



## Syllabus

### UNIV 1301: An Introduction to Collegiate Studies – Fall 2017

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Office Hours: By appointment  
Class meeting Time: TTH 12:30PM – 1:50PM  
Classroom Location: Dan Rather Comm.  
Bldg. – Room 319  
Career Counselor: Mr. Benjamin Cantu

## Course Description

UNIV 1301: An Introduction to Collegiate Studies. The content of the course features a study of the research and theory of strategic learning, cognition, and motivation. Students use assessment instruments to identify their own strengths and weaknesses as strategic learners. Students will research, think critically, write, and present on various topics to develop the skills necessary to excel in coursework. Students are expected to apply the learning skills discussed across their own academic programs and become effective and efficient learners. As a result of this course, students will have the tools necessary to engage in increasingly complex academic endeavors, civic responsibility, marketable skills development, and career planning.

## Learning Objectives

IDEA Objectives: in this course, our focus will be on these major objectives (as assessed by the IDEA course evaluation system):

- **Essential:** Learning to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, & decisions.
- **Essential:** Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.
- **Important:** Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing.



## Materials

### Required Texts – One Class Text and the SHSU Common Reader

*Student Success: Doing What Works!*

Harrington, C. (2016). *Student success in college: Doing what works!* Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. (ISBN 9781337052115 for the Loose Leaf book + MindTap Printed Access Card)

2017 Common Reader – *The Good Food Revolution* by Will Allen. You should receive a copy at Orientation or it is available at the First-Year Experience Office.

### Other Required Materials

Blackboard, available at campus computer labs or on a personal computer with internet Access.



## Course Content

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### Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze academic skills and employ critical thinking and problem-solving strategies for success in the college culture.
2. Initiate career exploration and major/minor exploration. Develop an action plan for college completion based on the analysis and application of college knowledge, personal strengths, and career goals.
3. Create effective communications in written, oral, electronic, and visual representations, and critically analyze your interpretation of ideas expressed by others.
  - i. Explore library literacy skills and describe unintentional and intentional plagiarism.
  - ii. Compare and contrast ideas, values, and beliefs about the role a college education plays in different cultures and develop skills that will allow you to effectively interact with people of diverse cultures.
  - iii. Work collaboratively through group discussions, activities, and projects to learn more about effective teamwork skills.
  - iv. Explore technology and best practices for online coursework.
4. Critically evaluate and apply life skills necessary for your success (e.g. health/stress, nutrition, relationships, and money management).
5. Synthesize and evaluate the meaning of experiences in service learning, leadership and civic responsibility.

### Writing Enhanced Course

This is a “W” course, which means that at least 50 percent of your course grade will derive from writing activities designed to help you master course objectives. Writing in this course is one of the tools your instructor will use to help you learn course material. Some writing activities will require you to draft and revise your work. Other written assignments are designed to assist you in critical reflection of the course material. You should approach writing in this course as a tool to use as part of your learning as well as a tool your instructor will use to assess your level of learning. All written assignments turned in to the instructor must be typed, double-spaced, in either Times New Roman or Arial font style and 12 pt. font size, using correct grammar, sentence structure, citations, references, and terminology. When doing the research pieces, make sure that all sources are cited correctly using MLA or APA format (6th edition) as directed by your instructor.

### Academic Community Engagement (Service Learning)

As educated citizens, you will have important opportunities to impact your community. In this course, you will not only learn knowledge and skills, but also actively apply them to make a difference in our community to improve the quality of life. This experience, it is hoped, will help you see yourself as a positive force in this world and deepen your understanding of your role as an educated citizen.

## Policies

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### Academic Honesty

Select this link to [Academic Dishonesty Policies](#)

**Attendance, Tardiness, and Early Exit Policy:** Attending class, arriving for class on time, and remaining in class until the end of the class period are fundamental to academic success. Arriving on time for class and remaining in class until the end of the class period demonstrates respect for your instructor, your fellow classmates, and guest speakers. You are expected to attend class each time we meet. After **two absences for TTH classes** each additional absence will result in a **75 point reduction in your Class Participation grade** in addition to any points lost for assignments done during the missed class period. Students who miss class because of official University business will be given the opportunity to make up for missed work without penalty. However, students must provide written approval to the instructor prior to the absence.

