edu.

TAMUCC faculty are fully committed to supporting students and upholding an environment free of sexual violence and gender-based discrimination. If a student chooses to confide in faculty or staff regarding issues of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking, it should be understood that faculty and staff may be obligated to report this information to University Police or the Title IX office. Students can seek confidential assistance from the Counseling Center and/or the Health Center.