

First Year Experience

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IDS K105 12339
Tuesday 6:30pm-9:15pm Spring2012
RM D215

Instructor: Chotsani Elaine Dean

Office: 205D-wing - **office hours: Monday 12pm-1pm/Tuesday 2pm-4pm**

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PREREQUISITES

Satisfactory reading placement test scores and/or completion of the ESL 060 and 061 courses are the only prerequisites.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The content of this course is designed to help you make a smooth transition to college. Information on how to succeed in college in terms of studying, balancing family and job responsibilities with new college demands, planning for the future, and just knowing 'the ropes' will be provided. You can expect regular reading and writing assignments along with classroom discussion as you investigate how to be successful in this new 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 and in a college setting
- Understand, articulate and apply self assessment and decision making skills in achieving family, educational, career, and personal goals.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Information covered and assigned work is intended to increase the likelihood that this transition 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/public speaking, and critical thinking skills necessary for any college student.

Students should seek to achieve/learn the following objectives:

- A) Make a positive and productive transition to college life.
- B) The development of proactive coping skills and behavior
- C) Understanding and improving the teaching/learning process
- D) Development of skills that enhance planning, studying, communication and critical thinking
- E) Asses personal strengths and limitations to set and achieve appropriate goals.
- F) Learn about and use the resources of Three Rivers Community College (TRCC)
- G) Become more confident with writing, reading and speaking in an academic environment.
- H) Establish personal, career and academic goals, with an understanding of the possible obstructions of these goals.
- I) To 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) Participation in activities/community functions on the Three Rivers Community College (TRCC) campus

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- **Thriving in the Community College and Beyond**
Cuseo, J., Thompson, A., ., & Moono, S. (2010)
- **TRCC College Catalog**
- **TRCC Student Handbook**
- **Assigned Readings**
- **Writing journal**, 8 1/2 x 11, used solely for this course. Students must bring this writing journal to every class. **All writing assignments and class notes** must be recorded in this writing journal unless otherwise indicated by the instructor.

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 acknowledgment 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, the product of your own thinking.

A student who has plagiarized will receive a ZERO on that assignment, and will be reported to both the Academic Dean and Student Services where disciplinary action can be taken.

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. In instances where students have disabilities that are not discernible, valid and reliable documentation to verify eligibility for accommodation is required and must be submitted to the Student Development offices of Student Services. Please call **860-383-5217** for more information or to schedule a confidential meeting with one of our disability service providers.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is expected and vital. *On-time attendance is expected.* On-time is defined as arriving at the beginning of our class time. Those who arrive more than five minutes after class begins will be marked “tardy” for the class. Three “tardies” will be the equivalent of a class absence and will be calculated into the overall attendance pattern accordingly as attendance is directly related to in class work. You will be allowed **two (2) unexcused** absences for the semester; any additional unexcused absences will greatly hinder your ability to pass the course making withdrawing from the class recommended.

If you miss a class you will be responsible for getting the information/materials covered in that class and the completion of any assignments that were due, or assigned for the following week. The appropriate manner for inquiry about work missed during class is to schedule an appointment with me during office hours and/or access materials via Blackboard.

LATE WORK POLICY

Any assignment that is not ready for submission in accordance with the expectations of the assignments and syllabus will be considered “late” and **late work will not receive credit.** Extensions for time with respect to the submission of course assignments will require verifiable, appropriate circumstances. Each student’s circumstances will be evaluated by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. All petitions for extensions must be in writing stating the specifics of the petition for additional time and must be *approved* by at least two days **BEFORE** the deadline for the assignment. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

TECHNOLOGY STATEMENT

Cell phones are allowed in class only if they are turned **OFF** or on **SILENT MODE.** Under no circumstances or in any way are phones to be answered in class or texting to take place in the classroom while class is in session. When there are extenuating circumstances that require a student to be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor **prior to class**, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

CLASS ETIQUETTE

- Please refrain from talking during class lectures.
- Please be respectful to the instructor and individuals in the class by not interrupting the instructor or a peer when speaking.
- Ideas can be critiqued and challenged, however, judging, criticizing or attacking an individual personally is not acceptable peer interaction.
- Whatever food or drink you bring into the classroom please take with you or place in the garbage receptacle in the classroom before you leave.

Please sign your name in all email correspondence. Please included a proper and respectful greeting at the start of the email. If there is no proper closing with a name, I will not respond to the email as I will not know who sent the email.

GRADING CRITERIA

This course demands active involvement in learning experiences 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 used in evaluating your grade:

Participation - Students are expected to come to class prepared and actively participate in discussions and group work in a way that enhances and adds positively to the learning environment. Civil tolerance and acceptance of other student's thoughts, ideas and beliefs is expected.

Oral Presentations/Group Project - Over the course of the semester each student will make at least three (3) oral presentations. Your grade with this criterion will be determined by the Semester Goal or Group Project Presentation that you will give at the end of the semester.

Test/Quizzes - During the semester there will be four (4) tests all scheduled in advance, and at least one (1) unscheduled quiz. The tests and quiz will be composed of the following: multiple choice, true-false, short answer, matching, and essay questions. If for any reason you are absent on the day of test or quiz, you can schedule a time to make-up the test/quiz in the testing center on campus. Students must make-up the test before the next class following the missed class when the quiz was given. It is the sole responsibility of the student to contact the instructor and make arrangements to make up the test/quiz.

TRCC Function Participation - Each student will participate in at least one (1) TRCC sponsored event or function and write a reaction paper on the function. **In advance and for approval**, the student must submit in writing the event/function that will be attended for the TRCC Function Participation assignment.

Educational Plan - This four part assignment will help you design a realistic plan for accomplishing your coursework and educational goals. You will learn and experience the college student/advisor relationship by working with your advisor to complete this plan. Details of the assignment will be passed out in class.

GRADE CRITERIA VALUES

Participation - 10%

Oral Presentations/Group Project - 15%

Tests/Quizzes - 40%

TRCC Function Participation - 10%

Writing Journal/Assignments - 15%

Educational Plan - 10%

COLLEGE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

The deadline for students to withdraw from all courses is **May 7, 2012**. Before withdrawing from any course please speak with your instructor and be aware of the positive and negative consequences of said action.

Add/Drop period - **Jan. 19-25th**.

Not attending class does not constitute as dropping or withdrawing from a course.

May 14, 2012 is the last day of classes of the Spring 2012 semester.