



ANSC/NRM 1101
First-Year Seminar
Spring 2016



Instructor

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Office Hours: M,W,F: 8:00am-10:30am
Or by appointment

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

Meet with Advisor and 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 fall.

Attend 2 club meetings

You will be required to attend two club meetings. Construct a two paragraph reflection paper over each meeting. One paragraph should give an explanation of the events 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.

Research Prospectus

You will be required to complete a 2-3 page research prospectus that outlines a topic you would like to research. Your topic should be specific and encompass an issue within the agricultural industry. Prospectus should include what problem will be addressed, why the topic is of interest to you, what you hope to find, and a short literature review.

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 4	70 pts
Research Prospectus	April 25	100 pts
Club Meeting Reflections	By May 4	100 pts (2 @ 50 pts each)
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 in this course, 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 25	Introductions/Syllabus/Expectations; Email, Banner, Blackboard
Feb 1	Library Instruction – (meet at Wildenthal Library)
Feb 8	Meet the ANRS faculty – facilitated by Dr. Warnock
Feb 15	Keeping Safe on Campus – Lt. Kent Dunegan, UDPS
Feb 22	Counseling Center – Mary Schwartze
Feb 29	Career Services – Jan Rueb
March 7	Time Management
March 14	Spring Break – No Class
March 21	Student Support Services – Liz Castillo
March 28	Goal Setting
April 4	No Class SRSU CDE contest
April 11	Financial/Money Matters
April 18	Undergraduate Research opportunities – Leslie Hopper/Mary Bennett
April 25	Employability Skills
May 2	Career Opportunities in AFNR – Tim Hammerich, consultant, Agri-Associates Inc.