

Sul Ross State University

Course: SRSU 1101
CRN: 21287
Class Meeting Time: Online
Class Location: online
Office: FH 214B

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Stein
Section: W01
E-mail: kstein@sulross.edu
Phone: 432-837-8770

Office Hours: Tuesdays: 11:00-12:15
Wednesdays: 11:00-1:00
Thursdays: 11:00-12:15
OR by appointment

Note: Sometimes I am called into university meetings during these times. I'll try to let you know ahead of time if I am not going to be available during scheduled office hours.

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: The 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.
3. Describe the institution, department, and course requirements to earn a college degree and be able to identify SRSU policies in relation to them.
4. Identify and utilize college resources, activities, and events and demonstrate the use of SRSU technology: student e-mail, SRSU website, Blackboard, and MySRSU.
5. Exhibit financial literacy in relation to college and beyond.
6. 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.

Connecting with Students for Success: Our class will be part of a study on how to increase student retention. Below is listed the



Attendance & Class Participation: Our class is an asynchronous online class. This means that we do not meet in person nor do we have a weekly meeting time online.

Be sure to check in with BlackBoard every week. We have an assignment due every week of the semester. You don't have to be super smart to be a good student. You have to be committed.

Absences shouldn't be an issue in this class in that you can work on any assignment (except for the Final Exam) at any time you wish this semester. All assignments have a due date, but you can complete the assignments (except for the Final Exam) as soon as you desire to do the work.

You have paid to attend this class. It is up to you to choose to pass this class. Should you decide to drop this class, you must do so before 4:00 p.m. on April 4. 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.

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 (or before).

If you know that you will be traveling as a representative of the university when an assignment is due, you can still submit the final document in BlackBoard, via e-mail by the due date, or drop the document by my office by the due date.

Should you submit work late, you will lose points. The later the work is submitted, the more points that will be deducted. Outside of the Final Exam, any work that you want graded needs to be submitted by the due date or before Dead Day, May 1, 2025.

We will have assignments virtually every week. Please mark your calendar with all of the due dates for all 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.

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

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 in the spirit of helping you become a better learner and communicator.

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.

Academic Integrity: Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as 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.

Students should also avoid using open AI sources *unless permission is expressly given* for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): 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 an accommodation request each semester for each class.** Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and they'll get back to you as soon as they can during working hours), or email mary.schwartz@sulross.edu. Their office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and their mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

Counseling: Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free online counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/356 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](#). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

Classroom Climate of Respect: 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.

Supportive Statement: I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may 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 a supportive 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.

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).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/ or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu.

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:

By calling 888.837.6055

Via email blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

Using resources from the Technology Support tab within blackboard

Clicking the Support Desk graphic on the course homepage

Tutoring:

Tutoring and Learning Center located in the library (call 432-837-8982 for a reservation with a tutor)

Tutor.com (online tutoring services available on BlackBoard) – be sure to allow 48 hours turnaround time for a writing assignment.

Grade Breakdown: (Look for assignments in BlackBoard)

Syllabus Quiz: 50 possible points

Introductory Post: 50 possible points

Campus Resources Assignment: 50 possible points

Email Assignment: 50 possible points

Title IX Statement: 50 possible points

Chain of Command Exercise: 50 possible points

SRSU Quiz: 50 possible points

Jung Typology Test Results Paper: 50 possible points

Visit with SRSU Counselor: 50 possible points

Visit with Dr. Stein: 100 possible points

Weekly Schedule Results: 100 possible points

Finance Post: 50 possible points

Campus Locations Quiz: 50 possible points

Library Virtual Tour: 50 possible points

Degree Plan: 50 possible points

Registration Exercise: 50 possible points

Final Exam Reflection Paper: 100 possible points

Grading Scale:

90%-100% = A

80%-89% = B

70%-79% = C

60%-69% = D

59% or lower = F

OR

900-1000 points = A

800-899 points = B

700-799 points = C

600-699 points = D

599 points or fewer = F



Course Calendar
SRSU 1101/21287/W01
Spring 2025

Week 1 Great Expectations; Read the Syllabus

Assignment: Syllabus Quiz

Due: 1/21 by 11:59 pm

Assignment: Virtual or In-Person Visit with an SRSU Counselor [You must meet with either Mary Schwartz or Ronnie Harris before March 14 (F).]

Assignment: Virtual or In-Person Visit with Dr. Stein (Feel free to set up your appointment to visit with me any time between now and March 14.) Visit must occur by 3/26 (T) by 3:00 pm.

1/15 (W) Classes Begin

1/20 (M) Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No Classes

1/21 (T) Last Day for Late Registration and Schedule Changes

Week 2 Getting to Know You

Assignment: Introductory Post

Due: 1/28 by 11:59 pm

Week 3 How Can We Help You?

Assignment: Campus Resources

Due: 2/4 by 11:59 pm

1/30 (R) Last Day to Drop a 16 Week Course Without Creating an Academic Record)

1/31 (F) Census Day – 12th Class Day

Week 4 Professional Behavior

Assignment: Email to Dr. Stein

Due: 2/11 by 5:00 pm

Week 5 Title IX

Assignment: Title IX

Due: 2/18 by 11:59 pm

- Week 6 **Who's Who?**
Assignment: Chain of Command Exercise
Due 2/25 by 11:59 pm
- Week 7 **The Who, What, Where, When, and Why of SRSU**
Assignment: SRSU Quiz
Due 3/4 by 11:59 pm
- Week 8 *Mid-Term Week (3/10-3/14)*
Major/Career Planning
Assignment: Jung Typology Test Results Paper
Jung Typology Test: <http://www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/jtypes2.asp>
Due 3/11 by 11:59 pm
Assignment: Meet with SRSU Counselor (virtually or in person)
Due 3/14 (F) by 3:00 pm
- Week 9 **3/17-3/21** *Spring Break: No Classes.*
- Week 10 **24 Hours in a Day/Time Management**
Assignment: Weekly Schedule Results
Due by 3/25 by 11:59 pm
Let's Talk
Assignment: Virtual Visit with Dr. Stein
Due 3/26 (T) by 3:00 pm
- Week 11 **Money! Money! Money!/Financial Literacy**
Assignment: Finance Post
Due 4/1 by 11:59 pm
4/3 (R) *Meal on the Mall/SRSU Birthday*
4/4 (F) *Note: Last day for a student to drop a course with a "W" by 4:00 p.m.*
- Week 12 **How Do I Get There from Here?/Campus Tour**
Assignment: Campus Locations Quiz
Due 4/8 by 11: 59 pm
- Week 13 **Let's Go to the Library!**
Assignment: Complete Virtual Library Tour and Submit
Due: You must complete your virtual tour & submit by 4/15 by 11:59 pm
Virtual Library Tour: <https://sulross.libguides.com/SRSU1101>
(click on "Virtual Library Tour" under "Getting Started")
- Week 14 **How Do I Get Out of Here?/Your Degree Plan**
Assignment: Submit Copy of Degree Plan
Due 4/22 by 11:59 pm

Week 15 **How Do I Return for Next Semester?/Registration**

Assignment: Registration Exercise

Due: 4/29 by 11:59 pm

5/1 (R) *Note: Dead Day - No classes*

Week 16

All Good Things Must Come to an End/Final Exam

Assignment: Final Exam Reflection Paper

Due 5/5 (M) by 11:59 pm

You know where my office is. You know how to get hold of me via phone and email. If I can be of any service to you this semester or in future semesters, please do not hesitate to come see me. I am here for you!