

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE
IDS K105 * CRN 31852 * Fall 2019

If not now, when? If not here, where? If not us, who?

Instructor: Fionnuala Darby-Hudgens, MPA
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Class Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays
Room: D-224
Office Hours: Wednesday 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. or by appointment

Required Text

Cuseo, J., Thompson, A., McLaughlin J., (2010, 2013, 2016). *Thriving in the Community College & Beyond*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing (ISBN 978-1-4652-9096-0) – Third edition

Course Description

Prerequisites: ENG096 placement or completion of ESL 063 with a C# or higher.

First Year Experience is designed to engage students to become active participants in the college environment and engaged citizens in the community. Students are provided with the opportunity to acquire academic skills, self-awareness as learner, and to engage with the resources and activities within the Three Rivers Community College community. In this section we will focus on being civically engaged and aware. You can expect regular reading, video viewing, writing, and research assignments along with classroom discussion, activities, and guest speakers.

Course Objectives

First Year Experience is intended to help students have a more successful college experience, engage in their college community, and grow their civic awareness. Emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary topics and learning strategies, active participation in the college community, classroom discussion and class presentations. The course will develop student's critical thinking and writing skills necessary for every college course.

Students should seek to:

- A) Make a positive and productive transition to college life.
- B) Understand grit, tenacity, and goal setting.
- C) Understand and improve learning processes.
- D) Develop skills that enhance planning, studying, communication and critical thinking.
- E) Understand place and context with intention towards civic awareness.
- F) Learn and use the resources of Three Rivers Community College.

- G) Develop writing, reading and speaking skills in an academic environment.
- H) Create academic plan and career goals.
- I) Become aware of and develop attitudes towards tolerance and acceptance of diverse communities and their values, and cultural norms.
- J) Actively and effectively participate in group assignments and discussions.
- K) Participate in activities/community functions on the Three Rivers Community 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 informational literacy

- Understand how and why outside sources are utilized in academic work
- Learn and employ strategies for avoiding plagiarism*
- Understand library resources available at Three Rivers Community College

Understand and apply the fundamentals of quantitative and qualitative reasoning

- Use information presented quantitatively and qualitatively 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

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities are guaranteed reasonable accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act 1973. Disclosure of a disability must be voluntary and initiated by the student. For further assistance, please contact Matt Liscum in the Office of Disability Services at 860.215.9265 or mliscum@threerivers.edu. Please note that an instructor cannot provide disability accommodations until a student provides the necessary paperwork from the college's Office of Disability Services.

Classroom Behavior

There are only a few rules in this classroom:

- Show up.
- Work hard.
- Be kind.
- Participate.
- Put your phone away.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is simply always being an honest student. Practicing academic integrity means you will not plagiarize or purchase work. You will research your assignments, and cite sources correctly. You will trust your own academic intellect, and produce work that is entirely your own.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using another person's work, data, research, and even ideas in your writing without proper citations. 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 your original work. Plagiarized work will earn a ZERO for a grade, and will be reported to the Academic Dean and/or Student Services Dean for disciplinary action.

Technology Statement

Please put your cell phones away when you enter our classroom. If you choose to use your cell phone in class I will ask you to leave.

Title IX

Statement of Policy for Public Act No. 14-11: An Act Concerning Sexual Assault, Stalking and Intimate Partner Violence on Campus: "The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) is committed to insuring that each member of every BOR governed college and university community has the opportunity to participate fully in the process of education free from acts of sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence and stalking. It is the intent of the BOR and each of its colleges or universities to provide safety, privacy and support to victims of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS TITLE IX STATEMENT OF POLICY: "Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities in federally funded schools at all levels. If any part of a school district or college receives any Federal funds for any purpose, all of the operations of the

district or college are covered by Title IX. Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. All students (as well as other persons) at recipient institutions are protected by Title IX – regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part-or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin-in all aspects of a recipient’s educational programs and activities.”

If any student experiences sexual misconduct or harassment, and/or racial or ethnic discrimination on Three Rivers Community College Campus, or fears for their safety from a threat while on campus, please contact Maria Krug, the TRCC Title IX Coordinator: in Office C131 860.215.9280 * MKrug@threerivers.edu

Electronic Learning Portfolios

As a student you will maintain an online learning portfolio using a college-designed template in Digication. Through this electronic tool you will have the opportunity to monitor your own growth in college-wide learning. It may even help you determine a major that is best suited to you. You will be able to keep and maintain your learning portfolio after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. If your work is selected and reviewed for assessment purposes, it will remain anonymous and private. Digication provides a “place” where you will connect your learning from the classroom, college, and life in general. Sometimes when you review all of the work you have done and think about it, you end up learning something different and perhaps unexpected. Please review your course outlines to determine what assignments to upload into the TRCC Digication template and please post your own choices, as well. Have fun in learning!

More information on Digication is located at: <https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/learning-resources/eportfolio-digication/>

Email: fdarby-hudgens@threerivers.edu

Correspondence by email is considered a method of formal communication. Please use proper greetings and salutations, complete sentences, and correct grammar. **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 before withdrawing. If necessary, you can withdraw over the phone by calling the Registrar's Office at 860.215.9064. 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 2019 semester is November 5, 2019****

Class Attendance: Get up, dress up, and show up.

Your attendance in class is expected. Missing class will negatively impact your grade. You are expected to arrive on time, prepared to learn and participate in class. You are expected to follow the simple rules listed under classroom behavior (See below expectation for classroom attendance and participation.)

Homework: Do or do not. There is no try.

