

First Year Experience

Three Rivers Community College

Fall 2017

Instructor: Heidi Zenie

Office: C102

Phone: 860 215 9485

Office Hours: M/W 2:00-3:00, T/R 3:00-5:00

Required Text: Cuseo, J., Thompson, A., Moono, S. (2010, 2013). *Thriving in the Community College & Beyond*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing (ISBN 978-1-4652-1314-3)

Course Description:

*Prerequisites: Completion of ESL*K060 and ESL*K061 if appropriate.* This course is designed to engage students as active participants within the college environment. Students will have the opportunity to acquire academic skills, attributes, and awareness of self as a learner, and to engage with the resources and activities within the assignments along with classroom discussion as you investigate how to be successful in this environment.

Course Objectives:

Information covered and assigned work is intended to increase the likelihood that college is successful and rewarding for the student. Emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary learning strategies, life management skills, active participation in the college community, classroom discussion and other public speaking, and critical thinking skills necessary for any college student.

Students should seek to:

- a) Make a positive and productive transition to college life.
- b) Develop coping skills and behaviors to meet the challenges of college education.
- c) Understand and improve the teaching/learning process.
- d) Develop skills that enhance planning, studying, communication and critical thinking.
- e) Assess personal strengths and limitations to set and achieve appropriate goals.
- f) Learn about and use the resources of Three Rivers Community College.
- g) Become more confident with writing, reading and speaking in an academic environment.
- h) Establish personal, career and academic goals, with an understanding of potential obstructions to these goals.
- i) Become aware of and develop attitudes towards tolerance and acceptance of diverse communities and their opinions.
- j) Actively and effectively participate in group assignments and discussions.
- k) Participate in activities/community functions on the Three Rivers College campus.

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of IDS 105 students should be able to:

Understand, articulate, and apply the elements of reasoning

- Formulate appropriate questions and hypotheses
- Recognize assumptions and formulate premises
- Analyze, synthesize and evaluate information
- Formulate logical conclusions

Demonstrate information literacy

- Understand how and why outside sources are utilized in academic work
- Learn and employ strategies for avoiding plagiarism

Understand and apply the fundamentals of quantitative reasoning

- Use information presented quantitatively to further academic work
- Identify, extract, and interpret numerical data from various sources

Demonstrate effective communication skills

- Use writing, reading, and speaking for inquiry, learning, and thinking in a college setting
- Understand, articulate, and apply self-assessment and decision-making skills in achieving family, educational, career, and personal goals

Disability Statement:

Students with disabilities are guaranteed reasonable accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992. Disclosure must be voluntary.

If you have a visible or hidden disability which may require classroom, lab and/or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible. If you have not registered with Matt Liscum, learning specialist or a counselor in the Student Services Development Center, you must do so early in the semester.

College Disabilities Service Provider	
Matt Liscum, Counselor (860) 215-9265 Room A113	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning Disabilities• ADD/ADHD• Autism Spectrum• Mental Health Disabilities

Elizabeth Willcox, Advisor (860) 215-9289 Room A113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Disabilities • Mobility Disabilities • Sensory Disability
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Please note that an instructor cannot provide disability accommodations until a student provides the necessary paperwork from the college's Office of Disability Services.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a useful education. Failure to act with academic integrity severely limits a person's ability to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Furthermore, academic dishonesty erodes the legitimacy of every degree awarded by the College. In this class and in the course of your academic career, present only your own best work; clearly documented the sources of the material you use from others; and act at all times with honor.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's work or ideas in your writing. It is often known as copying word-for-word. However, even paraphrasing without acknowledgement or using the ideas of peers garnered from class discussion or a study group is considered plagiarism. Whether it is conscious or unconscious, plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Your writing for this course, and any other course will receive a ZERO on his/her assignment and will be reported to both the Academic Dean and Student Services Dean for disciplinary action.

Technology Statement

The use of cell phones, laptops, or any other technological devices is not permitted during class time. If you wish to use a laptop for note taking, please see me for approval.

Electronic Learning Portfolios:

All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the college template. Through this electronic tool students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. Student work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios.

Email:

Correspondence by email is considered a method of formal communication. Emailing an instructor is not the same as emailing or texting a friend. Please use a proper salutation, complete sentences, punctuation, proper spelling and identify yourself by name in the body of the email. Students must use

their college issued email account. College issued email is the official mode of communication used by the college to contact students.

Class Cancellation

To determine if the college is closed, please visit the TRCC webpage at <http://www.trcc.commnet.edu> and/or sign-up for notification through MyCommNet ALERT.

