GENST 106: College Success Syllabus

Welcome to College Success!
I’m looking forward to spending an exciting and fun quarter with you as we explore how to
make the most of your college experience

General Info

Lecture:   Mon, Wed, Fri: 10.30 – 11.30 am in 2-215 (Upstairs in Library)
Instructor:  Åsa Bradley
Phone:   (509) 533 3837 (I’m not good at checking messages, email is a better way to reach me.)
Email:  AsaB@spokanefalls.edu (best mode of contact)
Online Syllabus:  http://faculty.spokanefalls.edu/AutoWebs/default.asp?id=2519
Office:  18-108 (In math & science building by big pendulum)
Office hours:  Mon: 9.00 – 9.30 am & 12.30 – 1.00 pm
            Tue: 10.30 – 11.30 am & 12.30 – 1.00 pm
            Wed: 9.00 – 9.30 am & 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
            Fri: 9.00 – 9.30 am
If you see me somewhere outside of office hours, you are always welcome to speak with me, or we can schedule an
appointment that fits your schedule. Also, you are welcome to come and see me when I teach any labs.

Required Materials

The following materials are required for the course:

* Text Book: Becoming a Master Student – 11th edition by Dave Ellis, ISBN 061846770X
  You can purchase the text book from the SFCC bookstore or any online book provider. A good place on the web to use
to compare different book prices is http://www.bestbookdeal.com/
* 3-ring binder with dividers that can be labeled (at least 8 dividers)
* Notebook paper (clean edge, not the kind that “ruffles” when you tear it out of your notebook)
* Writing implements (pen or pencil)
* Simple calculator

Course Goals and Objectives

According to the SFCC catalogue: “this course provides an opportunity for students to learn about services and strategies to
help them become successful college students. The overall goal is to increase the likelihood that the students’ year(s) at
SFCC is successful, both academically and socially. It is designed for entering students and other students interested in
becoming more effective college students.” That said, I’ll also add that the course is really all about you and what you want to
turn it into. As your instructor, I am here to guide and facilitate, but you and your classmates are really the ones who create
the course and determine its outcome. If we succeed in making this the ultimate learning experience it can be, this course
will help you:

* Develop a connection to your college by learning about resources available to you
* Set realistic goals and develop useful skills for both academic and personal success
* Budget and manage time, money, and credit
* Examine critical thinking and academic honesty
* Explore different teaching and learning styles
* Improve your study, test taking, and communication skills
* Examine healthy living and relationship strategies
* Explore college and career information

Attendance

As I said before, this class is all about you. If you are not in class, then the rest of the students and I will not benefit from your
expertise and insights, just like you will not benefit from ours. You need to be in class, you need to be prepared for class, and
you need to participate in class. You are allowed two absences during the quarter without questions. After that, I will deduct
5 points from your total per absence, regardless of the reason. Coming late to class more than twice, costs you 2 points per
tardy.
Assignments

This class is a little different than other classes in that we don’t have any tests or final exams. Instead, you are graded on how much effort you put into and the completeness of the assignments below. You also have a final project that you will work on with 2 or 3 of your fellow classmates and present during finals week. You’ll be given a detailed calendar in a separate document that includes the due dates for each assignment.

* **Resource Notebook** – this is what the 3-ring binder is for. You are required to keep a notebook about the material covered in this class, including chapter exercises and journal assignments, fieldtrip write-ups, guest lecture summaries, etc. The notebook is checked for progress and completeness three times during the quarter. You’ll be given a handout in class with more details about how to organize your notebook and how I evaluate it at each check. The notebook is worth 50 points of your total grade.

* **Textbook Assignments** – your text book includes several exercises, journal assignments, and Learning Style Inventory (LSI) exercises that are current to what we are reading and discussing in class. You are expected to read the chapters and complete these assignments before coming to class. Without doing so, you will not be able to actively participate in the class activities and discussions. The assignments can be done directly in your textbook or as part of your resource notebook. I will check for completeness when I check your notebook. Not having done the assignments affect your notebook grade. Also, if you are not actively participating in class discussions, and/or do not know the answer to a question when called on in class, I will assume that you are not keeping up with the textbook assignments and your grade will reflect this. Participation in class is worth a total of 100 points.

* **Campus Events** – you are required to attend two campus events during this quarter. They can include, but are not limited to concerts, plays, sporting events, club meetings, cultural or social events. After you attend the event, you write up a summary that includes:
  - what the function was
  - when it was held
  - a short summary of what you saw (not a review or critique of it)
  - your reaction to the event
  - why or why not you would attend another of or similar to this event

Each event summary is worth 50 points. Due dates are listed in the calendar.

* **Field Trips/Guest Speakers** – throughout the quarter we will visit several of the resources available on the SFCC campus and also have guest speakers come and talk to us about what they and their departments have to offer. For each of these events, you will be given a handout with activities to complete or questions to answer. I have chosen four of these. During the first week of class, you and your classmates will determine another three. Each event handout is worth 30 points for a total of 210 points of your grade.