All of the class homework will be on Blackboard. Click on "Course Content" in Blackboard and complete all of the assignments listed in the current weeks folder. Every week, you will have one week to complete all class assignments. Everything is due Saturday at 11:59 p.m. Please manage your time accordingly. (Anticipate two to three hours of outside work every week.)

- I do not accept late assignments.
- I do not accept email submissions.
- If you are absent from class you are still responsible for all of the course work assigned in Blackboard.
- Every assignment will be submitted via Blackboard.

Course Calendar

Our course calendar will be located here: <http://bit.ly/FYEFall2019>

The course calendar lists weekly themes, guest speakers, class prep plans, and homework. The course calendar will change, and students will be notified during class, in Blackboard, and by email of changes made to the course calendar.

Evaluation Criteria

This course requires 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 developed and applied.

Evaluation is based on the following:

- a) Class attendance, participation, and notes;
 - b) Weekly Course Content homework completion (including college email assignment and advisor assignment);
 - c) Non-Academic Goal Essay and Presentation
 - d) Career and Academic Planning Portfolio;
 - e) Participation in college activity and essay;
 - f) Midterm and final exams;
 - g) “Get Woke” Group project and final presentation.
- a. **Classroom attendance and participation** is required. Show up on time and ready to learn. Every class is designed to invite discussion, and requires participation in small group and whole class exercises. This is a safe space. If you are nervous speaking in class, First Year Experience is the course to develop those skills. I will require everyone to actively engage in class all semester long. If you are using your cell phone during class, I will mark you absent, and ask you to leave.
- In class and out of class notes** will be collected and graded towards your participation grade at least five times during the semester. I will let you know when I plan on grading notes.
- b. **Homework** will be released every Sunday night on Blackboard. You will have six days to complete everything in the “course content” folder for the week. You can do this any time during the week at your convenience. Manage your time wisely. I do not accept late assignments. Everything from the previous week is due Saturday night by 11:59 p.m.
- c. **Participation in a single college activity** is required, and you have the entire semester to complete this assignment. After you attend an event or activity on campus you will be required to submit a 300 – 500 word essay about your experience. Details are in Blackboard.
- d. **Non-Academic Goal (NAG)** is an essay and presentation assignment where you will select and execute the completion of a non-academic goal. The purpose of this assignment is not to engage in a typical goal like “ a plan to lose weight” etc.. but to truly do something you have always wanted to try out, but haven’t made a

plan to complete. The goal is to demonstrate for you that you are capable of completing hard and challenging tasks and activities.

- e. **The Career and Academic Planning portfolio** will be created over several weeks prior to early registration in November. All work will be submitted to Blackboard. The Portfolio will include:

Your Career Exploration Portfolio will include the following components:

- Part I – Free Write/Interest Inventory (10 points)
- Part II – Annotated Research (40 points)
- Part III – Education/Career Connection (25 points)
- Part IV – Self-Reflection (10 points)
- Part VI – In-Class Presentation (15 points)

- f. **Midterm and final exams** will be administered in class. They will be timed, and you will have a week to complete them. We will do an extensive review of topics covered in class prior to the midterm and final. Everything completed in class, and on weekly homework can be included on the midterm and final. This is an individual activity.
- g. Our **“Get Woke” group project and final presentation** will be a several week assignment. You will be assigned (during the second half of the semester) to a group of four or five students.
 1. Together you will pick a topic that is currently relevant to our collective civic awareness.
 2. You will collaboratively write a one-page fact sheet (I will show you some strategies for how to complete collaborative writing).
 3. Your groups will prepare a fifteen to twenty minute presentation that you will present to the entire class during the last two weeks of the course.

You can use the presentations given in our class by guest speakers and myself to model your presentation by.

The goal of this assignment is not to spark polarizing political debate, but to teach your entire class something you have learned, and that is important for us to know to “stay woke.” **I must approve all topics.** Topics that will **not** be permitted include: women’s reproductive rights, immigration policy, anything related to the current administration’s campaign investigation, gun control, or mental health care. I might consider the following topics: social media data collecting and selling, the #metoo movement, NFL player protests, or equity in higher education access.

Grade Computation

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

Assessment	Point Value
Class Attendance, Participation, and Notes	225
Homework	250
Career and Academic Portfolio	100
Non-Academic Goal	100
College Activity Participation	75
Midterm Exam	75
Final Exam	75
“Stay Woke” Group Project	100
Total	1000

Grading Distribution

A	940-1000	C	730-760
A-	900-930	C-	700-720
B+	870-890	D+	670-690
B	830-860	D	630-660
B-	800-820	D-	600-620
C+	770-790	F	0-590

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FYE Fall 2019 Course Calendar

Important Dates to Remember

August 28, 2019 - First Day of Class

September 2, 2019 - Labor Day, there is no class.

September 28, 2019 - College Activity Participation Assignment Due (75 points)

October 14, 2019 – In-class Midterm Exam (75 points)

November 2, 2019 – Non-Academic Goal Assignment Due (75 points)

November 6, 2019 – Non-Academic Goal in class presentations (25 points)

November 9, 2019 - Career and Academic Portfolio Due (100 points)

December 2 – 9 , 2019 - “Stay Woke” Presentations (25 points)

December 6, 2019 - “Stay Woke” One-page Fact Sheet Due (75 points)

December 11, 2019 – In-class Final Exam Due (75 points)

**You have homework due EVERY SATURDAY in
Blackboard. Homework is worth 250 points of your
final grade.**

*Some days are intentionally left blank, because you will inform me of the topics you
would like to cover, and the areas we need to spend more time on.*

Link to Course Calendar: <http://bit.ly/FYEFall2019>