First Year Seminar (FY 100-13H)
Fall 2016

Schedule: Mondays 2:30-3:45 PM, Price Hall Classroom (Price 2001)
Instructors: Dr. Jon Goss, Director, Honors Program
   Email- jgoss@clarkson.edu     Phone- 315-268-2290
   Office Hours: M 4:00-5:00 PM, Th 3:00-5:00 PM, F 1:00-2:00 PM
Jenny Townsend, Assistant Director of Advising, Honors Program
   Email- jtownsend@clarkson.edu     Phone- 315-268-6006
   Office Hours: M 10:00AM-12:00PM, F 8:30-10:30AM
Peer Educators: Danielle Piontkowski, Hannah Phillips;

With a focus on group work and team dynamics, this adjustment course is required for all first-year students. It introduces the mission and expectations of the learning process at Clarkson; builds communication and teamwork skills; and provides some fundamental content relating to wellness and relationships during the college experience. Discussion, team activities, leadership opportunities, and interaction with upper-class peer educators form the foundation of the course.

Learning Outcomes

Students successfully completing this class should be able to demonstrate the following:

- Social interaction skills, such as listening to others and eliciting the views of others.
- Appreciation of the value of diversity in living, academic and working environments.
- Team work skills such as building effective relationships with peers, being a collaborative team member, and identifying and managing team conflict.
- A set of personal, societal, and professional values that they will use to resolve the moral and ethical dilemmas and problems that will confront them at Clarkson and in their future professional, civic and personal lives.
- An understanding of the nature of Honors education, the role of Honors Programs within the university, and the privileges and responsibilities that go along with being an Honors student.
- An appreciation of the factors that influence student success and a commitment to personal development of so-called “soft-skills.”

Requirements

On-Line Survey
Completion of the online College Student Inventory (CSI) is mandatory. Failure to complete the CSI will result in an automatic NE grade for the course regardless of participation and other assigned homework. You should have received instructions on how to access and complete this survey via email prior to orientation.

- College Student Inventory (CSI) is an online survey that can identify areas of academic preparedness in which you may need help or direction. CSI must be completed by September 1. You will receive a CU Connect Mentor, who will discuss the results of your CSI with you. You will also create a CSI Integration and Action Plan, which you will upload to Moodle by September 23rd at 4:30 PM.

Attendance and Participation
Attendance and active participation in all class meetings is required. Missed class time represents an irrevocable loss of part of the course for both the individual and the group and unexcused absences, or persistent tardiness, will result in loss of course points. Participation will be graded by peer educators.
Advising Meetings
You must meet with the instructors for two personal advising sessions: one regarding your vision, and one academic advising meeting. The academic advising session with Jenny will be held the weeks of Sept. 5 and September 12. Appointments should be scheduled with Jenny directly. Vision meetings will be held during the week of October 3. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Honors Program office.

Assignments
You must complete all assignments and submit them on Moodle by the posted deadlines. It is your responsibility to know what is required and when it is due. Unexcused late assignments will result in the loss of course points, at 10% of the total assignment grade per day.

Reading and Worksheets
Each week there will be one or two short readings which we will discuss in class. Typically they are introductions or opinion pieces and reports on topics such as Honors education and Honors students and factors that affect academic success. You must complete the worksheet and submit it by 11:55PM on the evening before the class, and you should bring a copy of your completed worksheet to class so that you can refer to it in group discussion.

Journals
There are four journal assignments through the course of the semester and they are all due on **Friday at 4:30 PM**. You must complete the required meeting or activity according to instructions on Moodle and upload a 1-page journal prior to the posted deadline.
- Journal 1: Review of last year’s FY100 final project videos (due **September 16**)
- Journal 2: Meeting with my peer mentor (due **September 30**)
- Journal 3: Meeting with a faculty member (due **October 21**)
- Journal 4: Reflection upon Engagement (due **November 11**)

* Faculty refers to an academic professor/researcher at the institution; not a staff member

Vision Statement
You will craft a personal vision statement of 200-250 words according to the instructions on Moodle and upload it to Moodle by **October 7th at 4:30 PM.**

Letter to Self
You will write a letter to your future self, outlining your aspirations for the first year at Clarkson. Write the 1-page letter according to the instructions on Moodle by **October 28th at 4:30 PM.**

Final Project
You will work in small groups to produce a short video (1-2 minutes in length) according to the instructions on Moodle. The topic of the video is to present 1 essential piece of advice; what a Clarkson Honors Student needs to know (and why this is important). Presentations of the video will be made in class on November 7th and November 11th. Videos should be uploaded to Moodle by **November 4th at 4:30 PM.**

Personal and Professional Development
You must attend three (3) presentations related to aspects of personal or professional development. The Honors Program runs a Personal and Professional Development Program (PPDP) and occasionally hosts student/guest presentations throughout the semester, but you may also attend other formal presentations on campus that are relevant to your personal/professional development. The Honors Program logs attendance at its workshops and presentations. Otherwise, you must provide evidence that you attended an event.
Grading

The course grade will be CR/NE based on the above requirements with points earned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>50 (5 per class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20 (2 per class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worksheets</td>
<td>100 (10 per worksheet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Entries</td>
<td>20 (5 per assignment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Statement</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter to Self</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>20 (5 per workshop/event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project (video)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>250</td>
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You need a total of 75% to pass First Year Seminar.

Accommodations

If you feel that you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please speak with an instructor privately to discuss your needs, and/or contact the Office of Accommodative Services at Clarkson University, located at the Student Success Center, ERC 110 (315-268-7643).

Academic Conduct

Students and the instructors in this class are bound by University policies on conduct and academic rights and freedoms. In particular, any act of plagiarism (using work that is not your own, or using work without proper acknowledgement) may constitute grounds for failing the course. By definition:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual’s work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another’s idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student’s language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or “dry-labbing,” which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.

Please make sure you are familiar with the rules and regulations of our campus community: see Clarkson University’s Statement of Rights & Responsibilities of Students:

www.clarkson.edu/studentaffairs/regulations/i.html

Course Outline

Week 1- Introduction, Focus on “Soft Skills” August 29

Inside Higher Education. Study finds big gaps between student and employer perceptions.
Week 2 - What is Honors? What is an Honors Student?  
Online Archive. Paper 185. [http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nchcjournal/185](http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nchcjournal/185)

Week 3 - Honing Your Study Skills  
Guest presenter Kate Mikel, Associate Director of Student Support Services


Week 4 - Multiculturalism (Ethnic, Gender, and Disciplinary Diversity)  
Guest presenter Demetrius Dowell, Director of Student Diversity Programs and Veterans Liaison


Week 5 - Vision and Vocation  


Week 6 - Learning Styles and Abilities  
Guest presenter Loren Nowak, Director of AccessABILITY Services


Fall Break (no class)

Week 7 - Metacognition and Motivation  


Week 8 - Self-Determination and True Grit  

**Week 9- Communication and Collaboration**

University of Kent. Teamworking Skills
http://www.kent.ac.uk/careers/sk/teamwork.htm

**Week 10-Networking and the Next Steps**
Guest presenter Kevin MacVittie, Technology Director, Shipley Center

http://www.boston.com/jobs/college/articles/2007/03/07/networking_for_students_a_step_by_step_guide/ 

Quintessential Careers. New Grads Discover that Networking is Key.
http://www.quintcareers.com/Real_World/networking_critical.html

Review of final project videos