First Year Seminar Spring 2018

Course: SRSU 1101        CRN: 21946        Section: 002

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein        Class Meeting Time: M 10:00-10:50
E-mail: kstein@sulross.edu        Class Location: FH 213
Phone: 432-837-8770
Office: FH 214B
Office Hours: Mondays 11:00-11:50; or Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30-noon 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. Students will implement personal time management strategies based on short and long term goals.
2. Students will 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. Students will describe institution, department, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to them.
4. Students will identify and/or utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate use of SRSU technology: student e-mail, SRSU website, Blackboard, and Banner.
5. Students will 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. The only excused absences are those that result from representing the university at officially sanctioned and documented events. Should you have to miss a class your classmates are your first source of information about what happened in class and what goes in your class notebook. I take attendance via the assignment sheet; be sure to sign in every class period.

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. In general, late work will not be accepted. All homework is due at the beginning of class unless I state otherwise. Should I decide to accept a major assignment late, then a penalty will probably be assigned depending upon the circumstances.
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Grade Breakdown:

Attendance: 10% - 100 possible points
Participation/Daily Grades: 30% - 300 possible points
In-class Notebook: 10% - 100 possible points
Email Assignment: 10% - 100 possible points
Campus Activities Form: 10% - 100 possible points
Student Organization Presentation: 20% - 100 possible points
Final Exam: 10% - 100 possible points

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>80% - 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>70% - 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>59% or lower</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Scale: 90% - 100% = A
80% - 89% = B
70% - 79% = C
60% - 69% = D
59% or lower = F

Course Calendar

2) 1/22 Intro to Each Other and to the Syllabus; Note-Taking
   Assign: Course Notebook

3) 1/29 Campus Resources, BlackBoard Access, Office 365
   Assign: Student Organization Presentation

4) 2/5 Email; Contacting Faculty; Calculating GPAs
   Assign: Email Assignment

5) 2/12 Motivation/Goal Setting/SRSU College Culture/Student Responsibilities:
    Freedom, Benefits/Consequences
    Assign: Campus Activities Form
    Due: Email Assignment (before class begins)

6) 2/19 Time Management/Planners

7) 2/26 Campus Trek

8) 3/5 Information Literacy/Plagiarism (Meet in Library Classroom)
   *Mid-Term Week*

   3/12 Spring Break. No classes.

9) 3/19 Title IX

10) 3/26 Student Organization Presentations

11) 4/2 Career Planning: Purple Notebook; Stress Management
4/6 (F)  Last day for a student to drop a course with a “W” by 4:00 p.m.

12) 4/9  Financial Aid  
     Homework: Registration Exercise

13) 4/16  Money Matters

14) 4/23  Sul Ross History and Traditions

15) 4/30  Final Exam Preparation  
          Due: Campus Activities Form  
          Due: Course Notes

5/3  Note: Dead Day - No class

16) 5/4 (Friday)  Final Exam: 10:15-12:15 p.m.