## Office 365

**Microsoft Office 365:** Office 365 is available for all current SHSU students, faculty, and staff. With Office 365, you now have one terabyte of OneDrive storage and access to a free download of Office. To access your Office 365 account, go to <https://login.microsoftonline.com/>. Enter your official SHSU e-mail address (ex., abc123@shsu.edu) - rather than your alias - and click sign-in. You will be redirected to the SHSU login page where you will enter your SHSU credentials. Your initial login will take about five minutes as Office 365 creates your account.

## Assignments and Grades

Grading Scale: (See Appendix B for a Grade Worksheet)

Points	Percent	Letter	Description
895-1000	90-100%	A	Excellent Work
795-894	80-89%	B	Good Work
695-794	70-79%	C	Acceptable Work
0-694	Below 70 %	F	Failing Work

### Assignments/Grades:

**30% - Class Participation/Homework/Service Learning:** Includes in-class assignments, group work, in-class discussion participation (and attendance), and in class presentations. Service Learning includes preparatory activities, nine hours at the site and accompanying reflections (**5 hours minimum**)

**20% - Major Assessments:** Includes mid-semester assessment, and final

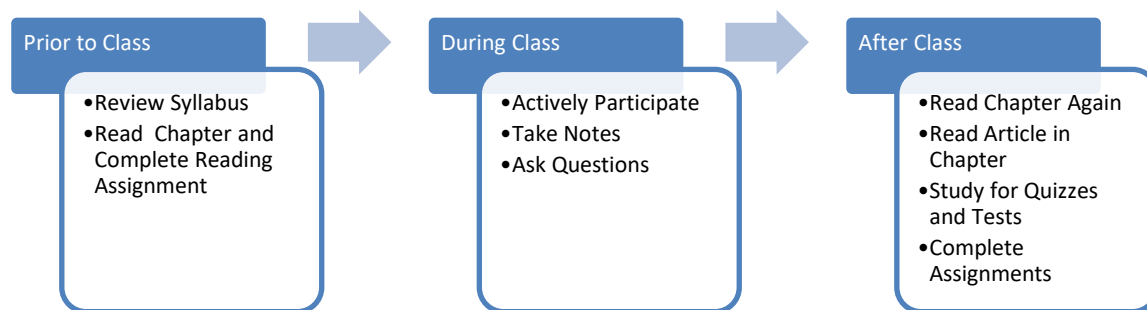
**50% - Major Writing Assignments:** Includes campus engagement reflections, presentation reflections, Freshman Essay Contest essay - *The Good Food Revolution*, and Career Research paper.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE DATE INDICATED IN THE SYLLABUS. NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

### Required UNIV 1301 Assessments

- SII and MBTI (online – SHSU Career Center – see Appendix A)

### Your Learning Experience:



## Class Schedule

Course Calendar UNIV 1301: Fall 2017

### Fall 17 schedule Tuesday –Thursday

Week	Date	Homework/Assignments/ Readings prior to each class day	Class Day Topic/Speaker
Week 1	Thurs 8/24	Reflection Assignment in Class – Transition to SHSU	Introductions Overview course & syllabus Tuckman's Stages of Team Development True Colors Assessment
Week 2	Tues 8/29	Reading Assignment Chap 1	Chapter 1: College Expectations: Being a Critical Thinker <i>The Good Food Revolution</i> – Reading Assignment Discussion
	Thurs 8/31	Reflection Assignment in Class – Goal Setting Worksheet	Chapter 3: Setting Goals and Making the Most of Your Time
Week 3	Tues 9/5	Reading Assignment Chap 2	Chapter 2: Skills You Need: Memory, Note-Taking, and Studying Techniques continued
	Thurs 9/7	Time for Action 2.6 - Note-taking Apps MBTI/SII Assessments Due	Chapter 2 Continued

Remaining schedule will be provided at the next class period, schedule is subject to change at instructor's discretion.