Miami Dade College

Course Description
SLS1510 | Preparing for Student Success | 3.00 credits
This course provides an orientation to college life and helps develop academic, career, and personal goals. Students will learn college success strategies, goal-setting, learning style assessments, as well as general and discipline-specific study skills in the context of various theoretical, practical, and experiential perspectives.

Course Competencies
Competency 1: The student will develop the strategies and attitudes for success specific to the learning environment by:
1. Identifying preferred learning styles and developing a study system that is compatible with it
2. Describing study skills and use effective study strategies
3. Applying different learning strategies to determine the most efficient strategies according to personal learning styles
4. Employing effective reading modes to suit various types of reading material (skimming, scanning, rapid reading, personal, analytic, and study reading)
5. Applying knowledge of efficient note-taking skills, including active listening, organizing, and recording
6. Identifying memory principles and constructing mnemonic devices and mental maps
7. Identifying different study strategies for adequate test preparation for a variety of test types and applying test-taking strategies for objective and subjective tests

Competency 2: The student will develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that provide a general foundation for college success by:
1. Analyzing their self-concept through selected inventories that measure areas of psychological awareness
2. Describing the role of taking personal responsibility for making changes necessary for success and achieving one's goals
3. Discussing the impact of his/her aptitudes, interests, strengths, and values on success
4. Identifying and using motivational skills and their role in achieving success
5. Developing critical thinking skills, including organizing information and planning
6. Identifying functional time management systems and appropriately using strategies in specific college applications
7. Describing and applying problem-solving techniques and conflict resolution in decision-making
8. Identifying appropriate classroom etiquette
9. Applying stress reduction strategies to college experiences

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate utilization of discipline-specific study skills by:
1. Identifying and using strategies to reduce math anxiety, including math tutors and math support services
2. Identifying and using strategies to increase reading and writing proficiency, including using reading and writing support services
3. Identifying discipline-specific study strategies and select and apply one appropriate to a specific content area
4. Comparing test-taking strategies for different types of examinations
5. Developing strategies for working effectively with professors in and out of class
6. Expressing his/her academic needs to the appropriate support resources
7. Visiting and using the campus library and computer facilities to locate discipline-specific information

Competency 4: The student will develop the knowledge and attitudes that provide a general foundation for social and life management skills by:
1. Understanding the importance of a positive attitude
2. Demonstrating the ability to assume responsibility for actions and decisions
3. Demonstrating the ability to give and receive constructive feedback

4. Explaining the importance of maintaining openness to change
5. Demonstrating initiative and proactivity
6. Describing the relationship between health, wellness, and social issues and success
7. Analyzing current events and social issues from several perspectives
8. Understanding how to work effectively with others
9. Describing how to work and communicate with diverse people
10. Utilizing effective conflict resolution skills
11. Exhibiting personal and academic honesty
12. Demonstrating punctuality and good attendance practices
13. Recognizing the relevance of recent computer technology in achieving success
14. Developing informational literacy and technology skills effectively

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the process of career development and employability skills by:
1. Discussing the impact of their aptitudes, interests, strengths, and values on academic program, career selection, and success
2. Evaluating information from self-assessments, career inventories, occupational types, and general career information acquired from various sources, including the Internet
3. Matching knowledge about one's characteristics and abilities to information about job or career opportunities
4. Identifying preferred careers to select an academic program as part of a career plan
5. Developing an educational plan for meeting graduation requirements, including the requirements needed for transfer to upper-level institutions
6. Understanding the importance of lifelong learning to career and life success

Competency 6: The student will develop an understanding of the importance of lifelong learning to career and life success by:
1. Identifying resources available at the college for successful academic progress including tutoring services, advisement, financial aid, and career information office
2. Describing college policies and procedures including Student's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, degree program, and graduation requirements
3. Describing and applying the registration procedures including degree auditing, adding and dropping courses, official withdrawal policies, transcripts, and the Standards of Academic Progress

<u>Learning Outcomes:</u>
- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills