

# First Year Seminar Fall 2020

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SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ALPINE | TEXAS

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## **SRSU 1101-01 – First Year Seminar**

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**Office: BAB 311**

**Office Hours: Wednesday noon-1pm and by appointment**

**Classroom: BAB 305 Wednesday 10-10:50am**

### **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

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## **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 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. Please be proactive in informing the professor of any expected absences in advance in order to meet class requirements.

**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

## **SRSU Disability Services:**

**ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)** Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

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## **SRSU Library Services**

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123). Virtual Tour: <https://sulross.libguides.com/SRSU1101>

## **Grade Breakdown:**

Attendance	30%
Homework and in-class assignments	40%
Career Interview Assignment	30%

## **Grading Scale:**

90-100 =A  
80-89 =B  
70-79 =C  
60-69 =D  
Below 60=F

## **Required Textbook**

No required text

Required: Blackboard 9 access and a Sul Ross email address

## **Intended Weekly Schedule (topics may be rearranged/changed as needed):**

Week

- 1 8/26 Intro to Class, Syllabus, Campus Resources
- 2 9/2 E-mail, Blackboard, Lobo Online
- 3 9/9 Other campus IT resources (Tim Parsons)
- 4 9/16 IT resources continued
- 5 9/23 Library resources
- 6 9/30 Notetaking, Study Skills
- 7 10/7 Time Management, Stress Management
- 8 10/14 Personal Finance
- 9 10/21 Student Organizations/Sul Ross Traditions
- 10 10/28 Advising/Registration
- 11 11/4 Financial Aid
- 12 11/11 Career Exploration
- 13 11/18 Career Exploration
- 14 11/25 - Online for remainder of the semester, Interview assignment due by **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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## **Career Interview Assignment (30% of final grade)**

1. Interview someone in your chosen field (must be graduate student or working professional).
2. Submit 2 page paper over the experience, what you learned, and how it has impacted your decision to pursue this career.
3. Prepare a brief presentation with visual aids about the experience.

## **Important University Dates:**

- 8/27 Last day to add a class to your schedule
- 9/9 Last day to drop a course without penalty (no record)
- 11/13 Last day to drop a course with a grade of W
- 12/2 Last day before final exam period
- 12/3 Study day for final exams, no class
- 12/4 Final Exam Period begins