

First Year Seminar Fall 2016

Course: SRSU 1101

CRN: 11905

Section: 011

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein

Class Meeting Time: Tuesday/12:30 p.m.

E-mail: kstein@sulross.edu

Class Location: ACR 203

Phone: 432-837-8770

Office: FH 214B

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 **OR** by appointment

Mission:

The mission of First-Year Seminar is to provide first-year students an opportunity (1) to experience and develop knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes that promote successful college study and positive campus participation and (2) to appreciate multiple perspectives that reflect intellectual and cultural diversity within and beyond college.

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 Objectives:

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:

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 institution, department, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to them.
4. Identify and/or utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate use of SRSU technology: student e-mail, 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.

Course Materials

BlackBoard Access; Office 365 Access; Sul Ross E-mail Address; writing materials; planner (will be provided)

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Attendance & Class Participation

Your attendance and participation in this course are reflected in your grade. Please be proactive in informing me of any expected absences in advance in order to meet class requirements. Your classmates are your first source of information about what happened in class and what goes in your class notebook.

Classmate: _____ Phone #: _____

Classmate: _____ Phone#: _____

Classroom Behaviors

You are encouraged and expected to openly engage in class discussions, ask questions, share ideas, and express your thoughts. Please be respectful of others by avoiding disruptive behaviors such as side conversations, cell phone use, arriving late, leaving early, etc.

Academic Honesty

“The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.”
--Excerpt from the Student Handbook

Special Needs

It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning challenge, please contact the ADA Coordinator in the Counseling office in Ferguson Hall, Room 112. All requests for special accommodations must be related in writing to the professor.

Late Work

Turning in work late does not benefit you at all. Late work will not be accepted. All homework is due at the beginning of class unless I state otherwise.

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Grade Breakdown:

Attendance, Participation, and In-class assignments 40% (400 possible points)

- In-class Notebook - 20% (200 possible points)
- Attendance/Participation – 20% (200 possible points)

Experiential Learning

- CSI Reflection Paper (Artifact 1) 20% (200 possible points)
- Career Interview (Artifact 2) 30% (300 possible points)

Final Exam 10% (100 possible points)

GradingScale:

90%-100% = A	OR	900-1000 points = A
80%-89% = B		800-899 points = B
70%-79% = C		700-799 points = C
60%-69% = D		600-699 points = D
59% or lower = F		599 points or fewer = F

Course Calendar

- 1) 8/23 Intro to Each and to the Syllabus
Assign: Course Notebook
- 2) 8/30 Campus Resources, BlackBoard Access, Office 365, Planners
- 3) 9/5 *Note: Labor Day/Monday – No Classes.*
- 4) 9/6 College Student Inventory (CSI)
Assign: CSI Reflection Paper (Artifact 1)
- 5) 9/13 Motivation/Goal Setting/SRSU College Culture/Student Responsibilities:
Freedom, Benefits/Consequences
Assign: Career Interview (Artifact 2)
- 6) 9/20 Time Management/Planners
- 7) 9/27 Campus Trek
- 9/28 *Note: University as a Community Meal on the Mall*
- 8) 10/4 Student Organizations/Sul Ross Traditions
Due: Reflection Paper on Your CSI Results
- 10/7-10/9 *Homecoming*

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- 9) 10/11 Financial Aid/Money Matters/
Due: Summary Paper on Your CSI Results (on BlackBoard)
- 9) 10/18 Relationships: Roommates, Dating, Parents and Managing Stress
- 10) 10/25 Diversity//Information Literacy/Plagiarism
- 11) 11/1 Advising/Registration – Guest Speaker
Homework: Registration Exercise
- 12) 11/8 Due: Experiential Learning: Career Interview Presentations (Artifact 2)
11/11 Note: Last day for a student to drop a course with a “W” by 4:00 p.m.
- 13) 11/15 **Due: Experiential Learning: Career Interview Presentations**
- 14) 11/22 **Due: Experiential Learning: Career Interview Presentations**
11/23-11/25 Thanksgiving Holiday. No Classes.
- 15) 11/29 **Due: Course Notebook**
12/1 Note: Dead Day: No class
- 16) 12/7 (Wed.) **Final Exam: 10-15**