

First Year Seminar Spring 2019



SRSU 1101

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein

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Office: FH 214B

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00-10:50 **OR**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-11:50-noon **OR**

By Appointment

CRN: 21279

Section: 001

Class Meeting Time: W 11:00-11:50

Class Location: FH 203

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.

All First-Year Seminars have the same five common goals. The student will be able to:

1. expand and deepen his/her understanding of the world and of self
2. enhance his/her ability to read and think critically
3. enhance his/her ability to communicate effectively, in writing, speech, and other appropriate forms
4. develop the fundamentals of information literacy and library research
5. work closely with a faculty mentor

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.

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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 Lobo Online.
5. Exhibit financial literacy in relation to college and beyond.
6. Discuss the importance of SRSU in the larger community.

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. The mailing address is PO Box C-122, Alpine, TX 79832. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu

Late Work:

Turning in work late does not benefit you at all. In general, I do not accept late work. Should I decide to accept a major assignment late, then a penalty will be assigned depending upon the circumstances. All homework is due at the beginning of class unless I state otherwise.

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Grade Breakdown:	Earned Points
Attendance: 200 possible points	_____
Participation/Daily Grades: 200 possible points	_____
Learning Service Project: 100 possible points	_____
Office Visit with Dr. Stein: 100 points	_____
Campus Activities Form: 100 possible points	_____
Student Organization Presentation: 100 possible points	_____
Student Organization Paper (Submitted on BlackBoard): 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

Intended Weekly Schedule:

- 1) 1/23 Intro to Each Other and to the Syllabus; Note-Taking

- 2) 1/30 Campus Resources, BlackBoard Access, Office 365; MLA

- 3) 2/6 Motivation/Goal Setting
Assign: Office Visit with Dr. Stein

- 4) 2/13 SRSU College Culture/Student Responsibilities: Freedom,
Benefits/Consequences
Assign: Campus Activities Form

- 5) 2/20 Time Management/Planners
Assign: Campus Organization Presentation
Assign: Campus Organization Paper

- 6) 2/27 Campus Trek and Organization

- 7) 3/6 Title IX

- 3/9 *Service Learning Project*

- 8) 3/13 Student Organizations/Sul Ross Traditions

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- 3/20 *Spring Break*
- 9) 3/27 Hancock Hill
Note: Mid-Term Week
- 10) 4/3 Career Planning
- 11) 4/10 Financial Aid/Money Matters.
Homework: Registration Exercise
- 12) 4/17 Information Literacy/Plagiarism (Meet in Library Classroom)
- 4/19 *Good Friday Holiday*
- 13) 4/24 Test Anxiety
- 14) 5/1 **Due:** Campus Organization Presentations
Due: Campus Organization Paper (Submit on BlackBoard)
- 15) 5/8 Final Exam Preparation.
- 16) 5/14 (T) **Final Exam: 10:15-12:15 p.m.**

Service Learning Project Details:

Each semester the Lobo Pack gives back to Alpine by engaging in a number of community service projects. This semester, our service learning project will occur on Saturday, March 9, 2019, from 9:00 a.m.-noon. Specific details will be forthcoming.

Important University Dates:

- 01/22 Last day to add a class to your schedule
- 02/06 Last day to drop a course (without it counting against you)
- 03/18-22 Spring Break
- 04/04 University "Meal on the Mall"
- 04/12 Last day to drop a course with a "W" (by 4pm)
- 05/08 Last class day before finals
- 05/09 "Dead Day"
- 05/10, 13-15 Final Exams
- 05/17 Graduation begins at 7pm
- 05/17 Res halls close at noon