



**HONR 3322.01**

**Wednesday 4-6:50pm**

**Lee Drain 213**

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### **Course Description**

Our goal with the Journeys seminar is to explore the characteristics that lead to happiness and success. We hope to accomplish this by bringing you nine or ten of the most innovative and successful members of Sam Houston State community to give one lecture each. Each speaker will have an entire class and can use the period however they feel is best. We have chosen speakers from a variety of disciplines, from dance to science, with a focus on people who have overcome great odds, accomplished something interesting or surprising, been awarded some honor or recognition from their field or the university, or who just have an interesting journey to share. Speakers range from administrators to professors, from new faculty to those who have served the campus for decades, and come from a diversity of backgrounds.

## Assignments

*Journals:* An online journal has been set up in Blackboard. No hard copies are needed or accepted. Entries in the journal should recap what each speaker talked about as well as encompass your thoughts and feelings about the presentation. Explain what specifically you took away from each speaker that you may be able to use in your own life. There will be a total of 10 graded journal entries, beginning with the Pausch video on Feb 7. These entries will collectively count for **35%** of your final course grade. **Each entry is worth 10 points, so a perfect score on Journal one will show up as 10/100 as there are a possible 100 journal points in the semester.**

- 1) Each entry should be at least **400 words**.
- 2) These entries must be completed **prior to the following seminar** (within 1 week). **No late work is taken.**
- 3) Do not include lists in your entries, even if the speaker uses them.
- 4) Do not just use raw notes but make sure to edit and smooth your entries.
- 5) **The title of each entry should follow the following format:** Last name of speaker, word count, date of journal entry (not date the speaker presented but when you uploaded the entry; e.g. 'Noble 425 Feb 14').
- 6) **Paste in your entries rather than upload files.**
- 7) Make sure you do not just summarize the presentation. To get full credit you must explain what you took away from each seminar. Your personal thoughts on the seminar and how you can use it should make up about one quarter of your entry. Once submitted you may not change your entry.

*Writing assignments:* There will be three short writing assignments this semester. All writing assignments should be double spaced. Citations should follow the common style for your discipline. **No late work is accepted.** As with journal entries, include the word count and date submitted, but this time with your own last name in the title (for example, Lewis 812 Feb 28). All assignments will be turned in via turnitin on Blackboard. These papers will count as **30%** of your overall course grade (10% each).

**FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS:** Make sure what you submit is what you want to be graded. Once it is submitted you may not change or resubmit any assignments. Double-check everything!

- 1) What does a successful life mean to you and what are the elements of a successful life? Write an **800 word** summary of what you consider to be a successful life. Turn in by **September 13, 4pm.**
- 2) Time management is an important part of success, particularly for students. Watch the Randy Pausch lecture 'Time Management'. Write an **800 word** review of the video, reviewing the content and in particular identifying how you might incorporate some of the information. Turn in by **October 11, 4pm.** The video is found at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=blak\\_tB\\_KQA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blak_tB_KQA)
- 3) While *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery can be considered a children's book, it has a lot of wisdom in it about life and is one of the bestselling books ever. It is a short book and can be read in a couple of hours. This book can be found free online (see link below). Please read it and write an **800 word** review about the major messages of the book, not just a review or summary of it, as you see them. Turn this in by **November 15, 4pm.**  
[http://download.bioon.com.cn/upload/201111/21084046\\_8501.pdf](http://download.bioon.com.cn/upload/201111/21084046_8501.pdf)

**Participation: You must be present for each of the seminars and student presentations and remain for the full class period. Do not schedule other activities prior to the official end of this class, 6:50 pm.**

Only official excuses from the university will be accepted. An unexcused absence will result in a 6% deduction from your course grade. You are expected to stay for the duration of each seminar, until the class is excused. **A 5 page essay is the makeup assignment for any absence excused prior to the class, the topic chosen by the instructor.**

Each student is expected to ask at least four questions of speakers over the course of the semester. Waiting until the last couple of speakers is a poor strategy, as you may run out of time. We won't make our last speaker answer 50 questions, for example! Make sure you keep up with this.

**Please keep all electronics, including phones, away.**

Participation will count as **10%** of your final course grade.

*Hosting:* Students will be placed into groups. Each group will be assigned one speaker to host. You will help the speaker get set up, help them load Powepoints or whatever media they need, and introduce the speaker (an example will be demonstrated for you, so you know what to do). The last host will get videos downloaded for each recognized video ahead of class, and introduce each video briefly. Hosting will count as **10%** of your final grade.

- 1) Contact the host **no later than 2 weeks before they are to speak** (cc Dr. Lewis or email me if you contact them by phone).
- 2) **Physically meet with the speaker** and talk to them to get information for your introduction. If your speaker does not work at SHSU set up a phone conversation.
- 3) Make sure to find out what they need (pointers, bottle of water, etc.).
- 4) **Be sure to dress appropriately** (business casual: For men: trousers/khakis and a shirt with a collar. For women: trousers/knee-length skirt and a blouse or shirt with a collar. No jeans. No athletic wear. No flip flops.). You are representing SHSU and the Honors College. If the talk is outside the classroom the dress code is relaxed so you may dress for the activity (yoga, hiking, etc.)
- 5) Get a thank you card for your speaker and have everyone in the class sign it, then get it to your speaker within 1 week of their presentation. Email me an image of it once signed.
- 6) In the intro address: academic background, past and current jobs, honors and awards, notable papers/books, business or athletic achievements, where they are from, family, interests, etc.
- 7) Hosts will also take attendance. A roster will be posted on Blackboard for you to print and pass around. After class, take a picture of it and email it Dr. Lewis.

