



Syllabus | Bearkat Learning Community

UNIV 1301: An Introduction to Collegiate Studies – Fall 2017

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Office Hours: By appointment at

shsu.edu/slms

Class Meeting time: MWF 11:00 – 11:50

Classroom Location: Lee Drain Building, Room 204

Career Counselor: **Carol Adams-Shearer**

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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.



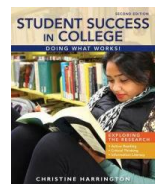
Materials

Required Texts – One Class Text and the SHSU Common Reader

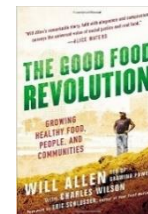
Student Success: Doing What Works!

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.

Recommended Readings

What Every Law Student Really Needs to Know

George, T. (2016). *An Introduction to the Study of Law*. New York, NY: Wolters Kluwer. (ISBN 9781454841524)

24 Hours with 24 Lawyers Kim, J. (2011). *Profiles of Traditional and Non-Traditional Careers*. Aspatore. (ISBN 9780314276315)

Recommended Materials

Thank you notes for guest speakers

Stamps

Business casual clothing, or better

Note: Attorneys from around the state will speak to our class, either in person or by video conference. This is a tremendous opportunity for you to learn about the realities of law school and the legal practice and to network with individuals who may be able to provide you with recommendations, internships, and jobs, maybe. As a class, after each presentation, one student will be responsible for writing the thank you note and the other students will sign it. The thank you notes should be a sincere expression for their time the speakers provided to you. I also strongly encourage you to dress professionally when the speakers are here, because that sends an impression about you and the university that you represent.

Course Content

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.

Journals & Reflection Paper

Writing is a way to think about things you’ve experienced, forcing yourself to express yourself cogently and intelligently. Two journals and one reflection paper are required for this course. Journals and the reflection paper must be typed, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman. Each submission must be a maximum of 3 pages long, with a cover page that includes your name, the course title, and the title of the submission. The submission must be turned in no later than the end of class on the due date.

Journal No. 1 is due on **August 28, 2017**, in class; Journal No. 2 is due on **November 17, 2017**, in class. The Reflection Paper is due on **November 20, 2017**.

Journal No. 1 Topics (discuss all)

- Why are you a university student?
- Why did you decide to take this course?
- What do attorneys do?
- Why do you want to study the law and become an attorney?
- Do you know any attorneys? What are your impressions?

Journal No. 2 Topics (discuss all)

- What is your understanding about being a university student?
- What is your role as a university student?
- Have your thoughts on the study of law and becoming an attorney changed? If so, how?
- What are your impressions about attorneys now?

Reflection Paper (discuss all)

- What are three items that impressed you most about Will Allen’s keynote?
- What legal issues did Will Allen face in his life? In his business?
- How are we regulated in ways that we don’t even know by governments? What is the role of an attorney with respect to regulations and advising clients who are impacted by the regulations?

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

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. I believe you are an adult and should be treated as one. You get more out of the class if you attend than if you don't. So please attend.

Email: In addition to Blackboard, class announcements and communications will take place through your university-issued email account. Accordingly, please check your official SHSU email account regularly.

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:

| Percent | Letter | Description |
|---------|--------|-----------------|
| 90-100% | A | Excellent Work |
| 80-89% | B | Good Work |
| 70-79% | C | Acceptable Work |
| 70 % | F | Failing Work |

Assignments/Grades:

You will be quizzed in Blackboard on each chapter of the [Student Success in College](#) textbook. Each quiz will count for 5% of your total grade. All quizzes will be administered through Blackboard. Quizzes will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at midnight on the date specified on the syllabus. We will have class on the same day that the quiz is online. Quizzes will not be available after midnight on the date specified and if your quiz is not submitted by midnight, you will receive a zero for your score for that quiz.

Your first journal will count for 20% of your grade.

Your second journal will count for 30% of your grade.

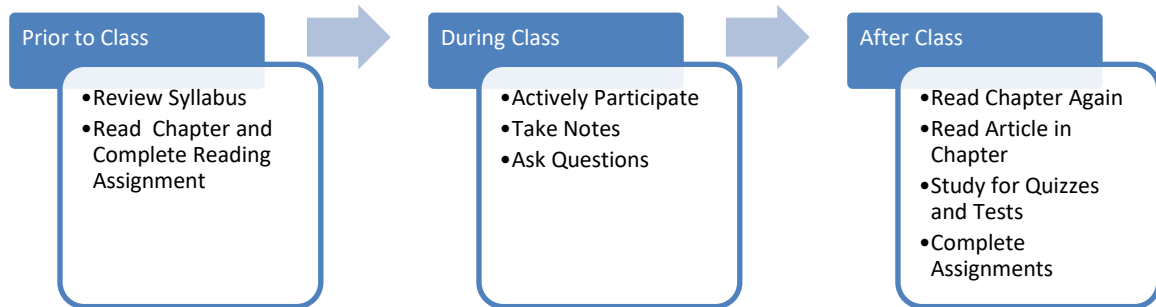
You will turn in a combined reflection paper on Will Allen's keynote presentation and Erich Birch's presentation, using the guidelines in this syllabus. This reflection paper will count for 15% of your grade.

