University of Florida
First Year Florida
SLS1102, Section 7530
Wednesdays, Period 5, 11:45 to 12:35
Fall 2015

Teaching Team
Robert Padovano  Kaitlyn Jennings
Adjunct Lecturer, Advertising  4th Year, Psychology
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Skype: advpadovano1  Google Hangout: Rob Padovano

Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10am to 1pm or by appointment only

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.
Required Readings:

Technology (Canvas):
For this class we 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 as well as bring a printed copy to class.
To access Canvas go to http://lss.at.ufl.edu enter you and click on Canvas e-learning in Campus on the left hand side of the page followed by your Gatorlink ID and Password

Attendance Participation:
The class meets once a week so attending class is critical to the learning and will greatly benefit you to make the most out of your FYF course experience

If you miss a class for some reason, it is your responsibility to obtain any material or assignments from a fellow class member. At the beginning of each class attendance will be taken.

Arriving late to class or an event:
Arriving late is better than not arriving at all, but one point from your attendance points. The same policy applies if you are late to an event (i.e. service project, featured speaker series event, etc.) Attendance will make up approximately 30% of your grade and is integral to your overall success in this class

Excused absences include:
University Sponsored events: You will be excused for these events with official documentation from the appropriate faculty or staff member. Documentation should be received prior to the event.

Religious Holidays: Always excused with prior notice. Please notify the instructors via email within the first two weeks of the class so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

Medical/Emotional and Family Emergencies: All excused with appropriate documentation. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

Late assignments:
Submitting an assignment late is not accepted unless an excused absence has been granted or an extension has been awarded in advance.
Out-of-class attendance and participation

To supplement class discussion and provide opportunities for you to actively engage at UF, attendance and participation will be required for a handful of out-of-class activities. Excused absences for the following activities follow the same absences guideline as noted above.

You must attend the Common Reading Program event listed below and one workshop from the Workshop Success Series. If you cannot attend a mandatory event and have been granted an alternative event that you suggest and pre-approved by the instructors. Please make sure that you bring your Gator 1 ID Card to the CRP events to document attendance.

Academic Honesty

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.

UF Student Academic 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. Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

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 by abiding by the Honor Code.

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."

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 requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting
accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester

**Expectations of Classroom Behavior:**
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 and devices need to be off or on silent before entering the classroom.

**Mandatory:**
Common Reading Program Event: Senator Tom Harkin, Tuesday, October 20 at the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom meet at 6:15.

**Workshops:**
You must register for the workshop you wish to attend and make sure to sign in once you get there. In order to receive credit you must stay for the entire workshop.
https://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/wss/

**Gatorlink E-Mail**
Students in FYF are required to have and use their GatorLink account for all UF related e-mail functions. Official university communications are sent to students at this email address. Please visit www.gatorlink.ufl.edu to obtain your account and for additional information. Contact 392-HELP with any questions or problems.

**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 Scale

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. Below is the course grading scale:

220-250 (A); 200-219 (A-); 175-199 (B+); 160-174 B; 145-159 (B-); 135-144 (C+); 125-134 (C); 115-124 (C-); 105-114 (D+); 95-104 (D); 85-94 (D-); 0-84 or below (E)

A grade of incomplete will not be issued under any circumstances

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>In-Class Attendance (2.5 points per 14 classes)</th>
<th>Reflection Papers (3 assigned throughout the semester -10 points each)</th>
<th>Discover Gainesville Project.</th>
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Course Overview

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Topic</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assigned Reading</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26</td>
<td>Welcome and, Introductions, Syllabus</td>
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<td>Overview</td>
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<td>September 2</td>
<td>The College Experience</td>
<td>Nist Chapter 1: Now that You’re Here</td>
<td>Provide Bio</td>
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<td>September 9</td>
<td>Active Learning</td>
<td>Nis Chapter 2: Active Learning</td>
<td>Meet your Advisor Paper</td>
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<td>September 16</td>
<td>Importance of knowing your Professors</td>
<td>Nist Chapter 4: Professors, Tasks and You</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Title</td>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>Assignment Description</td>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td>Library West Tour</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>September 30</td>
<td>Motivation and Interests Career Resource Center</td>
<td>Nist Chapter 6: Academic Energy</td>
<td>Interview with your Professor Paper</td>
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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Managing Stress</td>
<td>Nist: Chapter 8 – Dealing With Stress</td>
<td>Paper of Service Project</td>
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<td>October 14</td>
<td>Time, Technology and Money Management:</td>
<td>Nist: Chapter 5</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>Understanding Your Degree Audit</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>Resume Writing Skills</td>
<td>No reading assignment</td>
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<td>November 4</td>
<td>Ready for your Job Interview?</td>
<td>Read Double Take Ch. 4. - Playground</td>
<td>Updated Resume Due</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td>Veteran’s Day – No class</td>
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<td>November 18</td>
<td>Rehearsal and Review Strategies and Skills</td>
<td>Nist Chapter 12</td>
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<td>November 25</td>
<td>No class</td>
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<td>December 2</td>
<td>Speaking and Communicating Effectively</td>
<td>Nist: Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 9</td>
<td>Last class: Wrap Up and Reflection</td>
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**Assignment Descriptions**

**Journal Entries (Reflection Papers) (30 points, 10 per entry)**

*Due at various points throughout the semester*

Three journal entries (Reflection Papers) will be assigned throughout the semester.

