**Course Information**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

First Year Florida is a course designed to aid students in a successful transition to the University of Florida. This course aims to help students develop the practical, social, emotional, and intellectual skills that are essential to a fulfilling four years at UF, provide a foundation for a well-rounded college experience, connect students to the University of Florida, promote engagement within and outside the classroom, and communicate university expectations.

**LEADERSHIP MODEL**

At the University of Florida, we value true leadership. The UF Leadership Model demonstrates the leadership can be identified in many ways on campus. More information can be found at [http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/leadership.html](http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/leadership.html)

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

First Year Florida educates new students to maximize their learning and development by creating environments which provide opportunities for:

- Connect with faculty, staff, and peers at the University of Florida.
- Identify university resources and services that contribute to their personal and educational goals.
- Recognize the purpose of reflection, critical thinking, and enriching educational opportunities within and outside the classroom.
- Evaluate the effects of personal well-being on student success and engagement.
- Recognize the academic, conduct, and citizenship expectations of the University of Florida.
- Develop an awareness and respect for being a part of a diverse global community.

This course also connects students to key resources at the University of Florida: a faculty/staff member who is committed to first-year student success; an undergraduate peer leader who is experienced in the challenges of making a successful transition from high school to college; and other first-year students.

**Office Hours**

**Joe’s Hours:** By Appointment.
**Claudia’s Hours:** By Appointment.

Joe Uong
[josephu@registrar.ufl.edu](mailto:josephu@registrar.ufl.edu) – 352-294-3024

Joe is a UF alumnus with a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology, two master’s degrees- one in management and another in international business. He is also a staff member at the Office of the University Registrar, tech enthusiast, avid Gator Football fan.

Claudia “SG” Stantzyk-Guzek
[cstantzyk0329@ufl.edu](mailto:cstantzyk0329@ufl.edu) – 813-482-1078

Claudia is a fourth-year Public Relations student from Valrico, Florida (kind-of-sort-of Tampa). Member of Preview Staff 2013, the Student Conduct Committee and co-ed a cappella group No Southern Accent. Huge fan of peanut M&M’s, corgis and Buzzfeed.
ACADEMIC HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

University of Florida Student Honor Code:

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

Pledge: On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. As a University of Florida student, one is expected to neither commit nor assist another in committing an academic honesty violation. Additionally, it is the student's duty to report observed academic honesty violations. Violations of the Honor Code and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Specifically, instructors will rigorously pursue incidents of plagiarism of any type or incidents of referring to any unauthorized material for any class requirement. Before submitting any work for this class, please read the policies about academic honesty at www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr, and ask the instructors to clarify any expectations you do not understand.

THE HONOR CODE

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

FOR INFORMATION VISIT: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/

Our Mindset for Class

1. Class will be fun. Students will look forward to the class and the assignments.
2. Everything will be useful and have a purpose. We promise not to assign any busy work.
3. Participation is required in order to receive an A in the class. You do not have to talk the most, but we expect active listeners and participants.
4. Mature and respectful behavior is expected. That goes both directions.
5. Side conversations, sleeping, and checking electronics are not appropriate.
6. We are here to help, but we expect you to check the syllabus and/or Sakai before asking us assignment/grade questions.

ADA Statement

The University of Florida provides high-quality services to students with disabilities, and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should 1) Register with and provide documentation to Disability Resources (352-392-8565), and 2) Bring a letter to the instructor from Disability Resources indicating that you need academic accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible, preferably within the first week of class.

Absences/Late Policy

The syllabus will be posted in Canvas, http://lss.at.ufl.edu. This is also where you will be submitting some of your assignments and can view assignment grades. Report any problems with the Website directly to Canvas Support Services. Your Instructors don’t control the technical aspects of the Website. PLEASE DO NOT SEND EMAIL to your instructors via this site, but rather email to the emails listed on page 1 of your syllabus.

Technology

There is no such thing as a “freebie” when it comes to absences or being late. If you miss class you will lose your participation points for that week. If you are late, you will lose 1 point, beginning on your 2nd tardy. Upon the 2nd unexcused absence, 2.5 points will be deducted from the final grade. Excused absences are as follows: University Sponsored Event and Religious Holidays with prior notice and documentation; Medical/Emotional/Family Emergencies with appropriate documentation and communication.
TEXTBOOKS

College Success Strategies
2015-2016 Edition, Author: Nist
Available at the UF Bookstore

Double Take
Author: Kevin Michael Connelly
Provided at Preview

UF F Book
Provided at Preview or via the Alumni Association

Strength’s Quest
Purchase the $10 code and take the assessment. Click on the hyperlink to purchase a code.
https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/Signin?workflow=y&returnUrl=46a6fPurchase%2FAddress%2F35357

OUT OF CLASS ATTENDANCE & ASSIGNMENTS

To supplement class discussion and engage you in opportunities at UF, attendance and participation will be required for some out-of-class activities. Excused absences for these activities will follow the same guidelines as listed on page 2. If you have any major conflicts you will need to give both instructors at least a 3-day advance notice.

