



Freshman Success Seminar (UNCO 111 02E)

COURSE SYLLABUS- FALL 2016

Instructor: Diana Hines

Office Location: Hall of Languages, 103

Office Hours: By Appointment

Office Phone: (903) 468-8734

University Email Address: diana.hines@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

CRN: 80761

Classroom: Ferguson SS 313

Meeting time: 1:00-1:50

Required Materials – Binder or pocket folder

Required Text:

Kleon, Austin. *Steal Like An Artist: 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative*.

New York: Workman, 2012. (ISBN: 978-0761169253)

Accessibility: Available in the bookstore; on Amazon. \$6.74; \$6.40 Kindle

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 be able to identify and describe relevant campus resources.
2. Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.
3. Students will be able to explain their responsibilities as a student.
4. Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to access course texts via the course shell. All assigned readings should be printed out, and all written assignments must be submitted via Dropbox on our course shell.

Since UC 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. The following technologies will be needed Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)

- 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 ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

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.tamuc.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@tamuc.edu.]

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Students may contact the instructor through university email: diana.hines@tamuc.edu

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

Attendance Policy:

Roll will be taken each class day and students are expected to attend all scheduled class periods. Each section of this course is scheduled for 16 weeks of twice weekly meetings of 50 minutes

each. Students should make arrangements to be in class on time and to stay until the class is dismissed. Attendance is part of your grade for UC 111. (100 points)

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.

Each absence in this course will result in a point reduction on your final attendance grade according to the chart below:

Absences	0	1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10	11,12	13,14
Attendance Points	100	94	88	82	76	70	64	58

Content quizzes: Students will have 10 quizzes throughout the semester over information covered in specific activities/assignments that week. (10 pts. each—100 total pts.)

Event papers: Five 1 ½ -2-pg papers, each worth 20 pts, documenting attendance/participation in various university events (lectures, cultural events, athletic events, or academic events. (100 pts.)

Details: College is about more than going to class—there are many events to attend on campus that will enhance your experience here. Watch your email, flyers on campus, and the menu on the main page of MyLeo for information about events on campus. Each event paper should be accompanied by an artifact of the event (a program, selfie, or some other artifact).

- Describe or summarize the event. What was the event? What was the purpose? Who attended? What was it like?
- Reflect on the event. Consider some or all of the following questions: What did you learn at this event? What did you learn about the campus or people related to the campus? How can you implement what you learned to help you be successful in college? How can what you learned help prepare you for an interconnected world?
- Do not wait until the end of the semester to attend these events—they will be due throughout the semester

Participation: 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 set in order to make you a more effective and successful college student. (100 pts.)

QEP Requirement: Students must complete all on-line inventories and portfolios as assigned by the instructor. Failure to complete this requirement will automatically drop your course grade one complete letter grade. (100 pts.)

University success skills: Document three (3) visits to university support centers (e.g: The Writing Center in Hall of Languages, 103 or the JAMP room). (60 pts)

Final Essay: Students will have a final writing project, over the common reading used in this course. (100 pts.)

Final essay:

Option One:

In this class, we read Austin Kleon's book *Steal Like An Artist: 10 Things Nobody Told you About Being Creative*, which details some ideas about how attitude, learning, and the people and things you surround yourself with can affect creativity. This assignment asks you to reflect on the personal value you see in creativity. How can creativity help you prepare to solve the problems of the future? How can creativity help you accomplish your goals in college and beyond?

Kleon's book uses anecdotes and examples to make his points. Be sure to do the same. Also be sure to refer to the book in your essay (quote and cite his essay). You can refer to Kleon's book by agreeing with one of his points, disagreeing with one of his points, building on one of his points, or even using one of his points to start your own argument about the value of education.

Option Two:

Can learning strategies for creativity actually help you be more creative? Choose one of the strategies detailed in Austin Kleon's book *Steal Like An Artist* and explore its possibilities for encouraging creativity. Experiment with one or more of the strategies for a period of time (for example, a week) and reflect on the effectiveness of that strategy.

Kleon's book uses anecdotes and examples to make his points. Be sure to do the same. Also be sure to refer to the book in your essay (quote and cite his essay). You can refer to Kleon's book by agreeing with one of his points, disagreeing with one of his points, building on one of his points, or even using one of his points to start your own argument about the value of education.

Grading

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

A= 504-560 pts.

B= 453-503 pts.

C= 407-452

D=366-406

F=365 or less

Academic dishonesty/ Plagiarism:

Instructors at Texas A&M University-Commerce do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. Here is the university policy" <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Grievance Procedure:

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Dean of University College, Dr. Tabetha Adkins.

Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 ("Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation").

Other course policies:

Late work policy: No work will be accepted late unless it is accompanied by a written excuse considered acceptable by the University. Specifically, this includes participation in a University-sponsored event, illness accompanied by a doctor's note, death in the student's immediate family, or a verifiable court appearance. Instructor reserves the right to deduct points for late work regardless of reason.

UNIVERSITY SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

Students with Disabilities information

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, Gee Library, Room 132 (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone (903) 468-8148 fax Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@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 in order to minimize disruptions. Courtesy to others is important. That means respecting the opinion 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 OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This schedule may be adjusted to accommodate for student learning needs.

Bring the assigned reading to class with you to supplement discussion. Printed or digital copies are both acceptable.

Date	Unit	To do before class	Event Reminders/ Assignments Due
Week 1	Introductions, syllabus discussion		
Week 2	GCAA Assessment for campus QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan)	Read e-mail from Dr. Shonda Gibson about GCAA assessment	Thur. Sept. 8 th Attend Dr. Robert Green lecture— Ferguson Hall 7 pm
Week 3	Academic Success In class: University Support Services 30 second expert activity	Learning Style activity or Cornell Notes reading How to Talk to a Professor power point	
Week 4	Syllabus review	Syllabi and Planning activity	Due: First Campus Events Reflection Essay
Week 5	College computer literacy	Find and watch and/or read online tutorials about how to use word processing program (like Word); a slide show program (like Power Point); a spread sheet program (like Excel). If you own a computer, find tutorials for the software on your computer.	Wed. Sept. 28 th Attend Dr. Cornell West lecture – Ferguson Hall 7 pm.
Week 6	Financial literacy	Read FASFA infographic	Second Campus Events Attendance Reflection Essay due
Week 7	GCAA test results	Read GCAA report from the assessment completed in week 2. Bring to class.	Tu. Oct. 11 th : Attend Rachel Cruze lecture on financial literacy. Ferguson Hall—7 pm.

Week 8	Registration—Visit by Success Coaches	Activity for Registration	Due: Third Campus Events Attendance Reflection Essay
Week 9	Wellness	View physical and mental health power point Drugs and Alcohol video Look at wellness wheel	
Week 10	Title Nine	Watch the Title Nine video	Due: Fourth Campus Events Attendance Reflection Essay
Week 11	Critical thinking	Watch critical thinking power point. Additional readings to be assigned	
Week 12	Common reading	Read <i>Steal Like An Artist: 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative</i> .	Due: Fifth Campus Events Attendance Reflection Essay
Week 13	Time management/ career services	Time management PDF and power point	
Week 14	Work on final assignment-essay on common reading		
Week 15	Make-up week		Final Essay due
Finals Week	Meet to reflect, share best sections of final essay, etc.		