

First Year Seminar Fall 2018

Course: SRSU 1101

CRN: 11853

Section: 010

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein

Class Meeting Time: W 2:00-2:50

E-mail: kstein@sulross.edu

Class Location: FH 213

Phone: 432-837-8770

Office: FH 214B

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:00-1:50; 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: 200 possible points

Participation/Daily Grades: 200 possible points

Community Service: 100 possible points

CSI Reflection Paper: 200 possible points

Completing CSI: 100 points

CSI Paper (Submitted on BlackBoard) – 100 points

Campus Activities (CA) Form: 200 possible points

CA Form: 100 possible points

CA Presentation: 100 possible points

Final Exam: 10% - 100 possible points

Grading Scale:

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) 8/29 Intro to Each Other and to the Syllabus; Note-Taking
Assign: Course Notebook
- 2) 9/5 Campus Resources, BlackBoard Access, Office 365; MLA
- 3) 9/12 College Student Inventory (CSI) [meet in the library classroom/2nd floor]
Assign: CSI Reflection Paper (Artifact 1)
- 4) 9/19 Motivation/Goal Setting/SRSU College Culture/Student Responsibilities:
Freedom, Benefits/Consequences
Assign: Campus Activities Assignment (Artifact 2)
- 5) 9/26 Time Management/Planners
- 6) 10/3 Campus Trek
- 7) 10/10 Title IX
- 8) 10/17 Student Organizations/Sul Ross Traditions
Note: Homecoming Week
- 9) 10/24 Hancock Hill
Due: Reflection Paper on Your CSI Results (Submit in BlackBoard/Artifact 1)
Note: Mid-Term Week

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- 10) 10/31 Career Planning
- 11) 11/7 Financial Aid/Money Matters.
Homework: Registration Exercise
- 12) 11/14 Information Literacy/Plagiarism (Meet in Library Classroom)
- 11/16 (F) *Note: Last day for a student to drop a course with a "W" by 4:00 p.m.*
- 13) 11/21 *Thanksgiving Holiday. No Class*
- 14) 11/28 **Due:** Campus Activities Presentations
- 15) 12/5 Final Exam Preparation.
 12/6 *Note: Dead Day - No class*
- 16) 12/11 (T) **Final Exam: 3:00-5:00 p.m.**