



**ANSC/NRM 1101**  
**First-Year Seminar**  
Spring 2015



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**Instructor**

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Office Hours: M,W,F: 9:00am-11:00am  
Or by appointment

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**Time and Location**

M 12:00pm – 12:50pm – 130 RAS

**Course Description**

First-Year Seminar is designed to help students develop strategies and skills necessary for a successful college career. Topics include adjusting to college, setting academic goals, managing time and keeping organized, learning and studying in college, preparing for and taking tests, understanding college policies and regulations, and accessing and using SRSU computer technology. Students will learn about SRSU's resources, activities, and rich cultural diversity. Throughout the course, students will use critical thinking skills to make informed choices, to understand their responsibilities for academic success, and to become independent, motivated learners.

**Program Learning Outcomes:**

1. Involve students in applying personal and academic success strategies that advance college study and intellectual development.
2. Engage students in critical analysis and creative thinking

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Implement personal time management strategies based on short and long term goals.
2. Describe behaviors that support personal responsibility for learning, characteristics of an effective learner, techniques that promote student success and problem-solving of academic issues, and be able to discuss respect, civility, and academic integrity at SRSU
3. Describe institutional, departmental, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to these requirements
4. Identify and utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate use of SRSU technology including, student email, SRSU website, Blackboard, and Banner
5. Exhibit financial literacy in relation to college and beyond
6. Discuss the importance of SRSU in the larger community

**Required Texts**

No required text

Required: Blackboard 9 access and a Sul Ross email address

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

### Prepare a Degree Plan

You will be required to meet with your advisor this semester, prepare your degree plan, and be pre-registered for the spring.

### Attend 2 club meetings

You will be required to attend two club meetings. You must get the signature of an officer. Also, you will need to write a two paragraph reflection paper over each meeting. One paragraph should give an explanation of what happened at the meeting, and the second paragraph should be a reflection of what you thought about the meeting. Your paper should be typed and double-spaced; you will submit this assignment via Blackboard.

### LASSI Completion and Submission

You will be required to complete the online LASSI assessment that measures learning styles. You will need to print a copy of your results and we will discuss the interpretation of the results.

### Weekly Reflections

You will be required to submit 10 weekly reflection papers, thus you may choose the 10 weeks for which you would like to write a reflection. The reflection must be one-page, typed, and submitted via Blackboard. Your reflection will be due Friday by 5:00pm following Monday's class meeting. The paper should give an overview of Monday's class and how you perceive the content from the class will help you be successful in college. There are no right or wrong answers on these reflections; however, I would like for you to put sufficient thought into what you write. Grading will be based upon completeness, thoroughness of thought, level of reflection, spelling, and grammar.

### Participation, Attendance, and other assignments

A high degree of engagement is expected and will contribute to your learning as an active participant. This includes interacting with the speakers and other students, completing your degree plan and being prepared to participate in class discussions. This class is the beginning of your journey to becoming a professional. Evidence of professionalism includes attendance, collegial attitude, participation, and punctuality.

| Course Assignments                    | Due Date                                      | Points                    |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Attendance (13 sessions)              | Weekly  | 130 pts                   |
| Degree plan and pre-registration      | By May 6                                      | 70 pts                    |
| Club Meeting Reflections              | By May 6                                      | 100 pts (2 @ 50 pts each) |
| LASSI completion and submission       | April 6                                       | 100 pts                   |
| Weekly Reflections (10 @ 10 pts each) | By Friday at 5:00pm of the corresponding week | 100 pts                   |

### Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = below 60%

### **Late Work**

Students' class attendance and participation are required. No emailed assignments will be accepted and no work will be accepted past the deadline set by the syllabus unless noted by the instructor. No consideration of extending a due date will be considered on the day an assignment is due, students should contact the instructor if they are expecting to be unable to meet a deadline. All late assignments will be assessed a 10% deduction for each day they are late; no assignments will be accepted after 10 days.

Any time instruction is missed, for any reason, it will count as an absence. College approved field trips, and competitive and leadership development events (with prior instructor approval) are considered legitimate and with proper documentation will not be considered an absence. Seeking an extended deadline due to the above mentioned absences should be arranged before missing the course meeting. In case of emergencies, arrangements for completing assignments should be made immediately upon return to campus.

### **Use of technology during instruction**

This class is the beginning of your journey to becoming a professional, and the use of personal cell phones, iPads, computers, and other electronic devices can distract learning for all individuals and create an unprofessional environment. However, electronic devices can also be powerful tools to be used in the learning process. Therefore, the use of electronic devices for class purposes, such as note-taking and internet searches is allowed. But, remember that you are now a professional and will be required to act accordingly. So, if you choose to use electronic devices in the classroom, do so in a professional manner.

### **Academic Honesty**

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: **"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."**

As members of a learning community, all should strive to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

### **Reasonable Accommodation Statement**

It is the SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disabilities, please contact the ADA coordinator in Student Services: Ferguson 112, 837-8203.

## ANSC/NRM 1101 Course Calendar (Subject to change)

| Dates    | Topics / Learning Experiences   |
|----------|---|
| Jan 26   | Introductions/Syllabus/Expectations; Email, Banner, Blackboard                          |
| Feb 2    | Meet the ANRS faculty – facilitated by Dr. Housewright                                  |
| Feb 9    | Career Services – Jan Rueb  |
| Feb 16   | We have a library? – (meet at Wildenthal Library)                                       |
| Feb 23   | Keeping Safe on Campus – Lt. Kent Dunegan, UDPS   |
| March 2  | Student Support Services – Liz Castillo   |
| March 9  | Counseling Center – Mary Schwartze  |
| March 16 | <b>Spring Break – No Class</b>  |
| March 23 | Get Involved!<br>Student Organizations – CFFA, Pre-vet, Range & Wildlife, Con-bio       |
| March 30 | Time management   |
| April 6  | Learning Styles - LASSI   |
| April 13 | <b>No Class SRSU CDE contest</b>  |
| April 20 | Undergraduate Research opportunities – Leslie Hopper/Mary Bennett                       |
| April 27 | Time management   |
| May 4    | Career Opportunities in AFNR – Estep/Logan Boswell/Evans<br>Kott/Warnock/George Johnson |