Common Reading Program Events
You will be attending one of the CRP events. Information will be provided at a later date. Be sure to take your Gator1 to the event as you will need to have it swiped to record attendance. You will also be asked to complete a one-page reaction paper to presentation. For a listing of all of the events, please visit www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/crp/events-crp/.

Workshop Success Series
You will need to attend one workshop of your choice on your own time. For a listing of workshops and to register online visit www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/wss to secure a spot in the workshop. You must register for the workshop in order to attend. If your plans change and you will no longer attend the workshop, please return to the site to “unregister”; this will provide an open seat to someone else. Workshops fill up so sign up early! Your attendance will be documented by means of a survey after the workshop. You may get a handout and take a picture of yourself at the workshop for your photo portfolio.

Discover Gainesville Project
At the beginning of the semester, you will be partnered with 2-5 classmates to participate in this project. Each week, one group will receive the class mascot. Each group is responsible for choosing an option for both of the following:

1. A Gainesville landmark, restaurant or other attraction beyond the borders of the UF Campus to visit, that everyone else should know about (check with your instructor for exceptions).
2. A Location on campus that everyone should know about.

There are many options on campus, within walking distance of the campus, or are accessible via the RTS Bus System.

You will receive 6 total points for this project for taking at least 3 pictures at each of your sites. One picture from each location must include all partners and the mascot. Each group will have 5 minutes at the beginning of every class to present their sites and pictures to everyone else. Make sure you bring the mascot with you back to class, so that it can be passed on to the next group. Please make sure you are prepared for this at the beginning of the class period.

Faculty Interview
You will interview one of your faculty members (not at TA) that you have had this semester and/or instructs in the college that your major is in. You should give this faculty member plenty of notice prior to interviewing them, and don’t forget to thank them when you are done! Also, please be prepared with at least 3 of the following questions:

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information about First Year Florida, including information on how to become a Peer Leader please visit:
http://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/firstyearflorida/

The Chronicle of Higher Education
http://collegecompletion.chronicle.com/
CHECK THE LINK ABOVE TO SEE MORE STATS

Diversity Assignment
Part One is a reflection paper describing how you define diversity and an event, person, place or moment in your life that has shaped who you are today and your view of diversity. Part One is due by July 21. You will need to bring two copies of this with you on that day. One copy should have your name and one copy should be blank (no name). Part Two details will come in class on July 20th and that reflection paper will be due the following week on July 28.

59.4%
Of all UF Students graduate after 4 years.
–The Chronicle of Higher Education

84.5%
Of all UF Students graduate after 6 years.
–The Chronicle of Higher Education
Questions to consider for your interview (but feel free to add your own):

• How did you choose your particular field? Did you ever want to do anything else?
• What type of research do you do? What ways do you see yourself or colleagues being creative or innovative in their field?
• What ways have you seen students on this campus use their creativity to better UF or Gainesville?
• What were your greatest concerns when you were a freshman?
• How do you think the freshman experience has changed since you were a freshman?
• What skills do you think students must have in order to succeed in college?

Following the interview you will write a 2-page reflection about what you learned from your interview, what you got out of the experience, and how you might plan to interact with more faculty members. This reflection is not a transcription of your interview but a full 1-2 page paper (including responses), although you may refer to answers your faculty member gave in your reflection as needed. You will be evaluated on writing style and clarity as well as ability to adequately reflect on the interview experience.

Strengths Reflection Paper

After receiving your Strengths Report and discussing Strengths in detail in class, you will be required to write a 1-2 page paper on what you learned. Questions to answer could include (but are not limited to): what you think of your strengths, how you see your strengths on a daily basis, any strengths of your own you do not understand, etc. This paper will be due on Canvas by the start of class on July 14.

