



Fall 2024
First Year Seminar SRSU 1101
Course Syllabus

Class: FYS SRSU 1101
Class Time: 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm on Wednesdays
Location: MAB 207
Instructor: Bradley Carpenter, Ph.D
E-mail: bradley.carpenter@sulross.edu
Phone: 432.837.8170
Office: MAB 309C
Office Hours: As Requested
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Mission:

The mission of the First-Year Seminar is to provide first-year students an opportunity:

1. to develop knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes that promote successful academic and non-academic participation and
2. to appreciate multiple perspectives and 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 experience. 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 their understanding of the world and of self,
2. enhance their ability to read and think critically,
3. Enhance their 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 the institution, department, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to them.
2. Identify and utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate the 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.

Critical Thinking.

Students will develop critical thinking skills to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

Communication.

Students will develop communication skills to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

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 Climate of Respect

Big Three:

1. Show up on time.
2. Be present for the 50 minutes we are together.
3. Be respectful to other classmates.

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

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 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.

ADA Statement

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. SRSU's policy is 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 Mrs. Mary Schwartz Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director, at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartz@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

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-19, economic disparity, 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.

Late Work

Points will be deducted for all late work.

Grade Breakdown:

Attendance: 30 pts

****On time and staying for the entire class.***

In-Class Participation: 20 pts

Blackboard Posts: 30 pts

****Must be submitted the night before class (by midnight) with 5-7 complete and grammatically correct sentences.***

3-Minute Thesis Presentation: 20 pts

****Must follow the format provided by Carpenter***

Grading Scale:

90-100=A

80-89 =B

70-79 =C

60-69 =D

Below 60=F

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Activities/Expectations	Carpenter Assignments (Due by midnight the day before class)
8.28	First Day of Class	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions 2. Focus for the Semester 3. Expectations 	NA
9.4	Fall on the Mall: Student Engagement Fair	Find me at the Mall @ 1 p.m. for attendance check-in. <i>All FYS classes will be in attendance.</i>	NA
9.11	Live Well: Physical and Mental Wellbeing Sleep and Diet	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #1
9.18	Workshop: Counseling (Location: Marshall Auditorium)	Find me in Marshall @ 1 p.m. for attendance check-in. <i>All FYS classes will be in attendance.</i>	NA
9.25	Love Well: Relational and Spiritual Wellbeing Finding Your Space	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #2
10.2	Lead Well: Time and Project Management Time Management	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #3
10.9	Live Well: Physical and Mental Wellbeing Exercise and Mindfulness	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #4
10.16	Love Well: Relational and Spiritual Wellbeing Connecting with Others	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	NA
10.23	Lead Well: Time and Project Management SRSU Technology Blackboard, Degree Works, LoboOnline, OneDrive, Academic Integrity	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #5

10.30	Live Well: Physical and Mental Wellbeing Getting Outdoors	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #6
11.6	Love Well: Relational and Spiritual Wellbeing Connecting with Family	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #7
11.13	Lead Well: Time and Project Management Money Management & Notetaking	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	Blackboard Post #8
11.20	Service Leadership: Campus Clean-Up	SERVICE EVENT	NA
11.28	Thanksgiving – No Class		
12.4	FINAL	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	NA
12.6	FINAL	Class begins in the regular room @ 1 p.m.	3 Minute Ted Talk

Connecting with Students for Success This course will be participating in an initiative at Sul Ross State University referred to as “Connecting with Students for Success”. This study is aimed at connecting with students in a way that sets them up for better success, overall. As a part of this study, each student will be required to meet with me at least once during my office hours before March 18th, 2024. This will be included in your grade for the Career Choice Project. The reasoning behind this, is that I would like to personally speak to each of you about how you feel regarding your project, help you with questions about your project, discuss how you feel about the class overall, and your time at Sul Ross State University. Please schedule an appointment with the professor, as soon as possible, via email. I will be flexible in scheduling these appointments with you. Please see the office hours available for scheduling on the first page of the syllabus. If you need another time frame, please discuss with the professor.

Connecting with Students for Success

As a part of a research study, I am committed in this course to the following:

I will know your name	I will provide user-friendly, timely feedback on your assignments	I will hold high standards and support you to achieve them	I will hold an individual meeting with each student during the semester
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