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)
- EQi – Emotional Intelligence Assessment

Your Learning Experience:



Class Schedule

Course Calendar

This calendar is a general guide to what we will do and when we will do it. Please note that topics and dates may change because of speaker availability and our class discussion.

Changes will be announced in class and by Blackboard.

Because of the intensity and breadth of subject matter of this class, you are expected to study many of the materials independently of class time.

| Week | Date | Homework/Assignments/ Readings prior to each class day | Class Day Topic/Speaker |
|---------------|----------|---|---|
| Week 1 | Wed 8/23 | | Introductions Overview course & syllabus |
| | Fri 8/25 | Start reading Will Allen's <i>The Good Food Revolution</i> Start reading Chapter 1, College Expectations: Being a Critical Thinker | Attorney Speaker: Teresa Messer |
| Week 2 | Mon 8/28 | Journal No. 1 due in class | Attorney Speaker: Kristen Vander-Plas |
| | Wed 8/30 | MBTI / SII assessments begin | Speaker from SAM Center |
| | Fri 9/1 | | Attorney Speaker: Chris Combs |
| Week 3 | Mon 9/04 | | No class; Labor Day Holiday |
| | Wed 9/06 | | Attorney Speaker: Scott Kimpel |
| | Fri 9/08 | Quiz over Chapter 1 (delivered by Blackboard) | |

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| Week 4 | Mon 9/11 | Start reading Chapter 2, Skills you Need: Memory, Note Taking, and Studying Techniques | |
| | Wed 9/13 | MBTI / SII assessments due | |
| | Fri 9/15 | | Attorney Speaker: Michael Foreman |
| Week 5 | Mon 9/18 | | Attorney Speaker: Haley Greer |
| | Wed 9/20 | | MBTI presentation/assessment with Carol Adams-Shearer |
| | Fri 9/22 | Quiz over Chapter 2 (delivered by Blackboard) | Attorney Speaker: Andrea James |
| Week 6 | Mon 9/25 | Start reading Chapter 3: Setting Effective Goals and Making the Most of Your Time | |
| | Wed 9/27 | | Academic issues with Megan St. Vigne from the SAM Center |
| | Fri 9/29 | Finish reading Will Allen's <i>The Good Food Revolution</i> | SII presentation/assessment with Carol Adams-Shearer |
| Week 7 | Mon 10/2 | | |

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| | Wed 10/4 | | |
| | Fri 10/06 | Quiz over Chapter 3 (delivered by Blackboard) | |
| Week 8 | Mon 10/9 | Start reading Chapter 4: Papers, Presentations, and Tests | |
| | Wed 10/11 | | |
| | Fri 10/13 | | Attorney Speaker: Brytne Kitchen |
| Week 9 | Mon 10/16 | | |
| | Wed 10/18 | Quiz over Chapter 4 (delivered by Blackboard) | |
| | Fri 10/20 | Start reading Chapter 5: Motivation, Resilience, and Stress Management | Attorney Speaker: Nickolas Spencer |
| Week 10 | Mon 10/23 | | |
| | Wed 10/25 | | |
| | Fri 10/27 | | Attorney Speaker: Stacy Saxon |
| Week 11 | Mon 10/30 | | |
| | Wed 11/01 | Quiz over Chapter 5 (delivered by Blackboard) | |
| | Fri 11/03 | Start reading Chapter 6: How are you Doing? Maximizing Learning & Self-Reflection | Attorney Speaker: Raychel Johnson |

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|----------------|-----------|--|---|
| | Nov 6-9 | Authors Forum-<i>The Good Food Revolution</i> LSC Ballroom or LSC 320 www.shsu.edu/fye-events www.shsu.edu/fye-contests | Thursday, November 9 Keynote and Book Signing by Will Allen from 2 to 4 p.m. |
| Week 12 | Mon 11/6 | | |
| | Wed 11/8 | Attend Common Reader Events | Attorney Erich Birch, LSC 320 11:00 – 11:50 am |
| | Fri 11/10 | | |
| Week 13 | Mon 11/13 | | |
| | Wed 11/15 | Quiz over Chapter 6 (delivered by Blackboard) | |
| | Fri 11/17 | Journal No. 2 due in class. | |
| Week 14 | Mon 11/20 | Reflection Paper due in class. Start reading Chapter 7: Making Good Academic, Career and Financial Decisions | |
| | Wed 11/22 | No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday | |
| | Fri 24 | No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday | |
| Week 15 | Mon 11/27 | | |
| | Wed 11/29 | | |

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|--|--------------|---|--|
| | Fri 12/01 | <p>Quiz over Chapter 7 (delivered by Blackboard)</p> <p>Last Class Day</p> | |
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APPENDIX A

Required Online MBTI and SII Student Assessments:

Completion Due Date: September 13, 2017

SHSU Career Services will administer the online platform for the career assessments: the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and the Newly Revised Strong Interest Inventory (SII).

Each student will be emailed a link to register themselves and take the assessments by the assigned completion due date deadline. Both online assessments must be taken before the deadline to receive credit for the assignment.

When registering, you will not need to enter a personal ID, but you will need to complete demographic information as the site requests.

Please remember that there are no right or wrong answers. Try not to overthink your responses on the assessments and try to respond naturally.

Your results will be given to you via a class presentation found scheduled on your syllabus.



shsu.edu/careerservices | 936.294.1713 | jobsforkats.com

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