* **Mentor Interview** – you will conduct an interview of a staff member or instructor of SFCC. This person should be someone that you feel can help guide you during your time here. Late on in the quarter, I will give you some guidelines as to how to conduct the interview and write it up. You should start thinking about whom you’d like to interview. This assignment is worth 50 points of your total grade.

* **Final Presentation** – we don’t have a final in this class. Instead, you will work in a small group on a final presentation to be presented during the final exam time period for 10-15 minutes. Details about this project will be given out later in the quarter. You will be given class time to work on your project, but must also meet outside of class at least once. This project is worth 200 points of your total grade.

If for any reason, these assignments are hard for you to complete, come and see me to talk about it (allow plenty of time before due date for our conversation). Don’t just not do the assignment, that will hurt your grade.

Late Work

Assignments are due at the time of class on the day they are listed in the calendar. Turning in work late is not fair to the other students who turned their assignment in on time. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the assignment to me on the day it is due. Should this be after the regularly scheduled class but on the correct day, 15% is automatically deducted from the grade you would have gotten had it been on time. No work is accepted after its due day. If an emergency arises, contact me as soon as possible to make arrangements. Do not wait until you see me in class again, then the assignment will not be accepted.
Grading Policy

Use the following table to keep track of your assignment grades and work towards the grade you choose to get in this class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Your Points</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resource Notebook</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Class</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 1:</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 2:</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trips/Guest Speakers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 1:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 2:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 3:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event 4:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event 5:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event 6:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event 7:</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentor Interview</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minus points for absences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Credit points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td></td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your % Grade = \[rac{\text{Your Total Points}}{710}\] * 100% = ___________

Your grade will be determined according to the percentage you achieve of the total according to the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 95</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 90 but &lt; 95</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 85 but &lt; 90</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 80 but &lt; 85</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 75 but &lt; 80</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 70 but &lt; 75</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 65 but &lt; 70</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 60 but &lt; 65</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 55 but &lt; 60</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 50 but &lt; 55</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 50</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I reserve the right to consider factors such as attendance, exceptional participation, extraordinary work, cheating, etc. to determine the final grade. Depending on these factors, your grade may be different than the distribution described in the table above.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will be available at different opportunities throughout the quarter and will be announced in class. Your first opportunity starts right now. Available at different places on campus are a calendar of campus events. Some of these events may be suitable for your campus event activity. Pick a calendar up and bring it to class during the first week of the quarter and you have already earned 5 extra credit points. If I have to supply you with a calendar, you’ll miss out on those points.
Study Tips

You are responsible for your own learning. I am here to help you along the way and for you to use as a resource, but ultimately, it is your responsibility to learn the material required. The following tips may help you do so:

* Keep up with reading assignments, exercises, and journals. Make sure you come well prepared to class by having them done.
* Attend every class and come on time. You are very important to this class. Without your presence, you and your class mates and I will miss out on this learning experience being all that it can be.
* Make connections with your fellow classmates. Form study groups, exchange phone numbers or emails, this way you’ll have several resources to use should you have to miss class or have questions on an assignment.
* If anything is unclear, ask questions during class discussion or come and see me. It is better to clear up things as early as possible, since some of the concepts later on build on the concepts we discuss in the beginning of the quarter.
* If at any point you feel frustrated or overwhelmed, come and see me! My job is to make sure that this class is enjoyable and interesting. It should not be a struggle or a source of frustration. It should be fun!

Academic Integrity and Conduct

You are expected to behave with integrity during lecture and any other activities involved in this class. Please respect everyone in the class room. Turn off your mobile phone or keep it on vibrating during class. If you absolutely have to take a call, please step outside the room before starting your conversation.

Dishonesty and cheating will not be tolerated during this course. It is unfair to your fellow classmates and the college community at large. While cooperative efforts on homework and other assignments are encouraged, straight copying or plagiarism is not tolerated. You have to do your own work. You may want to read the student Conduct Code and Rules of Enforcement.

Depending on the magnitude of the offence, expulsion from SFCC, expulsion from class, or loss of grade are likely consequences. It is often hard to tell the person that is cheating from the person enabling the cheating. If you allow someone to copy your answers, it is very likely that you yourself will also be included in any resulting disciplinary action.

Emergency and Safety Procedures

Should an emergency occur, stay calm and collected during the evacuation process. I know this is easier said than done. Nevertheless, try to judge the severity of the emergency and decide whether to bring your belongings with you. You may not be allowed back into the classroom for some time. More information will be given in class as to where we should go during an evacuation procedure.

If you have a health condition or disability, which may require accommodations in order to effectively participate in this class, please contact me after class or contact Disability Support Services in Building 17-201, phone 555-4166. Information about disability will be regarded as confidential.