CampusClarity “Think About It” Module

The training is designed to prepare incoming college students for the challenges and responsibilities of college life and help students make healthy decisions and promote a positive campus culture. Students can complete the training by selecting the “Login to Training” button on the CampusClarity website (https://www.campusclarity.com). When prompted to do so, students should enter in their UF email address, click continue, and login using their GatorLink credentials. For additional information on CampusClarity and the “Think About It” module, please visit the Dean of Students Office website (http://dso.ufl.edu).

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/. Additionally, students enrolled in First Year Florida will be asked to complete a separate course evaluation for further information. This is a time for you to provide direct feedback on your Peer Leader and Instructor.

GRADING

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>185-200</td>
<td>(A); 179-184 (A-); 173-178 (B+); 166-172 (B); 159-165 (B-); 153-158.5 (C+); 145-152.5 (C); 139-144 (C-); 133-138.5 (D+); 125-132.5 (D); 119-124.5 (D-); 118.5 or below (E).</td>
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<td>A grade of Incomplete (I) will not be issued under any circumstance.</td>
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100 | In-class attendance and participation (20 pts. each class, excluding June 30th) |
20 | Photo Portfolio (due August 4) |
20 | Diversity assignment (10 pts. for part 1, due July 21 & 10 pts. for part 2, due July 28) |
12 | CRP/Featured Speaker Series – attend 1 (due August 4) |
10 | Getting to Know You Meeting (due August 4) |
10 | Discover Gainesville Project (rotating due dates) |
10 | Strengths Reflection Paper (due July 14) |
6 | Workshop Success Series – attend 1 (due August 4) |
6 | Faculty interview (due August 4) |
4 | CampusClarity “Think About It” Module Completion Certificate (due August 4) |
2 | Strengths Report (due July 7) |
200 | TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE |

Photo Portfolio

You will have a photo portfolio due on the final day of class, August 4. It will need to include a minimum of 8 photos documenting your first semester at UF. It can be created through any medium (PowerPoint, scrapbook, etc.) but you will have to present it to the class so be mindful.
**Extra Credit**
You can also earn 2 points extra credit by attending additional speaker series events or a university cultural event (performance at the Constans Theater or Phillips Center, attend more than the 1 assigned CRP event), and writing a reflection paper; or attending additional workshop success series program. You will also need to include some type of proof (i.e., event program, orange workshop slip, receipt, or picture) that you attended the event. A maximum of 4 extra credit points will be awarded.

**COURSE TOPIC OUTLINE**  
*Schedule is subject to change per advance notice from Instructors*

Assignments can be submitted on Canvas in the form of a file upload or a URL (if you just want to link directly to your Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.). All assignments can be submitted online.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Topic</th>
<th>Class Activity</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>June 30; Class 1 – Welcome, Introductions, Expectations, Course Objectives, Intro to UF</strong></td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Syllabus, UF Trivia, Now that You’re in College (HS vs. College) Assign Strengths Quest</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 7; Class 2 – Strengths and personality</strong></td>
<td>What are your Strengths? Strengths Activities Assign MBTI assessment</td>
<td>Strengths Report (Top 5) Due to Joe’s email by class time. Bring Strengths Report to class.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 14; Class 3 – Academic success and Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Learning Styles Inventory, Degree Audit, MBTI Assessment, Organization/Study Skills Field Trip to the Registrar’s Office Assign Diversity Part 1</td>
<td>Strengths Reflection Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 21; Class 4 – Culture and Diversity (Part 1)</strong></td>
<td>Privilege Walk, Diversity Discussion Assign Diversity Part 2 and Resume</td>
<td>Diversity Part 1 due by start of class on Canvas and in-person. Submit one copy on Canvas and print one to bring to class.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 28; Class 5 – Culture and Diversity (Part 2) and Professional Success</strong></td>
<td>Finances, Jobs/Resume, Resume Peer Evaluation Presentation from the Career Resource Center Mock Interview</td>
<td>Diversity Part 2 due by start of class on Canvas and in-person. Submit one copy on Canvas and print one to bring to class. Resume due by start of class. Submit one copy on Canvas and print one to bring to class.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 4; Class 6 – Photo Portfolios &amp; Potluck</strong></td>
<td>Photo Portfolios, Identity (Values- What Makes You Tick?), TED Talks, Bucket Lists Moving forward: the rest of your freshman year.</td>
<td>Photo Portfolio due</td>
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The following can be turned in at any point before this date:
- Faculty Interview Assignment
- Completion Certificate
- CampusClarity Completion Certificate
- Proof of attendance at Workshop Success Series
- Extra credit reaction papers
- Getting to Know You Meeting