

**Sul Ross State University
Fall 2022**

Course: SRSU 1101

CRN: 11598

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

Class Location: LH 309

Office: FH 214B

Office Hours: M: 1:00-2:00; TR: 9:00-9:30; TR 12:30-2:30 (unless I am engaged in university service elsewhere) OR by appointment

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein

Section: 003

E-mail: kstein@sulross.edu

Phone: 432-837-8770

Materials/Access:

BlackBoard Access

Sul Ross E-Mail Account

Internet Access (Office 365/OneDrive Access)

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 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 the class instructor.

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.
1. Describe institution, department, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to them.
2. Identify and/or utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate use of SRSU technology: student e-mail, SRSU website, Blackboard, and Lobo Online.
3. Exhibit financial literacy in relation to college and beyond.
4. Discuss the importance of SRSU in the larger community.

Attendance:

Attend class! Successful students commit to attending class regularly. Being a good student requires you to practice good student habits. We'll talk about those this semester. You don't have to be super smart to be a good student. You have to be committed.

Satisfactory attendance does not consist of your mere physical presence in class. You need to attend class, be on time, stay until class is dismissed, complete your homework, finish writing assignments on time, and be ready to engage intellectually with the material, with me, and with your classmates.

Everything else constitutes unsatisfactory attendance and includes, but is not limited to, absences, tardiness, leaving class early, coming to class unprepared to participate (without materials and/or assignments), sleeping, and/or using your cell phone (turn off before class begins), etc. I have no desire to fight you over your cell phones, but think about it. If you don't want to be in class and if you'd rather be on your phone, then leave class and be on the phone. Don't interrupt class with your inattention.

No absences will be "excused" (uncounted) unless they result from your carrying out official, verifiable university business recognized by SRSU. Excused absences will only matter for daily work, and only if you inform me before you miss a class that you have an absence upcoming. Because you have so much time to work on major projects, the due dates for them are still in effect even if you have an excused absence or accommodation.

You have paid to attend this class. It is up to you to choose to attend this class. It is difficult to do well in a class that you do not attend. The decision is yours. Should you decide to drop this class, you must do so before 4:00 p.m. on November 14. Remember that the State of Texas only allows you six withdrawals. Never drop a class without checking with your professor, Lobo Den, your coach, and Financial Aid.

Should you have to miss a class, you are still responsible for everything that is covered in that class. Missing class or being late is not an excuse for missing a due date or misunderstanding an assignment. Your classmates are always your first resource. You should feel free to contact me should you need more clarification.

Classroom Demeanor:

I want you to feel free to speak your mind in this class. However, we will share our ideas in a respectful manner. We don't have to agree with each other, but we do have to support each other's right to have a differing point of view.

SRSU Classroom Climate of Respect Statement: *Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.*

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty hurts everyone and reduces the value of college degrees. Doing someone else's work, presenting the ideas and work of others as your own, submitting the same paper for multiple classes, and/or failing to cite your sources when you utilize the ideas of others are all examples of academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read and understand the university's policy on academic dishonesty in the SRSU Student Handbook, as all violations will be taken seriously and handled through the appropriate university process. The Student Handbook can be found at: <https://www.sulross.edu/page/2454/student-handbook> (page 80).

SRSU Academic Integrity Statement: *Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.*

Grading: Anytime you submit an assignment electronically, you will name the file using the following protocol: Last Name and Assignment Descriptor (Ex. Doe Narrative Paper).

I will attempt to return graded materials within one week. If circumstances require me to take a little longer, I will let the class know.

Grades are a double-edged sword. Grading is meant to show you how you have learned the material being assessed. Please take all comments (whether mine or peers) in the spirit of helping you become a better communicator.

Late Work: Submitting work late is a horrible habit that will not help you as a student and will only act as a disservice when you move into a professional role after graduation.

