Tuesday and Thursdays, Period 4 (12:30pm-1:45pm)
Keene-Flint Hall (FLI), Room 121

**Instructor**
Michele Peterson
Assistant Director for Student Success in the Dean of Students Office
Email: MicheleP@dso.ufl.edu
Phone: 352.392.1261
Office: 202 Peabody Hall
Office Hours: By Appointment

**Peer Leader**
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Email: ncruz1227@ufl.edu
Phone: 407.406.4235
Office Hours: By Appointment

*Instructor and Peer Leader reserve the right to amend this syllabus. Any addition, change, or deletion is effective immediately.*
**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

**Course 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.

**Texts**
UF F Book (Provided at Preview or via the Alumni Association)
**Respect and Understanding**

Everyone in this course deserves to be treated with the utmost respect. Throughout our class discussions and activities you will be expected to be respectful of one another and of the presenters. Throughout the semester we will be discussing some challenging issues, and it is essential that you remain open-minded and respectful. We encourage everyone to share their opinions and beliefs, but students must not express those in a way that may be offensive or disparaging to others.

**Technology**

This class will utilize Canvas for assignment submissions in conjunction with in paper assignments. **All assignments need to be uploaded to Canvas prior to the start of class on the due date.** Late assignments will be accepted for half credit up to three days past the due date. As noted on the syllabus, some assignments will also require you to bring a hard copy to class.

You can log-on to the course by clicking on the Canvas link at https://lss.at.ufl.edu

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**Participation**

As college students, you will be treated and respected as an adult. You are encouraged to share your ideas and express your opinions in class and you will be expected to respect other’s opinions and values as well. You are expected to do your best work, meet assignment deadlines, and treat other members of the class and the University with courtesy and respect. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Cell phones must be off or on silent before entering the classroom. **You are expected to participate in class and will receive participation points for each class based on your participation (120 points total for the course). If you miss a class, you will not receive participation points for that day.**

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to be in class. Students will be counted tardy 5 minutes after the start of class. Two tardy’s will equal one absence. Attendance is an integral to your success in this class. If you are not in class, you will not receive participation points for that day. If a student misses more than 3 class periods (without proper documented excuse for an excused absence), the student will fail the course. Excused absences include: University Sponsored events, Religious Holidays with prior notice, Medical/Emotional/Family Emergencies with appropriate documentation.

**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.
**Academic Honor System**

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.

**Pledge:** On all work submitted for credit by students of 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."

Please note that violations of the Academic Honor System will not be tolerated. Before submitting any work for this class, please read the policies about academic honesty at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honestybrochure.htm, and ask the instructor to clarify any of its expectations that you do not understand.

**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 the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565), and 2) Bring a letter to the instructor from this office indicating that you need academic accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible, preferably within the first week of class.

**Alcohol Education**

Beginning Summer B 2015, all new students to UF must complete the “Think About It” online training module, which is designed and distributed by CampusClarity (a service of Lawroom). 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](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 ([www.dso.ufl.edu](http://www.dso.ufl.edu)).

If you complete this during our course and provide documentation of completion (upload in Canvas), you will receive 5 extra credit points.

**Grading**

This course adheres to the UF Grading policy for assigning grade points. For more information please visit: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx). Below is the course grading scale:

- 94-100 (A);
- 90-93 (A-);
- 87-89 (B+);
- 83-86 (B);
- 80-82 (B-);
- 77-79 (C+);
- 73-76 (C);
- 70-72 (C-);
- 67-69 (D+);
- 63-66 (D);
- 60-62 (D-);
- 59 or below (E)
## Assignments Points and Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1- Autobiography Post</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 2- Time Management Map</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 7</td>
</tr>
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<td>Assignment 3- Strengths Quest</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments 4- Involvement</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 14</td>
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<td>Assignment 5- Budget</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 21</td>
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<td>Assignment 6- Resume</td>
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<td>July 30</td>
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<td>Assignment 7- Academic Advisor Reflection</td>
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<td>August 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Posts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Resources</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>July 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honor and Conduct Code</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>July 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellness</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>July 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immersion Project</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>July 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action Plan</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>August 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>One-on-Ones</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service Project</td>
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<td>July 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop Success Series</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>See available dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Reading Program Event</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>See available dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gator Mania</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>July 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Possible</strong></td>
<td><strong>375</strong></td>
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## Assignment Explanations:

**Assignment 1**: Autobiography Post

On canvas, students need to post the following information. This will be an opportunity for both the instructors and classmates to get to know one another. Students are also expected to look at their classmates posts in order to begin getting to know each other.