College Withdrawal Policy

Course withdrawals are accepted up until the week before classes end. Withdrawal forms are available online or at the Registrar's office. The withdrawal does not have to be signed by the instructor but it is strongly advised that you speak with your instructor and/or your advisor before withdrawing. If necessary, you can withdraw over the phone by calling the Registrar's office at 860 215 9064. Emails and faxes are also accepted. If you are receiving financial aid, it is strongly recommended that you contact the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing. Withdrawal may affect your financial aid for current and/or future semester(s). It is your responsibility to confirm that the withdrawal has been received.

The last day to withdraw from the Fall 2016 semester is December 11, 2017.

Class Attendance, Homework, and Unit Quizzes.

Class Attendance is expected and vital. Missing class will negatively impact your grade. You are expected to be in class on time each class period.

All homework and papers are due on Sunday Evenings @ 11:59 pm **or** due date assigned on blackboard via Blackboard. I do not accept work in class or via email. All assignments **must** be in .doc format. If an assignment is late, points will be deducted. You will be able to complete the assignment until the last week of classes for a significantly reduced point value. Unit Quizzes all have due dates assigned to them and can be taken **ONLY** before the due date and time. **Quizzes will not be re-opened regardless of the circumstances.**

Evaluation Criteria

This course demands active involvement in the learning experience accompanied by reading and writing activities that capture those experiences. The nature of the course content requires critical thinking skills to be learned, developed and applied.

The following criteria will be considered in evaluating student performance:

- a. Classroom participation and in-class assignments
 - Lateness and absences will have a negative impact on your grade. If attendance becomes an issue and you decide not to return to class, it is your responsibility to officially withdraw for the course. Any in-class assignments cannot be made up.
- b. Unit homework assignments
 - All homework will be due via Blackboard on Sunday night @ 11:59 pm on the assignments due date.
- c. Quizzes
- d. Midterm and Final exams

- During the semester there will be a midterm and final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank. Exams cannot be made up unless arrangements have been with the instructor prior to the time of the exam.
- e. Career Exploration Assignment
 - This multi-part assignment will help you design a realistic plan for accomplishing your coursework and educational goals. Details for the assignment can be found later in this document and on Blackboard under “paper submission.”
- f. TRCC Event Assignment
 - Each student will participate in at least one Three Rivers Community College sponsored event or function and will submit a typed paper that critiques the experience. Further information will be distributed in class and on Blackboard under “Paper submission”
- g. Group Project
 - Each student will be placed in a group to work with during the semester. In groups of 4-5 you will make a presentation or video giving advice to next year’s entering students. A 20 minute presentation with an accompanied handout that the group created is required. A video can be 10 minutes in length and does not require a handout. You must be in class and participating with your group in order to receive a grade for this project. Be creative.
 - After your presentation, please write a group project review paper. This paper should cover the positive and negative aspects of your group experience. You must submit this paper via Blackboard to receive a grade for this assignment.
- h. Coping with college paper
 - After reading about the differences between high school and college, write a 3-4 page reflective paper. Include in your essay: Why is going to or returning to college important for you? What is going to be your greatest challenge? How will you overcome it? How do you think college will change your roles, routines, and relationships? We all have a different sense of what the word support means. We can seek support from family, friends, relatives, religious institutions, neighbors, co-workers or even strangers. What are some of your supports?
- i. Using Commnet assignment
 - Information on this assignment can be found in the “paper submission” area on Blackboard.

Grade Computation:

The following is an approximate breakdown of the final grade (point values subject to change at the discretion of the instructor):

Letter Grade	Point Ranges	Grade Point Value
A	950 - 1000	4.000
A-	900 - 949	3.667
B+	890 - 899	3.333
B	810 - 889	3.000
B-	800 - 809	2.667
C+	790 - 799	2.333
C	710 - 789	2.000
C-	700 - 709	1.667
D+	690 - 699	1.333
D	610 - 679	1.000
D-	600 - 609	0.667
F	0 - 599	0.000

Assignment due dates:

Sunday, 9/10: Unit 1, Coping with College paper

Sunday, 9/17: Unit 2

Sunday, 10/1: Unit 4

*****Monday, October 2nd no class

Sunday, 10/8: Unit 5, Commnet Assignment

Sunday, 10/15: Unit 6

Sunday, 10/22: Unit 7

Sunday, 10/29: Unit 8

Sunday, 11/5: Unit 9

Sunday, 11/12 Unit 10

Sunday, 11/19 Unit 11

Sunday, 12/3: Unit 12, Group projects

Sunday, 12/10: Career Exploration paper

Sunday, 12/17: College Experience paper

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NAME: [REDACTED]
ID: [REDACTED]
SECTION: [REDACTED]
DATE: [REDACTED]
TIME: [REDACTED]
LOCATION: [REDACTED]
INSTRUCTOR: [REDACTED]

QUESTION 1
[REDACTED]

QUESTION 2
[REDACTED]

QUESTION 3
[REDACTED]

QUESTION 4
[REDACTED]