Refer to Canvas page for more details. Each assignment will be slightly different in nature. You will submit the journal entries on the Canvas eLearning site.

**10-20 Minute Appointment with Me (10 points)**

*To be scheduled during the weeks of 9/23-9/30*

To receive 5 points, please schedule a meeting with Mr. P. At this meeting, please bring a copy of your resume. Refer to pages 272-278 in your textbook for resume writing information. Also be prepared to discuss some goals that you have for your UF career. What are you looking forward to during this semester and what are you apprehensive about? During this meeting, you
will receive feedback regarding your resume. You will receive 4 points for showing up on time; 4 points for your resume; and, 2 points for your conversation.

Come prepared to discuss your progress throughout the semester and way in which you wish to improve before it the semester is over. Be on time and come with questions to make the most of this check-in.

**10-20 Minute Appointment with Advisor (10 points)**
Schedule an appointment with an Academic Advisor in your department. You may want to ask them more about the major and go over your critical tracking, course requirements, etc. Then submit a short paper (one to two paragraphs double-spaced) about the experience. Was it beneficial? Did you learn anything during your appointment?

**15-30 Minute Appointment with Professor (10 points)**
Schedule an appointment with one of your Professors or Instructors for one of the courses you are taking this semester. Come up with five questions you want to ask her or him. For example: What made you want to become a professor? What is the best part of your job? Etc. Then you will submit a short paper (one to two paragraphs) about the experience. Was it beneficial? Did you learn anything during your appointment?

**Visit the Public Speaking Lab in Rolf Hall Room #415 (10 points)**
Words are powerful and how you deliver them to your audience can make them even more powerful and effective. For this assignment you will visit the Public Speaking Lab in Rolf Hall. You may have something you want to present or be an observer and watch another presentation. Share your experience in a one-page paper (double-spaced). Did you learn anything from it? How can the skill of public speaking be transferred into the field you are studying or any classes/electives you are considering taking at UF.

**Gator CareerLink Profile Activation Assignment (10 points)**
Gator CareerLink is the portal to UF resources that can help you explore career paths, find ways to gain experience and begin preparing for your career now! By activating your account, you will have access to all the Career Resource Center’s services including job and internship postings, Career Planning appointments, an online mock interview module, and a calendar of all upcoming events and workshops. Activating your profile as a first-year student allows you to become familiar with the Gator CareerLink system and connects you to the CRC right away.

Part 1: To activate your profile and receive credit for your, follow these simple steps:
1. Go to [www.crc.ufl.edu](http://www.crc.ufl.edu)
2. Click on Gator CareerLink Student Login.
3. You will be directed to a UF Authentication page. Type in your GatorLink username and password.
4. Next, click on “My Profile.”
5. Fill out both the Personal and Academic profile as much as possible. You must complete all fields with a red asterisk in order to have an active profile. Make sure to save your information.
6. Once your profile is complete, click on “My Jobs.”
7. Find and print an internship, part-time, full-time or volunteer experience you would be interested in applying for now or in the future. To receive credit for this assignment, turn in the printed job description to your FYF instructor. You do not actually have to apply for the position - this is just for practice.

**Discover UF – Organization Project (10 points) – To be scheduled**

Go to the IDEAL webpage and schedule a consultation appointment with them

https://www.studentinvolvement.ufl.edu/GetInvolved/IDEAL/IndividualServices

Review your interest and the organizations you might be interested in joining. Once you’ve got a list, choose one and contact their President or Vice-President and ask to interview them. You can ask them the eligibility to join the organization, what type of activities they are involved with and what they love most of their organization. Write a half a page (min) presenting the organization.

**Discover Gainesville Group Project (20 points) to be assigned**

You will be assigned a small group to work on this project with. In order to receive full credit, you and your group will have to complete the Campus Resource sheet together. You should be prepared to discuss your findings with the class on September 24.

Your tasks for this treasure hunt will be distributed the second week of class and you’ll have two weeks to complete the hunt. Your group will have to complete a treasure hunt to find out information about a variety of campus resources. In some cases you will be able to use the website but in most cases, we want you to go to the campus resource. Be sure someone in your group has a camera so you can document your Campus Resource Treasure Hunt.

You will be placed in a group with your classmates and give a 5 minutes presentation on a site to visit in Gainesville. You can present the class with pamphlets or other handout.

http://www.offcampus.ufl.edu/gator_guide/discover_gainesville/

For class on September 24, you will need to bring the completed worksheet, your photos in a PowerPoint form, and also handouts that you’ve been asked to retrieve for the class.

If you’re asked to schedule a meeting with an office, be sure to do this in advance as university personnel are busy people!

**Service Learning Project (20 points) Additional info to follow**

This will be a great opportunity for you to get involved with your new community and begin to give back to the city of Gainesville. We will be going as an entire class and you are expected to attend unless you are granted an excused absence in which case you will be required to complete a service project with another FYF class (see below for further details).
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 service project will have two components: the actual project and the reflection.

Reflection **10 points (at least one page, no more than 2)** Due by September 30, submitted on Canvas. We want to know what you’re taking away from completing this service project. Do you feel it made a difference? If so in what way? How did you contribute to other’s learning through this project? What did you learn about the community? Do you anticipate weaving service projects into your time at UF?