1. Post a picture with the following information:
   a. Name
   b. Hometown
   c. Major and future career aspirations
   d. Things you like to do for fun
   e. What you hope to get out of this course
   f. 2 personal and 2 academic goals for Summer B
   g. What you are looking forward to most about being a Gator
   h. Anything else you would like your instructors and classmates to know
Assignments:

**Assignment 2: Time Management Map**
Print out the Time Management Map found in the “files” section on Canvas. Begin time management map on Wednesday, June 31 and bring finished map to class on Tuesday, July 7. With this map, you are simply tracking where you spend your time. Be honest, as we will reflect and discuss during the class period on Tuesday, July 7.

**Assignment 3: Strengths Quest**
Students will need to go to www.strengthsquest.com. Follow these steps:
- Go to “Purchase” at the top of the page and click on it.
- The next page will say “Want to purchase a single strengths Quest Access Code?” Click on “Buy Access Code”. You will have to pay a one-time fee of $9.99.
- Click “Proceed to Checkout”
- Click on “New User? Click to Register” - Fill out registration information.
- Once you select continue, you should be able to pay for the access code.
- Complete the assessment. Both upload to canvas and bring to class your print out of your Top 5 Strengths. Come prepared to class ready to discuss your top 5 strengths.

**Assignment 4: Involvement**
Discussion Post: Post your top 3 favorite tables you visiting at Gator Mania and/or organizations that you have found on Gator Connect that interest you and why. Gator Connect is the website that lists all of the UF student organizations. Here is the link: https://ufl.collegiatelink.net/

**Assignment 5: Budget**
Print out the Budget sheet found in the “files” section on Canvas. Complete the budget based on how you are currently managing your finances. Bring a hard copy to class, as we will be discussing this.

**Assignment 6: Resume**
Bring a copy of your current resume. If you do not have a current resume, visit the Career Resource Center website and use one of their templates. http://www.crc.ufl.edu/. During this class, we will have a guest speaker from the Career Resource Center to assist with resume building.

**Assignment 7: Academic Advisor Reflection**
For this assignment you will need to meet with an academic advisor. Getting connected with your Academic Advisor is very important and something you should do on a semester basis. For this assignment you will need to write (and upload to Canvas) a 1-2 page (double spaced, 12pt font) paper reflecting on your meeting with your advisor.

The meeting with the advisor and your paper should address the following topics:
- How you are doing in your current courses
- Major/minor options
- Tracking hours distribution
- General Education Requirements
- How you interrupted this information and how you will use it moving forward

You need also need to bring to class a signed business card that you attended the meeting with your advisor.
Discussion Posts: Throughout the semester, there will be three discussion topics posted on Canvas. You will need to contribute to the posts, but cannot post any resource/topic that one of your classmates has already posted. The following will discussions will be:

- **Discussion Post 1: Campus Resources:** Discussion prompt will be posted on Tuesday, June 30. You will need to post by Tuesday, July 7.
- **Discussion Post 2: Honor/Conduct Code:** Discussion prompt will be posted on Thursday, July 9. You will need to post by Thursday, July 16.
- **Discussion Post 3: Wellness:** Discussion prompt will be posted on Thursday, July 16. You will need to post by Thursday, July 23.

Immersion Project: Students will be put into groups at the beginning of the semester. As a group, you will need to attend an event of a culture different than your own (i.e. race, religion/spiritual, ethnic, language, heritage, arts, etc.). (Examples: Eating Krishna together and learning about that culture, attending a church service, meeting with a staff member in Multicultural and Diversity Affairs about a specific community, attending a salsa or meditation class, attending a film festival/play or museum, attending a rally, etc.). After attending the event, the group will need to research that specific culture and be prepared to provide the class with a 3 minute presentation on your group’s experience and what was learned about that culture. The group presentations will be held in class on Tuesday, July 28. Groups are encouraged to be creative with their presentations. In order to eliminate duplicate cultural events, the group will need to sign-up with what cultural event they will be doing. First come, first serve. A presentation rubric and peer evaluation will be provided.

Action Plan: As the final project for this course, you will need to create a plan on how you will “leave your legacy” here at the University of Florida. This can include specifics about your major, internships, organizations you want to get involved with, study abroad, leadership roles, volunteer opportunities, etc. Be creative, this can be done however you wish (i.e. a PowerPoint, a poster board, video, etc.). This project will be due on the last day of class, August 6. Further details will be discussed during class.

