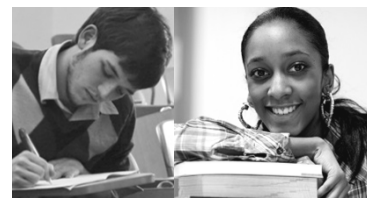


Strategies for Academic Success

USU 1730 – 3 Credits



“College requires a different set of study skills than high school to be successful – a set of skills any college student can learn.”

Class: Mon Wed class = 1 hour 50 minutes Fri Lab = 1 hour 20 minutes

Office Hours: Academic Success Center (ASC) - TSC 305

Phone: (435) 797-1128 (ASC Main Office)

Required Text: College Success, retrieved from: <http://open.lib.umn.edu/collegesuccess/>

Required Lab Packet: USU 1730 – Lab Packet (Pick up at TSC 305 – Academic Success Center)

Course Description:

This is a skills-based course where students learn a variety of skills and techniques that enable academic success at the college level. Through a combination of lecture, assigned reading, in-class activities, and hands-on practice students will learn concrete ways to improve college-level reading, note taking, self-management, college-level learning and thinking strategies, as well as test preparation and test-taking skills. Students assess their current strengths and weaknesses and focus on specific areas they want to improve. This is a rigorous course where class attendance, participation, and consistent quality of effort are expected.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify (or assess) barriers to your academic success.
2. Assess your study skills strengths and weaknesses and implement a plan of improvement.
3. Learn, practice, and use a variety of effective study strategies and learning techniques.
4. Analyze which strategies are most effective for your needs and adapt as necessary to your courses and study requirements.

Grading:

Letter Grade	Percentile
A	93-100%
A-	89-92.9%
B+	86-88.9%
B	83-85.9%
B-	79-82.9%
C+	76-78.9%
C	73-75.9%
C-	69-72.9%
F	<68.9%

Class Points Breakdown	%
Labs	40 %
Participation	20 %
Reading Quizzes	10 %
Weekly Assignments	10 %
Progress Exam	10 %
Final Portfolio and Presentation	10 %

No Ds are given in this class.

General Course Information:**Student Responsibility Statement:**

Not every assignment will fit your needs exactly. If a particular assignment does not meet your needs, it is your responsibility to construct an alternative assignment that meets your needs and still fulfills the class objectives. After discussing the new assignment with the instructor, the student will type a description of the new assignment and turn in a copy well before the old assignment due date. It is the student's right and responsibility to make the assignments for this course fit his/her needs.

Class Conduct:

The class is conducted as a "community" of college learners and each member has the right to feel safe and valued. You are expected to treat each person with dignity and respect.

Discriminatory or offensive behavior or language directed toward a person's race, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability will not be tolerated.

Course Fee: You were automatically assessed a \$13.00 course fee when registering. The course fee provides enriched instruction and course outcomes through classroom support materials, handouts, consumable supplies, skills videos, and assessment instruments used to determine learning outcomes.

University-approved absences (e.g., for athletics, marching band, etc.) must be documented in writing from an official source and presented to your instructor at least one week prior to the absence to receive consideration for alternative assignment or exam due dates. In most cases, you are expected to take an exam before the scheduled date. Please ensure you notify your instructor after our first class if you are involved in activities involving university-approved absences.

Academic Honesty

Your instructor will abide by the Student Code to define cheating and to administer appropriate consequences. Refer to <http://www.usu.edu/student-services/pdf/StudentCode.pdf> pages 11-12

Disability Statement:

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, (435)797-2444 voice, (435)797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

**CLASS FORMAT: Read carefully and retain for the duration of the course.
(Instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus.)**

In general, class will include topic introduction, topic discussion, individual or group activities and in-class guided practice.

Class attendance is required. This course is about modeling behaviors conducive to academic success. These include attending class, being on time and in your seat before class begins, asking appropriate questions, being alert, taking notes, thinking about ideas and concepts introduced in class, and bringing materials for in-class work. The student cannot succeed in this course without attending class and participating in class activities. Missed activities and in-class assignments cannot be made up. Absences are zeros in the participation category. Excused absences (such as acute illness) are at the professor's discretion and require contacting the instructor by email or office visit **before the missed class.**

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1) **Participation** – You will complete a short in class participation assignment in each class period. Each assignment is worth 5 points.
- 2) **Reading Quizzes** – You will take 5 reading quizzes, The quizzes will be based on assigned reading from the text book. The quizzes will be open book, but the time will be limited so it is recommended that you complete the reading assignments and be familiar with the material to be able to complete the quiz in the allotted time.
- 3) **Progress Exam** – You will take one progress exam based on material covered in the first half of the course. The exam is designed to test your progress up to this point in the class and provide experiential practice for some of the strategies you will be learning in the course.
- 4) **Additional Assignments** – You will complete a variety of short assignments outside of class including taking personal inventories online, developing a personal schedule, and reflecting on or applying material from class through writing assignments. These assignments must be ready to turn in at the start of class.
- 5) **Toolbox** – You will complete a list of 5 strategies that you have learned from the class and plan to use in your future academic work. The total length of the paper will be approximately 2 ½ to 5 pages.
- 6) **Presentation** – You will give a five minute presentation on one of the strategies from your toolbox. Your presentation should focus on how you have applied the tool to your situation and how you plan to use it. You can use visual aids or power point, but they are not required. Time is limited, so make sure you can give the information in ten minutes or less.

Weekly Homework Format				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
- Review reading before class - Review notes after class	-Reading for Wed. class	- Review reading before class - Review notes after class	-Prepare for Lab	-Reading for Mon. class

COURSE OUTLINE and REQUIRED READINGS
(Instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus)

	Date	Topic	Reading	Due	Friday Labs
Week 1		1 Welcome Motivation	Ch 1		Succeeding Academically
		2 Time Management	Ch 2.1, 2.2	Vision Board	Discuss 1
Week 2		HOLIDAY			
		3 Note Taking	2.3	Semester Planner	Time Management Discuss 2
Week 3		4 Blooms and the Brain GOAL 1	Ch 3	Quiz Ch 1&2	Note Taking
		5 Reading	Ch 4	Learning Experiences	Discuss 3
Week 4		6 Test Prep and managing Anxiety GOAL 2	Ch 8	Quiz Ch 3 &4	Textbook Annotation
		7 Test Strategies	Ch 5	Blooms Questions	Discuss 4
Week 5		8 Writing GOAL 3	Ch 6.1, 6.2	Quiz 5 & 6	Test Preparation
		9 Critical Thinking and Research	Ch 6.3- 6.6	Article Analysis Midterm (Ch 1-6)	Discuss 5
Week 6		10 Health GOAL 4	Ch 10	Quiz Ch 8, 10	Information Literacy
		11 Communication	Ch 7 & 9	My Health Plan	Discuss 6
Week 7		12 Money and Your Future GOAL 5	Ch 11 & 12	Quiz Ch 7, 9, 11, 12	Analyze Test and Inventory
		13 Presentations		Toolbox Portfolio	
		14 Presentations		What I learned	Discuss 7