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.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: First Year Florida educates new students to maximize their learning and development. As a result of take this course, students will:

- 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.

Office Hours

J. Wayne Reitz Union, CRC 128
M 10-11AM; R 3-4PM or by appointment

Joshua Wilson
joshw@union.ufl.edu
352-273-0535
I’ve been working in student activities and programs since I was a student. I’ve originally from Birmingham, AL and lived in Indiana for three years before I made my way to Gainesville to become a Gator.

Jennifer Garrido
jgarrido@ufl.edu
I am a fourth-year undergraduate student majoring in Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. I was born in Venezuela but have lived in Melbourne, FL my whole life. I plan to pursue a Master’s degree and become an elementary school teacher in the near future!
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."

THE HONOR CODE
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/sc, and ask the instructors to clarify any expectations you do not understand.

WANT TO BE A PEER LEADER?

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/
ADA INFORMATION
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 UF’s Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565)
2) Bring a letter to the instructor the Disability Resource Center indicating that you need academic accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible, preferably within the first week of class.

GATOR LOVE
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 Canvas before asking us assignment/grade questions.

ABSENCE/ LATE POLICY
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 points based on how late you are to class. 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 (NIST)
  Available at the UF Bookstore
- Double Take: A Memoir
  Author: Kevin Michael Connolly
  Provided at Preview
- UF F Book
  Provided at Preview or via the Alumni Association
TECHNOLOGY

This class will utilize Canvas for assignment submissions in conjunction with in paper assignments. For every assignment submitted in this class, you will need to submit it via Canvas and bring a printed copy to class.

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.

SCHEDULE AND COURSE TOPIC OUTLINE

*Schedule is subject to change per advance notice from Instructors*

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 missing a class. All assignments will be due on Wednesdays by midnight via Canvas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Topic</th>
<th>Class Topics</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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</table>
| 7/1/15     | **Welcome to UF!**  
- Icebreakers;  
- Team Building;  
- High School vs. College Expectations;  
- Academic Tips | **Read:**  
p. 29-36 (NIST)  
Ch. 3 Learning Styles;  
p. 63-70 (NIST)  
Ch. 6 Goals/Academic Attitude  
**Faculty Member Need to Know due 7/8 @ 11:59pm** |
| 7/8/15     |  
- Academic Success/Learning Styles  
- UF Traditions & the F Book | **Read:**  
p. 89-103 (NIST)  
Ch. 8 Cultural Intelligence  
**GatorMania: July 11 (E/C)**  
**Diversity & You Discussion; Diversity Proposal due 7/15 @ 11:59pm** |
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<th>Date/Topic</th>
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<th>Assignment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 7/15/15    | • Diversity and Promoting a Culture of Acceptance  
• CRP Book Discussion  
• Pre-Service Reflection | **Read:** Career Decision Making:  
p. 227-238 (NIST)  
Resume, Networking, Communication, Interviews  
**Service Learning Project**  
Saturday, July 18 |
| 7/22/15    | • Post-Service Reflection  
• Resumes; Social Media  
• Career Resource Center Presentation  
• Involvement Panel | **Read:**  
p. 217-219 (NIST)  
Advising  
p. 111, 115-118  
Health/Stress Management  
**CRP Film Screening**  
Tonight, 7/22  
**CRP Reaction Papers (2)**  
due 7/29 @ 11:59pm |
| 7/29/15    | • Advising:  
• Student and Faculty Perspectives  
• Health & Wellness at UF | **Diversity Presentation;**  
**Faculty Interview**  
• due 8/5 @ 11:59pm |
| 8/5/15     | • Students’ Choice of Topic  
• Diversity Presentations | Congratulations!  
You’ve completed your first semester at UF!  
Go Gators! |

**GRADING AND POINTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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**Point Breakdown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignment Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Diversity Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>In Class Attendance (2 pts per class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Common Reading Program Attendance (2 events)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Common Reading Program Reactions (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Involvement Concept maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Diversity Assignment Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Faculty Interview Reflection Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Diversity and You (Online Discussion)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Service Learning Reflection</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Personal Bios</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1:1 Meeting with Instructor/ Peer Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>GatorMania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**100 Total Points Possible**

**ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

Diversity Assignments:

- **Diversity and You:** Students will participate in discussion online regarding their personal perspective on diversity as part of the challenge associated in their Nist Textbooks.
- **Diversity Cultural Immersion:** Students will propose immersion experiences outside of their own cultural demographics. This assignment will also include a reaction paper and presentation about their experience.

Common Reading Program (CRP) Events

- Our class will be attending two CRP events this summer. For a listing of all of the summer events, please visit [www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/crp/events-crp/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/crp/events-crp/). If there are conflicts please communicate that information to your co-instructors as soon as possible. There is one alternative CRP date.
- Also due with the common reading program experience will be reaction papers. Please see due dates in the schedule and course outline.

Service Learning Project

- Our class will be volunteering on Saturday, July 18, 2015, Time TBD. In the event of an unavoidable conflict, if you are not able to attend our service learning project you have the option to attend with another class on a different day. It is your responsibility to contact the other instructor and receive approval for you to attend with their class. If you are participating in another volunteer experience you cannot use that to “double count” for FYF.
- The second part of this project will include a post reflection about your service experience to be submitted via Canvas.

Involvement Concept maps
- This project will help students identify possible areas of involvement throughout their time at UF. Must research various sectors of involvement as well as contact information for interested groups.

Faculty Interview
- Part 1: Students will research three faculty need to know members of their academic field of interest here at the University. This activity is to help students identify faculty members that may influence their college experience.
- Part 2: Students will choose one of their three researched faculty members to interview to learn more about their faculty expertise.