

Student Life Skills 1510

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Required Course Text: *Becoming A Master Student 11th Edition, Author Dave Ellis*

Course Description

This course is design to help students succeed academically through proven strategies. The student will reflect on their past practices and incorporate new strategies that are modeled after the text. It is expected that each student will develop and use several new strategies that will enable the student to reach their academic/life goals. (3 hr. lecture)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- *Discovering how to learn best*
- *Creating a positive and motivated state of mind*
- *Developing character, integrity, and civility*
- *Developing emotional maturity and self-control*
- *Learning how to manage time and money*
- *Learning academic and basic study skills*
- *Learning how to write and speak effectively*
- *Respecting and appreciating diversity in others*
- *Increasing health and energy and reducing stress*
- *Developing the ability to work in cooperative teams*
- *Taking responsibility for school and job success*
- *Creating positive habits and commitment*
- *Developing a Career Development Portfolio*
- *Making connections between college and job success*

Exams: Three (2) exams **200 points**

(1) Exam 1-6 100 points

(2) Exam 6-12 100 points

Group Projects: **200 points**

Interview Project

50 points

Students will work in pairs and will interview four (4) professionals in the career area in which the students have an interest. They **will jointly submit one (1) paper** of approximately three (3) pages reviewing these interviews **at the beginning of class on Thursday, September 20, 2007**. Information from these papers / interviews *will later be incorporated into individual students' Career Portfolios*. . Any assignment handed in after the class the due date will not be accepted.

Short Term/Long Term Goal Vision Project

50 points

Students will work in groups to present on a 5 year goal plan. They will research and develop a plan on how they will achieve these goals. Groups will be paired on similar interest. Each member will contribute one (1) goal the to the Vision Project. Research must be inclusive of, but not limited to:

1. Major
2. Institution of Transfer
3. Career
4. Community
5. Family

Academic Plan

50 points

Students will work together in groups to develop an academic plan. Research must be inclusive of, but not limited to:

1. Date of graduation
2. Study plan (Location, tutors etc.)
3. Classes needed for graduation
4. GPA necessary to get in to program
5. Register for next semester

Social Issues Presentation

50 points

For this project you will form into groups of 4 and research some important issue that is facing our community/nation/world. As a group, you will collect facts and opinions from all sides of this issue, present your findings in front of the class and answer questions for 12-15 minutes. This is a great opportunity to research an issue that is meaningful to you, learn how to sort facts from opinions, and consider opposing points of view. In addition, you must compose a one page typed handout to be given to your classmates.

VESSI Workshops Reflections:

100 Points

10 Student Survival workshops, **2 paragraph each**. These are due by the following scheduled class.

Random Assignment

100 points

Visit to locations on campus, Lectures, Current Event reports, etc. These assignments can be given out anytime and are due by the following scheduled class.

Career Project Portfolio

50 points

Career Project Portfolio – DUE APRIL 17

This assignment will give you the opportunity to do a number of important things. For this project you will use your Type Focus and www.facts.org interest profiler results to choose a profession that interests you, research it, and design a personal academic/professional plan to achieve your goals. This will give you the opportunity to research a career and academic area of interest whether you have declared a major or not. You will also interview an individual who is already working in the field you choose. You will then turn in a 750 word typed summary of your findings. Details for this project will be discussed in class. Please note that your career project is incomplete without the following: career project proposal, summary, and résumé & cover letter (graded separately).

Attendance/Participation” Education is not a for spectators”

50 points Bonus

You are allowed **two** absences for the semester. Additional absences will result in overall point deduction (**10 points per class**). Any discrepancies about an individual’s attendance will be confirmed by the roll sheet. You are also required to participate in the class.

CLASS RULES

1. Late Papers will not be accepted.

2. Cell Phones and Electronic Devices on Silence otherwise it will result in a additional quiz for the class within a week period

3. Please respect yourself and others (Students Rights & Responsibility Handbook)

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus as needed. All assignments will be due on the assigned date, and all exams will be issued on the assigned date-UNLESS OTHERWISE MENTIONED IN CLASS

January 8	Introduction, Expectations
January 10	Orientation “Get in Step with Etiquette” VESSI
January 15	Read Chapter 1 & 2 Assigning of Groups
January 17	Group Meeting time
January 22	Library Presentation
January 24	“Make Math Easier” VESSI
January 29	Read Chapter 3
January 31	“Managing your Time Wisely” VESSI
February 5	Interview Project Read Chapter 4
February 7	Interview Project Read Chapter 4
February 12	“Strategic Reading” VESSI
February 14	Group Meeting
February 19	Chapter 5
February 21	Resume to Career
February 26	Vision Project
February 28	“Studying for Science” VESSI Read Chapter 6
March 4	Read Chapter 7
March 6	“Note-Taking Strategies” VESSI Read Chapter 8
March 11	Mid Term Exam
March 13	“Test Taking Skills” VESSI
March 18	Read Chapter 9 & 10
March 20	“Learning Styles” VESSI
March 25	Academic Planner
March 27	“Stress Reduction” VESSI
April 1	Academic Planner Read Chapter 11
April 3	Read Chapter 12
April 8	
April 10	Social Presentation Read

April 15	Social Presentation Read
April 17	Career Portfolio Due
April 22	Final Exam

Grading

Two Exams	= 200 points
4 group project	= 200 points
VESSI Workshops	= 100 points
Reflections	=100 points
Career Portfolio	=50 points
Attendance/Participation	= 50 Bonus points
Total	= 650

POINTS	GRADE
650-600	A
590-550	B
540-500	C
490-450	D
299	F