Do all assignments and turn them in when requested. Even if you cannot be in class when the assignment is due, the assignment itself is still due. If you know that you will be missing class when an assignment is due, you can submit the final document via e-mail before class begins or you can turn in the final document to my office before class begins.

I rarely accept late work, and **I don't accept late daily work at all.** Please mark your calendar with all of the due dates for all major assignments in all of your classes for this semester. Do not put yourself in the position of losing points because you failed to turn in assignments in a timely fashion or did not submit all parts of the assignment. Any major assignment submitted late will automatically have ten percent of the points deducted from the final grade.

Format: All work completed in class must be legible. To receive the maximum number of points, you must follow directions. Note: Don't trust the classroom printer to be working when you need it to work. The classroom printer not working is not a valid reason for not turning in a paper on time.

Talk to Me: If you have questions or concerns, talk to me. I can't help if I don't know what the problem is.

University Programs and Services

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

SRSU Disability Services. 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.

Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, 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 mschwartz@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.

E-Mail, BlackBoard, and Office 365/OneDrive

You will want to check your Sul Ross e-mail regularly. It is an easy way for me to stay in contact with you and for you to stay in contact with me. I will use BlackBoard to send messages to your class, provide you access to class assignments, and post your major paper grades. We will use BlackBoard in class. You need to be able to access both your SRSU e-mail, BlackBoard, and Office 365/OneDrive accounts.

If you need log-in help, please call 432-837-8888.

Check your access early in the semester. I would recommend that you save your work on Office 365/OneDrive. This way you can access your work from any computer that has Internet access. OneDrive means that you never have to worry about your computer crashing AND OneDrive means that a computer crash is never a reason for you not having access to your work.

Technical Support

The Support Desk is where you can direct your more technical questions. For example, the Support Desk can help you if you are having issues submitting a document, getting videos to play, or using BlackBoard. The support desk is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week for your convenience.

You can reach the support desk using one of the following methods:

By calling 888.837.6055

Via email blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

Using resources from the Technology Support tab within BlackBoard

Student Assistance

I strongly recommend that you have a tutor look at your work before you turn in the final draft.

In BlackBoard in your Organizations section, you can find the Writing Center. You can click into the Writing Center and make an appointment with a writing tutor.

Tutors are available in the Tutoring and Learning Center, Library first floor, free of charge, for face-to-face tutoring sessions.

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. 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), or phone (432-837-8123).

SRSU Diversity Statement: I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

Grade Breakdown:

Attendance: 300 possible points

Participation/Daily Grades: 200 possible points

Email Assignment: 100 possible points

Visit with Dr. Stein: 100 possible points

Title IX: 100 possible points

Student Organization Visit: 100 possible points

Final Exam: 100 possible points

Grading Scale:

900-1000 points = A

800-899 points = B

700-799 points = C

600-699 points = D

599 points or fewer = F

Course Calendar

Week	Date
1	Aug. 22 – Introduction to Syllabus and Campus Resources Aug. 24 – Introductions to Each Other
2	Aug. 29 - E-mail/Blackboard/Lobo Online Review Assign: E-mail Assignment Aug. 31 – Notetaking Assign: Visit with Dr. Stein (Your visit must take place by Sept. 29.)
3	Sept. 5 – Labor Day Holiday! No class! Sept. 7 – Who’s Who at SRSU Assign: Student Organization Visit
4	Sept. 12 – Time Management E-mail Assignment Due in Dr. Stein’s Inbox by 5:00 p.m. Sept. 14 – Title IX
5	Sept. 19 – Campus Tour Sept. 21 – Financial Aid
6	Sept. 26 - Time Management Sept. 28 – Mental Health Sept. 29 – Visit with Dr. Stein Due
7	Oct. 3 – SRSU History and Traditions Oct. 5 – Library Orientation (meet at the check out desk in the library) Student Organization Visit Due
8	Oct. 10 – Preparing for Mid-term Exams and SRSU Final Exam Oct. 12 – Final Exam