

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

Three Rivers Community College

IDS K105, CRN 31685, Section T6

Fall 2010

Instructor:	Jodi Calvert
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Class Hours:	5:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., Monday, Room D213/215
Office Hours:	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday, or by appointment (preferred)
Required Text:	<i>Cornerstone: Discovering Your Potential, Learning Actively, and Living Well.</i> 6 th Edition. New York, NY: Prentice Hall, 2011 (ISBN 9780137007622)
Required Supplies:	Three-ring binder Page protectors Subject dividers

Course Description: This course is designed to engage students as active participants within the college environment. Students will have the opportunity to acquire academic skills, attributes, awareness of self as learner, and to engage with the resources and activities within the Three Rivers Community College community. Students can expect regular reading, writing and research assignments along with classroom discussion as they investigate how to be successful in this environment.

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 informational 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

Prerequisites: Completion of ESL K060 and K061 if appropriate.

Disabilities Statement: Students with disabilities are guaranteed reasonable accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992. Disclosure of a disability must be voluntary. If you have a question regarding a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please contact one of the college's Disability Service Providers as soon as possible. Chris Scarborough (860-892-5751) works with students who have learning disabilities or attention deficit disorder. Kathleen Gray (860-885-2328) works with students who have physical, visual, hearing, medical, mobility, and psychiatric disabilities.

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 at TRCC, is expected to be original, and the product of your own thinking. A student who is determined to have plagiarized will receive a ZERO on that 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 device is not permitted during class time. If you wish to use a laptop for note taking, please see the instructor.

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, and proper spelling. Emails not meeting these criteria will be returned to sender.

Evaluation Criteria: The First Year Experience course demands active involvement in a variety of learning experiences.

The following criteria will be considered in evaluating student performance:

- a. Classroom participation and in-class assignments
- b. Weekly assignments
- c. Quizzes
- d. Midterm and final exams
- e. First-year experience portfolio
- f. Demonstrated participation in a college activity
- g. Non-academic goal

a. Classroom participation and in-class assignments

Class attendance is expected and vital. Lateness and absences will have a negative impact on your grade. You will be allowed one (1) absence. If attendance becomes an issue and you decide not to return to class, it is YOUR responsibility to officially withdraw from the course. Please notify me in writing via email before the class begins if you are going to be absent.

b. Weekly assignments

Writing assignments are designed to provide opportunities for exploration of ideas or for confirmation of understanding. All reading and writing assignments are due at the next scheduled class meeting (unless otherwise noted). Weekly assignments should be typed using MLA format, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

c. Quizzes

Required reading from the classroom text will often be assigned as homework. Students will be given a total of three (3) quizzes that specifically relate to the assigned reading assignment. The quizzes will be administered at random throughout the semester. Quizzes are to be completed in the first 20-minutes of class time. No makeup quizzes will be given.

d. Midterm and final exams

During the semester there will be a midterm examination and a final exam. Exams will consist of (but will not be limited to) multiple choice, short answer, true/false, and essay questions. Exams cannot be made up unless arrangements have been made with the instructor *prior* to the time of the exam.

e. First-year experience portfolio

Students will be required to keep all class materials and assignments in a three-ring binder. Page protectors and subject dividers should be used to separate and protect sections of the portfolio. The portfolio is a compilation of all that is accomplished during the semester and will serve as a useful reference tool for the student for semesters to come.

f. Demonstrated participation in a college activity

Each student will participate in at least one (1) Three Rivers Community College sponsored event or function and will submit a typed paper that critiques the experience.

g. Non-academic goal

Students will be required to set a non-academic goal to be obtained by semester-end. The project will conclude with an oral presentation and peer evaluations. More information will be provided about this project throughout the semester.

Grade Computation:

The following is a general breakdown of the final grade:

Classroom participation and in-class assignments	140 pts.
Weekly assignments	300 pts.
Quizzes	60 pts.
Midterm and final exam	250 pts.
First-year experience portfolio	50 pts.
Demonstrated participation in a college activity	50 pts.
Non-academic goal	<u>150 pts.</u>
	1000 pts.

Grading Distribution:

A	94-100	C	73-76
A-	90-93	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

College Withdrawal Policy: The last day to withdraw from a class is December 9, 2010.