



**UNCO 111.04E 23124 Theory and Application of Learning and Critical Thinking
Freshman Success Seminar
(Web-enhanced)
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015
T 2:00-3:50, Location AGIT 238
January 20-May 15, 2015**

Instructor: Marilyn R. Thompson, MFA
Office Location: Art Building- room 210
Office Hours: MW 10:00-11:00am, T 9:30-11:30am, or by appointment
Office Phone: 903 886-5208
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University Email Address: Marilyn.Thompson@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbooks: Thornton, Sara. *Seven Days in the Art World*. W.W. Norton & Company (ISBN 978-0-393-33712-9)

Other Resources:

www.artstor.org is a database of digital images covering much of world art. An invaluable resource in the study of art at A&M-Commerce, it is accessible online through the homepage of Gee Library (go to databases). Artstor includes images, titles, and descriptions of nearly all works of art discussed in this class.

Course Description:

UNCO 111 prepares students for optimal success at the university and beyond by motivating them to develop skills, knowledge and behaviors that will create confident, self-sufficient learners.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate critical thinking by asking and answering higher-level questions and solving increasingly complex problems.
2. Students will improve their listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills.
3. Students will demonstrate habits of the mind that produce academic improvement across the semester.
4. Students will acquire the knowledge and apply the necessary skills to successfully navigate university life.

5. Students will take ownership of their learning experiences and develop greater awareness of self and others.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Instructional Methods: Class consists of various styles of presentation and interaction. In UNCO 111, students will be active participants regardless of the mode of instruction. Students should come to class ready to participate, both in terms of preparation as assigned and with a positive attitude toward class and colleagues.

Assignments:

Attendance and participation: Roll will be taken each class day and students are expected to attend all scheduled class periods. Students should make arrangements to be in class on time and to stay until the class is dismissed. Attendance is part of your participation grade for UNCO 111.

For students with excused absences, which include participation in a University-sponsored event, illness accompanied by a doctor's note, death in the student's immediate family, a verifiable court appearance or any other similar circumstance in the view of the instructor, **written documentation must be turned in to the instructor immediately upon return to class.**

Students must attend all class sessions and participate to the extent possible in each class activity. The activities in this course are designed to help you improve your communication skills and increase your knowledge in order to make you a more effective and successful college student.

Three Event papers: event papers worth 50 points each, documenting attendance in three different types of university events (athletic, academic, cultural, etc.) and must be 2 pages in length (**50 points each/ 10 points of which are from the writing center form**). Students are required to go to the writing lab for help with each paper and turn in the writing lab form for 10 points. Details of required event activities and their due dates are listed in the weekly plan (in eCollege) for the course. (**150 points**)

Patrick Dougherty project & paper: Beginning on January 16, TAMU-C will be hosting acclaimed artist Patrick Dougherty to install a temporary public artwork on our campus. Mr. Dougherty's work has been shown nationally and internationally and we are very excited to bring his work to our community. The installation process will take three weeks and as part of this class we are going to assist in the installation of the project. You will be required to participate **2** hours in the installation. To set up your work time please contact Bethany Hargrove, Graduate Assistant, Department of Art
Email: bhargrove@leomail.tamuc.edu
Phone: 325-665-9896

For images of past work by Patrick Dougherty, see his website: <http://www.stickwork.net>.

You will participate in the Patrick Dougherty project by volunteering for two hours at the site to help with the installation. A four page typed paper will be turned in at the end of the semester. This paper will include your

thoughts about your experience participating on the project, information you researched about the artist, Patrick Dougherty (document your sources), and your critical analysis of the total project. **(100 points)** Students are required to go to the writing lab for help with this paper and turn in the writing lab form for 10 points. Details of the required due date is listed in the weekly plan (in eCollege) for the course.

Exam: Students will have a final exam in this course over the materials presented. **(100 points)**

eCollege Online Discussions: Online discussions: **(10 points each for a total of 150)**

•Netiquette:

Students are expected to be polite and courteous and conform to online etiquette at all times. For detailed rules on “netiquette” go to the website:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

A summary of netiquette rules is provided below.

Rule 1: Remember the Human

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

ON-LINE DISCUSSIONS: On Monday of each week a discussion question will be posted that relates to the reading assignments or activities for that week. Students have until midnight (central time) the following Sunday of each week to respond to the discussion question. Students are minimally expected to type at least one response to the question to receive 6 points. To receive 7, 8, 9, or 10 points, students are expected to “engage” in the discussion by asking other students questions and/or responding to the posts of other students and/or the professor. To earn these points students must post some type of response to the question as well as a comment/question that is on topic and contributes to the overall discussion (see rubric below).

Online discussions are not the same as texting or tweets. They should reflect critical thinking and contain complete sentences that are grammatically correct with as few spelling and punctuation mistakes as possible. Do not use slang or popular abbreviations such as btw, lol, etc. Discussions will be worth a total of 150 pts. Always be polite and courteous when responding to someone else’s comments or questions.

