

Syllabus for: GS 6 – First Year Experience

Semester & Year:	Spring 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	GS 6 – 033219
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	Monday 2:50 PM -6:00 PM
Location:	FM 106 and L103
Instructor's Name:	Brady Reed
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: New SS Bldg. – By Appointment Phone: 707-476-4303 Email: brady-reed@redwoods.edu

Required Text: On Course; By Skip Downing, 7th Edition 2012. Wadsworth, Cengage – Boston, MA.

Other Required Materials: A single-subject spiral notebook or composition book to bring to class every day.

Course Description: This course is designed to focus on the development of academic and personal skills necessary for students in college and beyond. It assists students with the transition between high school and college level expectations. Topics covered will be self-efficacy, creative learning, time management, academic skill enhancement, communication skills in a variety of environments, campus services and technology used in higher education.

Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :

1. Students will be expected to examine different learning processes and how these concepts of self-discovery can be applied to improve personal learning.
2. Students will be expected to demonstrate successful navigation through the use of college services and technology used in the college system.
3. Students will be expected to differentiate the expectations between a high school and college learning environment.
4. Students will be required to demonstrate active learning with responses to oral and written assignments.
5. Students will be required to complete a formal student education plan.
6. Students will increase self-motivation through goal setting exercises.

In-class support network:

You will have general study assistants to help you with your assignments during this class. Please bring other coursework every day to work on during tutorial time. We will also have advising, career counseling, and other resources for this class.

Overall Grade/Points:

Your grade is based on a total of 1,000 possible points of which 630 points is for attendance, participation, and in-class work, 270 points for assignments, and 100 points for tests. Your grade is determined according to total points earned on the following scale.

Grading Scale:

A = 930 – 1000, A- = 900 – 929, B+ = 870 – 899, B = 830 – 869, B- = 800– 829, C+ = 770 – 799, C = 700 – 769, D = 650 – 699, F = < 649. Note that anything under 65% is an F in this class.

Course Requirements & Grading:

1. **Attendance and Participation:** Each day of class will count as 45 points towards your final grade. Your attendance and participation will be the **most important factor** in passing the course (63%). Verbal communication is a key to success in college life and beyond. Students will be expected to actively engage in communication through constructive questions, ideas, and opinions. To receive full-points per day, students must come to class on time, complete any in-class assignments, and actively work on other coursework during tutorial times.
2. **Journal Entries:** Students must bring a spiral notebook or composition book to class for daily journal entries. You will respond to a journal entry prompt each day on the board. This is part of your participation grade.

Points can be deducted from your attendance/participation grade for the following:

- Absence (-45 points)
- Late to class (-10 points)
- No journal entry (-10 points)
- Late work (-10 points)
(Up to 1 week past due date and only for extenuating circumstances)
- Not participating/working in class (-10...15 points)
- Behavior problem (#6) (-10...15 points)

3. **Presentation:** For 50 points, each student will be asked to speak to the class for 5-7 minutes. You can share either a story of significance or something that had a significant impact on your life (positive or negative) and what you learned from it, or you can instruct the class on something in which you have knowledge or expertise. Please bring at least one visual aid such as a poster, picture, or authentic item to show. Using PowerPoint will earn you 5 extra credit points.
4. **Assignments/Exams:** In addition to the above presentation, you will have about ten to twelve other homework assignments worth 10-40 points each. Your presentation and assignments together are worth a total of 270 points (27% of your grade). As far as exams, you will have one quiz worth 20 points and two tests worth 40 points each (10% of your overall grade).
5. **Absences / Late Work:** You are allowed to make up one absence with an assignment worth 35 points, if you notify the instructor via email prior to the absence. Since we only have 14 class sessions, if you miss three or more classes before the 10th week (March 22nd), the instructor will drop you from the class. More than 4 absences will result in an “F” grade. Late work may be submitted up to one week late but only for extenuating circumstances and with 10 points deducted.

6. NO SIDE CONVERSATIONS DURING LECTURES OR WHEN ANOTHER SPEAKER OR STUDENT IS ADDRESSING THE CLASS. Cell Phones and other electronic devices must not be used, visible or audible in class. OTHERWISE, POINTS MAY BE DEDUCTED.

7. Special Notes/Dates:

- If you personally decide to no longer attend the class you should officially withdraw from the course before March 29th. If you miss three or more classes before March 22nd, you will automatically be dropped from the course.
- This class falls on three holidays, please see next page for when class is not in session.
- The procedures in this course are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.
- This class will occasionally meet in the library. See next page and report there as directed.
- The final class session is on Monday, May 6th from 3:15-5:15 p.m.

8. Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

9. Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an "F" in the course.

The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:
<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

(Other side)

DATE	LOCATION	TOPICS	READING ASSIGNMENT
January 14	FM 106	Introductions; Syllabus; Expectations	Chapter 1; Study for quiz on syllabus
January 21	No class	MLK Holiday	
January 28	FM 106	Quiz on Syllabus; Chapter 1, Self-assessment, Pick presentation dates	Chapter 2
February 4	FM 106	40-point Assignment Due Vet topics/resources; Chapter 2	Chapter 3
February 11	FM 106	Chapter 3, Overcoming difficulties, Goal-setting; Note-taking strategies	Articles
February 18	No class	Presidents' Holiday	
February 25	L103 (library)	1 st grade check due; Career development/exploration; Multiple Intelligences	Chapter 4
March 4	L103 (library)	Careers in Science; Career options and research; Chapter 4, self/time management	Chapter 5
March 11	No class	Spring Break	
March 18	L103 (library)	CR Majors/Programs; Developing a Student Educational Plan; Chapter 5	Chapter 6
March 25	L103 (library)	2 nd grade check due; Library research skills; Chapter 6; Create first exam	Chapter 7
April 1	FM 106	Chapter 7, Learning Styles	Study for TEST #1 Ch.1-5
April 8	FM 106	Financial Literacy; TEST #1	
April 15	FM 106	Final Grade check due; Test-taking strategies	Chapter 8
April 22	FM 106	Student Ed Plans due (40 pts.); Chapter 8; Create second exam	Study for TEST #2 Ch. 6-8 + special topics
April 29	FM 106	Financial Literacy; TEST #2	Work on Final paper
May 6	FM 106	Final class period (see time change); final self-assessment; final reflection/debrief; any student presentations left	

****Instructor reserves the right to adjust the above schedule and/or topics if needed.***