*Presentation:* Each student will prepare a 10-minute presentation over their own journey to present to the class during the last week of class. Students will have a lot of flexibility in how and what they present. You may choose to use PowerPoints or other media but it is not required. Show us something of who you are and avoid the temptation to just show us your parents and siblings, high school friends, your pets, vacations and church, the sport you did, your college friends, etc. Dig a little deeper and share with the class some bit of who you are. While faith is important to many students this presentation should not be used as a platform to proselytize or promote a particular faith. Practice your presentation to stay within 10 min. Avoid saying 'like', 'um', 'you know', 'awesome', and other filler words and phrases. This presentation will count for **10%** of the final course grade. **Attendance is still mandatory for all students — do not schedule conflicts on days when students are presenting.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
23-Aug		Syllabus, Intro			
30-Aug		Patrick Lewis	Anatomy	pjl001, 4-1406	
6-Sep	video	Randy Pausch			
13-Sep	1	David Yebra	Leadership	david.yebra, 4-2474	1, 2
20-Sep	2	Andy Noble	Dance	amn008, 4-3525	3, 4
27-Sep	3	Hannah Gerber	Language	hrg004, 4-3864	5, 6
4-Oct	4	Chad Hargrave	Ecology	cwhargrave, 4-1538	7, 8
11-Oct		<b>Midterm, no class</b>			
18-Oct	5	Ava Fujimoto-Strait	Geography	axf011, 4-2355	9, 10
25-Oct	6	Jerry Cook	Research	bio_jlc, 4-1401	11, 12
1-Nov	7	Marty Reeder	Kung fu sensei	reederkungfu@gmail.com	13, 14
8-Nov	8	Walt Lewis	Education	Contact Dr. Lewis	15, 16
15-Nov	9	Joan Bytheway	CJ/STAFS	jab039, 4-4814	17, 19
22-Nov		<b>T-day, no class</b>			
29-Nov		<b>Student Pres.</b>			20
6-Dec		<b>Student Pres.</b>			21

We will not meet during midterm week so you can focus on other classes.

## Host/Presentation Schedule

First Name	Last Name	Host Number	Presentation Date
Aileen	Argueta	1	29 Nov
Aaliyah	Bullock	2	29 Nov
Dorie	Chen	3	29 Nov
Audrey	Crase	4	29 Nov
Sabrina	Ernst	5	29 Nov
Dorothea	Hudson	6	29 Nov
Erick	Johnson	7	29 Nov
Kody	Kitchen	8	29 Nov
Ashley	Kramer	9	29 Nov
Joshua	McGinty	10	6 Dec
Alexis	Meyer	11	6 Dec
Jazmin	Palacios	12	6 Dec
Shyla	Porter	13	6 Dec
Haley	Ridley	14	6 Dec
Courtney	Rosenbalm	15	6 Dec
Hamza	Uddin	16	6 Dec
Eliza	Vu	17	6 Dec
Kyle	Weeks	18	6 Dec
Brittany	Widacki	19	6 Dec

## Course Information

**Academic Dishonesty:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. **Cellular telephones, Ipads, laptops or similar electronics must be turned off and put away before class.** Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Visitors are welcome, but please inform the instructor if you have a visitor with you. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program of activity. Disabled students may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling (936) 264-1720. Students who have disabilities that may prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure the students educational opportunity. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

**Religious Holidays:** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Attendance Sheet, to be emailed to Dr. Lewis after each class by hosts

Date:			
		Present	Questions Asked
Aileen	Argueta		
Aaliyah	Bullock		
Dorie	Chen		
Audrey	Crase		
Sabrina	Ernst		
Dorothea	Hudson		
Erick	Johnson		
Kody	Kitchen		
Ashley	Kramer		
Joshua	McGinty		
Alexis	Meyer		
Jazmin	Palacios		
Shyla	Porter		
Haley	Ridley		
Courtney	Rosenbalm		
Hamza	Uddin		
Eliza	Vu		
Kyle	Weeks		
Brittany	Widacki		

Please rate your **TOP 5 seminars**, with number **1 being your favorite**, 2 your second favorite, and so on. If you would like to leave a comment about what you liked or didn't like about a seminar, please do. This information will be used to shape future seminar series so your help is appreciated. Typically the top 5 seminars are asked to present again. Next spring's class thanks you for your help!

This is anonymous.

		Rank	Comment
Seminar 1	David Yebra		
Seminar 2	Andy Noble		
Seminar 3	Hannah Gerber		
Seminar 4	Chad Hargrave		
Seminar 5	Ava Fujimoto-Strait		
Seminar 6	Jerry Cook		
Seminar 7	Marty Reeder		
Seminar 8	Walt Lewis		
Seminar 9	Joan Bytheway		