NOTE: Online discussions should not be viewed as similar to a discussion around the dinner table with friends or family where everybody expresses their views, opinions, and beliefs on some topic often, which they know absolutely nothing about. This is an academic course and your discussion topics are directly linked to the reading assignments in your textbook.

Consequently, your posts should reflect a certain amount of knowledge on the topic based on research, facts, and data. It is fine to critique, interpret, and occasionally interject an opinion or two, but for the most part, this should be an academic and intellectual discussion of the topic at hand.

Grading Rubric for Online Discussions:

Did student respond to question posed? (6 pts)
Does the response reflect critical thinking, facts, and data as opposed to just personal opinion?
(2 pts) Does the student's response add to and/or stimulate other discussion? (1pt) Is the
response grammatically correct and free of abbreviations and spelling error? (1pt)

***Late work: 10 points will be subtracted from all unexcused late work**

Grading:

Students' course grade will be calculated according to the following scale:

A =	720-800 Points
B =	640-719 Points
C =	560-639 Points
D =	480-559 Points
F =	479 Points or less

I utilize the Grade book feature in eCollege, so students will be able to view grades for each assignment as soon as I post them. However, be mindful that the grading scale in the course (see above) DOES NOT correspond to the percentages of points displayed in eCollege. If you strive for a specific grade in the course, be sure to notice how many points you need to accumulate to achieve that grade rather than focusing on the percentage of points you have earned in eCollege.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

UNCO 111 is a web-enhanced course. Delivery problems can result if technological requirements are not taken into consideration.

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course. [List those technologies needed for your course.]

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Headset/Microphone (if required for synchronous sessions in an online course)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'my Courses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu.

When you are login in to take an exam or completing other online assignments please use common sense and be prepared for glitches. Common sense dictates that it is always best to do this kind of work on a reliable and stationary laptop or desktop computer that has a dependable internet signal, preferably in your home, a college computer lab, or a quiet and stable environment. **Do not wait until the last minute to do your online work.**

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Students will be expected to interact with the instructor(s) in class or via electronic means in an appropriate manner. All instructor contact information is listed on this syllabus and should be used.

Please feel free to contact me through email or stop by during my office hours. I encourage classes to interact with me as much as possible, especially if a student feels challenged by the academic content of a course or has missed classes.

Email: Marilyn.Thompson@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: MW 10:00-11:00am, T 9:30-11:30am, or by appointment

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

Supplemental Instructions: In the course of your work in this class, you will be given additional written instructions that govern the look, content and scope of your projects. These supplemental instructions have the same force as the syllabus for grading purposes.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

All students are expected to exercise self-discipline and respect for the rights of others at all times. Behavioral disruptions that interfere with the business of the classroom or with an individual's ability to learn may be referred to the Dean of Students.

Please be sure that cell phones and other electronic devices are off or silent. If you expect to have to get up, please select an inconspicuous position to minimize disruptions. Courtesy to others is important. That means respecting the opinions of others, and in general, doing your part to make this a positive learning environment for all students. Food and beverages, while acceptable, should be consumed as quietly as possible, and you must clean up after yourself.

Course Schedule:

Week 1:

Welcome
Syllabus, course requirements, & planner
Introduction: The Patrick Dougherty Project
Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Introduction & Chapter 1 The Auction
Online discussion

Week 2:

Library visit
Gallery visit/Ceramic Sculpture Exhibition/Brian Molanphy, Merrie Wright, and Colby Parsons
Online Discussion

Week 3:

QEP ePortfolio/meet in BA 339 for class/February 3
Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 2 The Crit
Online Discussion

Week 4:

Writing Center
Listening and Note Taking
Class Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Introduction & Chapter 1 The Auction
Critical, Creative, and Practical Thinking
Online Discussion

Week 5:

Guest Speaker/Counseling Center
Stress Management
Class Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 2 The Crit
Homework: MyPlan
Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 3 The Fair
Online Discussion

Week 6:

Guest Speaker/Career Development/MyPlan

Resume

Online Discussion

Week 7:

Gallery visit/ Artist Couples #1 Sculpture and Painting/ Phillip Shore and Sherry Giryotas

Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 3 The Fair

Discussion: Test Taking

Online Discussion

Week 8:

Guest Speaker/Art Department faculty speaker

Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 4 The Prize

Online Discussion

Spring Break 3/16-3/20/2015

Week 9:

Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 4 The Prize

Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 5 The Magazine

Online Discussion

Week 10:

Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 5 The Magazine

Discussion: Learning Styles/Learning How You Learn

Online Discussion

Week 11:

Guest Speaker/ Art Department faculty speaker

Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 6 The 6 The Studio Visit

Online Discussion

Week 12:

Discussion: Diversity and Communication

Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 6 The 6 The Studio Visit

Online Discussion

Week 13:

Discussion: Managing Money & Time Management

Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 7 The Biennale

Online Discussion

Week 14:

Discussion: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 7 The Biennale

Review for final exam

Online Discussion

Week 15: Final Exam

Online Discussion

Week 16: No class

Take advantage of this time to study and prepare for your other final exams

