SLS 1510
Developing Academic Skills

CLASS MEETING: Tuesday and Thursday, 5th period, Friday- 3rd floor Computer Lab
Farrior Hall; 2nd floor Presentation Room

INSTRUCTOR: Michelle Roberts- micheller@gators.ufl.edu- Farrior Hall room 130D
Lindsay Race- lindsayr@gators.ufl.edu – Farrior Hall

Textbook:

Other Readings/Materials:
Characteristics of a Successful Student (http://academic.cuesta.edu/acasupp/as/201.HTM)
Motivating Yourself to Study (http://www.ctf.ua.edu/ctlstudyaids/studyskillsflyers/generaltips/motivatingself2study.htm)
Motivation and Goal Setting (http://academic.cuesta.edu/acasupp/as/202.HTM)
OWL Online Writing Lab (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/)
What's Your Learning Style? (http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles.shtml)

Course Description: The primary goal of this course is to equip students with the tools that will enable them to become independent learners. Course objectives will focus upon study skills, the learning process and library research, as well as an introduction to analytical thinking.

Course Objectives: Students will:
- Apply organization and use of time management techniques.
- Apply note-taking techniques.
- Demonstrate knowledge of library resources and ability to use resources appropriately for various academic tasks.
- Demonstrate knowledge of and apply study strategies and test-taking techniques.
- Apply learning strategies and techniques to improve memory retention and understanding of individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Apply editing skills on written assignments.
- Identify different Learning Styles and their implications towards learning.
- Identify ways motivation plays a role in success.

Academic Honor System:
The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Pledge: On all work submitted for credit by students of the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

Please note that violations of this Academic Honor System will not be tolerated. Specifically, the instructor will rigorously pursue incidents of plagiarism of any type or incidents of referring to unauthorized material during examinations. Before submitting any work for this class, please read the policies about academic honesty at www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academichonestystudent.html, and ask the instructor to clarify any expectations that you do not understand.

Rules: All students will adhere to these rules in order to achieve and be successful in our class and at the University of Florida:
Always respect all students, professors, and support staff in the classroom.
Come prepared with books, notes, and a writing utensil.
Hats off, cell phones off, and leave food outside the classroom.
In class, wait to be recognized before speaking.
Each student will complete assignments and follow due dates.
View your notes before class and participate.
Every class is to be attended and always arrive on time.

Grade based on:
2 Exams - 35 points each    70 points
SMART Goals               10 points
Research Assignment        10 points
Campus Presentation        10 points
Chapter Presentation       10 points

Exams - Exams will be based on class lectures and readings. The exams will include multiple choice, fill in the blank, and short answer items.

SMART Goals Assignment - Using the provided SMART goal worksheet you will write both an academic and athletic SMART goal at the beginning of the semester. Each SMART Goal is worth 5 points. We will do a progress check of that goal at midterm and then at the end of the semester.

Research Assignment - This assignment will provide exercises on citing sources, determining appropriate sources for research, recognizing plagiarism, paraphrasing, summarizing, and understanding the process for researching for sources.

Campus Presentation - Each student will be assigned a campus resource area. The student will be expected to do research on the area and do a PowerPoint with proper citation. A 20-25 minute presentation to the class will be included on assigned dates. Handout and rubric to be handed out in class.

Chapter Presentation - Each student will be assigned a Chapter in the course required textbook. The student is to read the chapter to understand the topic and then find OUTSIDE sources about the topic to give the class a lesson on the topic. The y may use a lecture, PowerPoint, or other presentation styles to get their content across.

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 110 POINTS

Grading Scale:
This is a S/U course.

Outline of Class Discussions:

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<th>Wk</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction, Expectations</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>SMART Goals, Active Learning</td>
<td>Ch. 1 and 2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>OWL Writing Process</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>How you Learn</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Time Management</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Motivation</td>
<td>Motivating Yourself to Study; Motivation and Goal Setting, Textbook Ch. 6</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Stress and Anxiety</td>
<td>Stress and Anxiety 101,</td>
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<td>Wk 8</td>
<td>Reading Strategies</td>
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<td>Wk 9</td>
<td><strong>Review and Exam</strong></td>
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<td>Wk 10</td>
<td>Note Taking</td>
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<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>Strategies</td>
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<td>Wk 12</td>
<td>Strategies</td>
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<td>Test Taking</td>
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<td>Wk 14</td>
<td>SMART Goals check</td>
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<td>Wk 15</td>
<td>Research Assignment Due, Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 16</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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The instructor will meet with students individually as needed on Fridays in the computer lab on the third floor of OSL. Individual meetings are intended to provide support for students in applying what they learn in this course to their own academic programs and college experience.

**Attendance & Assignment/Homework Due Dates:**
Regular class attendance is essential to your success in this course, as each class will include hands on activities and/or information that will be on tests.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx).

Students not meeting expectations for exams, assignments, and attendance/participation for unexcused absences not covered in the university attendance and make-up policies should contact the instructor as soon as possible. A two point per day late penalty will be assessed for work submitted late due unexcused reasons.

Makeup exams will not be given unless prior arrangements have been made or an excused absence notification is given to the instructor. An unexcused absence on an exam date will result in a grade of zero.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**
The University of Florida provides high quality services to students with disabilities, and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should 1) Register with and provide documentation to the Office of Disability Resources (392-8565), and 2) Bring a letter to the instructor from this office indicating that you need academic accommodations.

Please see the University of Florida Disability Resources website ([http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/services/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/services/)) for more information. In keeping with UF policy, the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed. Once notification is complete, the Office of Disability Resources will work with the instructor to accommodate the student.

**Course Evaluations**
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).