

Syllabus for: College Success	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2015
Course ID and Section Number:	GS 1 E8041
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	T / Th 10:05 am – 11:30 am
Location:	AJ 108
Instructor's Name:	Michael Dennis
Contact Information:	Office location: HU108A Office Hours: Monday 3 pm – 4:30 pm Phone: 476 4367 Email: Michael-dennis@redwoods.edu
Course Description: A course designed to inform and assist students to obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to reach their educational objectives. Topics covered include: Self-discovery, motivation, memory development, time and stress management, text book reading, note and test-taking skills, healthy living practices, and career and academic planning. Students will be utilizing a wide variety of college resources, study skills, and techniques to support their goals.	
Student Learning Outcomes : 1) Demonstrate learning study skills. 2) Display self and academic awareness. 3) Develop a career and academic plan.	
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.	
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://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/Ap5500.pdf	
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.	

PREPARATION:

This is a transfer-level class that assumes students have college-level reading and writing skills. Students who do not possess English 150 skills are likely to find this course very difficult.

COMMUNICATION:

I would prefer that class communications go through email. This way, if I don't remember that you contacted me about something or what I said in response, we both have a written record of our communications.

TEXTBOOK:

Becoming a Master Student, 15th Edition; Dave Ellis.

In addition, students should make sure to bring lined paper and a pencil or pen to every class.

POLICIES and MISCELLANEA:

Absences: Because of the extra credit homework available on the optional chapters you should be able to miss a week or two of class and still score 100% on the homework portion of the class. These should cover any illness, hangovers, relationship breakups, evictions, medical emergencies for family, deaths of household pets, or alien abductions.

For truly exceptional cases of misfortune that cause a very large number of absences, make-up opportunities can be arranged, but you must provide hardcopy documentation.

Drop Policy: At the end of the first 2 weeks, I will drop those who aren't effectively participating. Students who do not attempt at least 80% of the classwork due within the first 2 weeks **may be dropped from the class.**

Technical Difficulties: You are responsible for budgeting yourself enough time to allow for technical difficulties. There will be no extensions of due dates if you are unable to complete an assignment due to a problem 'on your end'. On the other hand, if there is a problem with Canvas or with mass internet outages across the entire district, I will give extensions to the whole class.

Time Commitment: A full time job takes 40 hours a week. A full time student takes between 12 and 15 units per semester during the normal school year. So you should expect your classes to take about $(40/12 \text{ or } 40/15)=3$ hours per unit per week during the normal school year. This is a 3 unit class, so you would expect to spend about 9-12 hours a week on it.

COURSEWORK and GRADING:

There will be 1000 points possible over the course of the semester. Class grades will be assigned based on the following cut-offs: 930 is an A, 900 is an A-, 870 is an B+, 830 is a B, 800 is a B-, 770 is a C+, 700 is a C and 600 is a D. You will earn these points through:

Canvas Quizzes: (150 points possible, thus 15% of your final grade) These will be mostly multiple choice quizzes to help you keep up with the reading. You will get 5 attempts on each quiz. Unless otherwise noted, there will be Canvas quizzes due every Tuesday at 10 am.

Notes for Exams: (150 points possible, thus 15% of your final grade) 50 points per set of notes. You will prepare notes to use on the In Class Exams and turn them in before the exams.

Group Exam Review Presentation: (100 points possible, 10% of your final grade) Students will form 6 groups of 3 or 4 to lead a review session for the exams. Each team will give a presentation to review the material for one of the exams.

In Class Exams: (150 points possible, thus 15% of your final grade.) We will have three in-class exams worth 50 points each. These will be a mixture of multiple choice questions resembling the Canvas quizzes and paragraph-length essay questions. You will be able to use the notes you prepared and handed in previously.

Career and Academic Plan: (250 points, thus 25% of your final grade.) Students will prepare a document that assesses their current career, financial, and academic status, sets goals for career, financial and academic goals and identifies actions they will take to make progress towards those goals. A rough draft of this document will be worth 50 points. The final draft will be worth 200.

Presentation of Plan: (100 points, 100% of your final grade) Students will give an oral presentation of their Career/Financial/Academic Plan.

Participation: (Up to 5 points per day, maximum of 100 points, 10% of your final grade) Most days, we will have a participation activity based on the week's assigned readings. Each day's participation activity will be worth up to 5 points.

Week	Starts	Chapters	Special Events
1	8/24/2015	1	
2	8/31/2015	2	
3	9/7/2015	3, 4	Notes due 9/10
4	9/14/2015		Exam Review 9/15, Exam 1 9/17
5	9/21/2015	5, 6	
6	9/28/2015	7	
7	10/5/2015	8	
8	10/12/2015	9	Notes due 10/15
9	10/19/2015		Exam Review 10/20, Exam 2 10/22
10	10/26/2015	10, 11	
11	11/2/2015	12	
12	11/9/2015		Draft Exchange 11/10, Drafts Due 11/12
13	11/16/2015		Notes due 11/17, Exam Review 11/19
14	11/23/2015		Exam 3 11/14
15	11/30/2015		Individual Presentations
16	12/7/2015		Individual Presentations