

## **Kennesaw State University The First-Year Experience Program – Fall Semester 2005**

KSU 1101/41: Freshman Seminar (Part of Learning Community #17 – Why Wellness Works)

ENG 1101 - Letizia Guglielmo - M W 9:30 – 10:45 am (Eng. Bldg. 70)

HPS 1000 - Susan Whitlock – M W 11:00 am – 12:15 pm (Conv. Cntr. 2007)

KSU 1101 – Deborah Smith – T TR 9:30 – 10:45 am (Univ. Vill. 2003)

### **Instructor: Deborah N. Smith, Ph.D**

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Office hours: M & W 9:15 – 10:45 a.m. or by appointment

## **MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF COLLEGE PROGRAM**

“A component of the Foundations of Academic Excellence programs at Kennesaw State University, the First Year of College arises from an integrated undergraduate academic experience. The mission of the First Year of College at Kennesaw State University is to bring students into the campus culture, ensuring that they have a solid foundation of understanding to be successful students who will eventually graduate. As a result of this foundation, we aspire to create ethical, responsible, and socially aware citizens of the university, the community, and the global environment. Engaging with students beginning in high school, through first year activities and classes, the First Year programs provide services, experiences, and coursework to help students gain an understanding of themselves and the purpose of a university education. Building on a sustained foundation of student success, Kennesaw State University supports the uniquely collaborative, holistic first year program, connecting academics, experiences outside the classroom, community based learning, and globalization.”

(Taken from “Mission Statement for the First Year of College Program at KSU” handout).

## **CCOURSE DESCRIPTION:**

KSU 1101 is a course “for first-time first-year students and transfer students with fewer than 30 credit hours designed to acquaint students with the campus and its programs. The course fosters links between student needs and campus resources and emphasizes the development of college survival skills (study methods, time management, and effective oral and written communication). Also aids students in selecting majors, identifying career interests, and developing good relationships with students and faculty.”

(Taken from the Kennesaw State University Undergraduate Catalog 2005-2006, pg. 334).

## **CCOURSE GOALS:**

1. To encourage opportunities for students to explore their values as they affect their education and their reason for attending college.
2. To learn strategies for coping and communication in the campus environment.
3. To assist students in developing skills needed for success in college such as time and stress management, goal-setting, reading and study strategies, note-taking, and test taking.
4. To familiarize students with campus resources and support services such as the library, technological support (computer services), labs, career information, advising and registration, and student services.
5. To broaden the student’s college experience through participation in college activities and/or community service projects.

6. To provide support for the development of peer, faculty, and staff relationships.
7. To develop critical thinking skills and broaden student thinking in regards to diversity and becoming an ethical, global citizen.
8. To understand the wellness model and its' six interrelated dimensions – physical, occupational, spiritual, emotional, social and intellectual.

## **L**EARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who take KSU 1101 will develop, strengthen and/or understand the following learning outcomes as they pertain to student success:

- 1) Study Skills
- 2) Academic/ Cognitive Skills
- 3) Critical Thinking Skills
- 4) Connections with Faculty
- 5) Connections with Peers
- 6) Out-of-class Engagement
- 7) Knowledge of Campus Policies
- 8) Knowledge of Academic Services
- 9) Management of Time and Priorities
- 10) Knowledge of Wellness
- 11) Global Perspectives

## **R**EQUIRED TEXTS:

Armstrong, L. (2001). It's Not About The Bike: My Journey Back to Life. The Berkley Publishing Group.

Braden, S., Matthews, K., & Mixon-Brookshire, D. (eds.) (2005). Knowledge, Success, Understanding. Kendall/Hunt Publishing.

Schoenfeld, E. (2005). My Reconstructed Life. Kennesaw State University Press.

## **C**LASS METHODS:

This class will consist of lectures, group discussions and activities, student presentations, reading and writing assignments (in and out of class), audio-visual demonstrations, and laboratories. The course centers around the texts listed above as well as additional related online readings. Students are expected to actively participate in assigned activities and class discussions.

The essence of my teaching philosophy is that:

*Everyone has a unique and special role in this world. As such, I consider it an honor to help students discover meaning, purpose and direction in their lives. I strive to look beyond the surface, let students know that I care about them as individuals, challenge them to reach their potential and guide them in effective decision-making. It is my desire to give students the best that I have to offer in the hopes of contributing to both their academic and personal success.*

## **C**OURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Identifying KSU resources team assignment .....	50 points
Personal reflection essay .....	100
World religions small group project .....	100
<u>It's Not About the Bike</u> journal entries .....	50
Tour de KSU service learning project .....	50
Midterm Exam.....	100

Career Research Project (paper [100] & oral presentation [100])	200
Online Career Portfolio.....	100
Campus Events (four required) .....	100
Final Exam.....	<u>150</u>
<b>TOTAL - 1000 points may be earned</b>	

**Late and/or incomplete assignments will result in a reduced grade (10 points deducted per late class period, regardless of total points for assignment).**

Extra credit is not given in this class.

## **G**RADING:

- 1000 – 900 = A
- 899 – 800 = B
- 799 – 750 = C
- 749 – 700 = D
- 699 and below = F

Last day to withdraw without academic penalty – October 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **W**EBCT:

All assignment descriptions/details, schedules and communication from your professor is available on WebCT, an online course management system. As such, you will need to access WebCT frequently. As soon as you register for KSU 1101, you are automatically enrolled in the WebCT site for this class. Your login is the same as your campus e-mail account. I will give you a basic introduction to WebCT in class. For further assistance, you may call 770-499-3555. A schedule of WebCT training sessions can be found at: <http://its.kennesaw.edu/labs/studentworkshop/index.htm>.

## **A**CADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/ falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an informal resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

## **C**LASSROOM ENVIRONMENT:

In order to best foster a productive learning environment, students are asked to turn off all cell phones and pagers before entering the classroom. In addition, all students are expected to treat each other and their professor with dignity and respect. I look forward to learning with you.