One-on-Ones: During the second week of class and last week of class, you will need to meet with the instructor or peer mentor for a 30 minute meeting. Please go one to canvas and sign-up for a timeslot. Once you sign up, the instructor or peer mentor will contact you about time and location. (Each meeting is worth 10 points)

Service Project: University of Florida Summer Plunge, Saturday, July 25 8am-1pm- We will participate in this service project together as a class.

Workshop Success Series: You will need to attend one of the workshops that fits best with your schedule. You will need to submit verification form to the instructor/peer mentor (they will provide you this form when you attend the workshop). A list of the workshops and the way to sign-up to attend can be done through this link: [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/wss/](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/wss/)

Common Reading Program Event: You will need to attend one of these events that fits best with your schedule. You will need to submit on canvas a picture of yourself at the event, as well as, a paragraph giving an overview of the event and your thoughts/what you took from the event.

Museum Nights at the Harn, July 9 from 7-9 p.m.
Classes participating in this event will have the ability to examine how we approach photography while discovering the Harn Museum. Students will select photographs from the Hoppe Portraits: Society, Studio and Street exhibit and engage in discussion with other
students. Guided by museum docents, students will learn about the subjects of each photograph and connect these elements found in Double Take. A worksheet will be provided to help students reflect and connect what they are experiencing to the book. Please note, the event will not take the entire 2 hours, it is up to the class and students to determine the amount of time they would like to spend viewing the exhibit.

**Speaker Series**, July 21 at 6:30 p.m., Location TBD
As a tie into the ADA Anniversary on July 26, UF faculty will discuss Disability through various perspectives. Topics include developmental disabilities and disabilities in the state of Florida. Speaker include: Dr. Jeanne Repetto, Dr. Penny Cox, and Dr. Chris Stopka. More information to come. The event will last approximately 1 hour.

**For Once in My Life**, July 29 at 6:30 p.m., Location TBD
A documentary about a band of singers and musicians, with a wide range of mental and physical disabilities, and their journey to show the world the greatness within each of them. The film explores the struggles and triumphs, and the healing power of music, as the band members' unique talents are nurtured to challenge the world's perceptions. Afterwards students will learn more about the Culture of Care at UF. FYF check-in will end at 6:45 p.m.

**Gator Mania**: Saturday, July 11 at 2pm on Flavet Field. We will participate in this event together as a class.
# Course Topic Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 30</td>
<td>Welcome, Syllabus Review, Introductions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 2</td>
<td>Exploring Campus&lt;br&gt;(wear comfortable clothes and shoes)</td>
<td>Assignment 1- Post to Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 7</td>
<td>Resources and Stress Management</td>
<td>Assignment 2- Upload to Canvas and bring hard copy to class&lt;br&gt;Discussion Post 1- Due on Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 9</td>
<td>Strengths Quest&lt;br&gt;(Guest Speaker)</td>
<td>Assignment 3- Upload to Canvas and bring hard copy to class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 11</td>
<td>Gator Mania, 2pm, Flavet Field- We will attend as a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 14</td>
<td>Getting Involved at UF</td>
<td>Assignment 4- Upload to Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 16</td>
<td>Risky Behaviors</td>
<td>Discussion Post 2- Due on Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 21</td>
<td>Living on a Budget</td>
<td>Assignment 5- Upload to Canvas and bring hard copy to class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 23</td>
<td>Your health and wellness matter!</td>
<td>Discussion Post 3- Due on Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 25</td>
<td>Service Project- Gator Plunge- We will attend as a class</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 28</td>
<td>Stepping outside of your comfort zone</td>
<td>Immersion Project Due- Presentations in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 30</td>
<td>Get your resume UF ready!&lt;br&gt;(Guest Speaker)</td>
<td>Assignment 6- Upload to Canvas and bring hard copy to class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, August 4</td>
<td>Staying on academic track&lt;br&gt;(Guest Speaker)</td>
<td>Assignment 7- Upload to Canvas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 6</td>
<td>Wrap Up/ Potluck</td>
<td>Action Plan Due- Upload to Canvas or bring to class&lt;br&gt;(depending on the format of your project)</td>
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</tbody>
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Common Reading Program Event (Attend 1)

Workshop Success Series (Attend 1)