

UNIVERSITY of MAINE at PRESQUE ISLE
Course Syllabus
FYS 100

Course Title: *First Year Seminar*
Instructor: *Leo Saucier, Jr., M.Ed.*
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Statement of Commitment: As a member of the university, I pledge to pursue academic excellence, support open inquiry and civil expression, listen respectfully to the viewpoints of others, participate responsibly in the life of the community, conserve and enhance the beauty of the campus, and help members of the university realize their potential.

Required Materials

TEXT: Feldman, Robert S. (2004). Power Learning, Strategies for Success in College and Life. McGraw-Hill.

RECOMMENDED: Disbro, William. 100 Things Every College Freshman Ought to Know. ISBN: 0-935637-22-2

COMPUTER *with CD-ROM capability*

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students with less than 12 college credits some strategies to be successful in college. Students will engage in seminar style discussions and will explore the topics of learning styles, computer applications, study habits, experiential learning, and time management.

Course Objectives - As a result of this course you will:

- be provided with a systematic framework for organizing the strategies that lead to success.
- experience a wide range of skill-building opportunities.
- demonstrate the connections between academic success and success beyond the classroom.
- develop critical thinking skills.
- better understand your learning style and ways to improve your learning.

Course Evaluation

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|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Attendance and Participation | 50% |
| 2. Journal Writing | 30% |
| 3. Book/Web/Class Assignments | 20% |

*Attendance and participation are major components of your grade, and the easiest to achieve. All you have to do is come to class and get involved in your learning. The skills practiced and learned here can significantly impact your entire college career. **Do you really want to fail a course because you didn't attend regularly?***

Assignments & Requirements

- A. Attendance – each time you miss class without a valid reason 5 percentage points will be deducted from your final grade; you also miss class assignments that may result in additional points lost. Absences can be excused for valid reasons.
- B. You will complete 10 journal writings dealing with issues and topics discussed in class. Each writing will be composed on a computer and consist of at least one page. Use a 10-12 font with 1.5 inch margins; poor spelling and composition lose pts. Writings MUST BE turned in on time.
- C. Book/Web assignments and activities are designed to help you become a better learner. These must also be turned in on time. If you miss class, you are responsible for the missed material.

Grading Procedure

To receive an:

A = 95 – 100 %	A- = 90 – 94 %
B+ = 87 – 89	B = 84 - 86
B- = 80 - 83	C+ = 77 – 79
C = 74 - 76	C- = 70 - 73
D+ = 67 – 69	D = 64 - 66
D- = 60 - 63	F = below 60%

Course Schedule: *(Dates change each semester)*

Week #1

1/17/07 Welcome and introduction. Meet at Computer Lab, Folsom 101A. Making the most of technology. Class work with Lida Pinkham.

Week #2 MEET AT LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM FOR REMAINDER OF SEMESTER

1/22/07 Understanding the syllabus. P.O.W.E.R. Learning Text (ch. 9). Meet your advisors. What are RAN numbers? Using BLACKBOARD. ASSIGNMENT: Journal Entry #1 – “Focus on Your Interests” p. 254.

1/24/07 Journal entry #1 due today. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #2 – How I Feel About Computers. p. 266.

Week #3

1/29/07 LIBRARY TOUR. Journal entry #2 due today..

1/31/07 LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM UNAVAILABLE ON THIS DAY
P.O.W.E.R. TEXT Learning (ch. 1). ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #3 – “My School Experience” p. 6.

Week #4

2/05/07 Journal entry #3 due today. Web Sites, class activities.

2/07/07 Chapter 2 – Making the most of your time. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #4 – “Where does my time go?” p. 33.

Class meets on Mondays for remainder of semester.

Week #5

2/12/07 Chapter 3 – Recognizing How You Learn, Who You Are, and What You Value. Journal entry #4 due today. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #5 – “How I Learn” p. 62.

Week #6

2/26/07 Chapter 4 – Taking Notes. Journal entry #5 due today. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #6 – “How do I Take Notes?” p. 95.

Week #7

3/05/07 Chapter 4 continued. Journal entry #6 due today.

Week #8

3/12/07 Chapter 5 – Taking Tests. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #7 – “How I feel About Tests” p. 123.

Week #9

3/19/07 Chapter 5 continued. Testing activities. Journal entry #7 due today.

Week #10

3/26/07 Chapter 6 – Building Your Reading Skills. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #8 – “My Reading Preferences” p. 151.

Week #11

4/09/07 Chapter 7 – Writing and Speaking. Journal entry # 8 due today. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #9 – “How I Feel About Writing” p. 171.

Week #12

4/16/07 Chapter 8 – Memory. Memory activities. Journal entry #9 due today. ASSIGNMENT: Journal entry #10 – “What Sort of Memory Do I Have?” p. 216.

Week #13

4/23/07 Chapter 14 – Stress, Health & Wellness. Journal entry #10 due today.

Week #14

4/30/07 Wrap up: LAST CLASS MEETING.

***Note:** As the instructor of this course, I reserve the privilege to add or delete educational experiences and/or topics depending on the progress of the students in the class.*