# IDS 1107: The Florida State Experience

# Section ## - Succeeding as a STEM Major

# (S/U) 0 Credit Hours

## Instructor: Kelly Grove

**Email: kegrove@fsu.edu**

## Meeting Time: << Insert day & time >> Location/Delivery: << Insert class location >> Office Hours: << Insert office hours >>

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to help set students up to succeed in their STEM major by focusing on developing healthy and effective study skills. Understanding the differences in writing and research techniques needed for academia, industry, and social media. As well as becoming networked to the available resources that the FSU community has to offer STEM students. Students in this class can expect to attend a weekly meeting, use Canvas to access course materials, and be willing to have open discussion about being a STEM major and the course topics.

This engagement program specializes in working with first-time-in-college students to promote retention and academic success in the freshmen year and beyond.

## Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

## Identify ways their identities and interests intersect with the people and places of the Florida State community.

1. Recognize how these interests can continue to be developed within the larger Florida State community through engagement activities well beyond their first term of enrollment.

## Articulate the different ways in which Florida State calls upon them to demonstrate their personal, social and professional awareness.

1. Interact with their instructors and fellow students in ways which support their goals and demonstrate the values of the Florida State community.

## Examine and evaluate their in-class and out-of-class experiences to make meaning and find intrinsic value in their overall college experience.

**Equipment:**

To complete course assignments, students must have access to a computer with internet.

## Suggested Readings:

**Developing Healthy Study Habits**

*Learning and Test Preparation | Academic Center for Excellence*.

[https://ace.fsu.edu/study-tools-and- tips/learning-and-test-preparation](https://ace.fsu.edu/study-tools-and-%09tips/learning-and-test-preparation). Accessed 20 May 2021.

* Specifically read The Six-Hour D

*Ten Successful Online Study Habits: UW Academic Support Programs*. <https://academicsupport.uw.edu/online-learning/ten-successful-online-study-habits/>. Accessed 20 May 2021.

*Note Making | Academic Center for Excellence*. <https://ace.fsu.edu/note-making>. Accessed 20 May 2021.

**Finding & Writing in STEM**

Caulfield, Mike. “What ‘Reading Laterally’ Means.” *Web Literacy for Student Fact-Checkers*, Self- published, 2017. *webliteracy.pressbooks.com*, <https://webliteracy.pressbooks.com/chapter/what-reading-laterally-means/>.

## Evaluation and Grading Policy:

The Florida State Experience is a zero-credit course, S/U graded. There are no exams.

To receive a passing grade, students must actively participate in the selected experience by completing all assignments, attending and actively participating in class, and completing a reflection assignment by the end of the semester.

Emergency absences may be excused, but you must notify the instructor in advance of your absence whenever possible. Clear communication with your instructor when you will be absent is key to success. See the University Attendance Policy for more information.

Class Attendance/Participation in Class Discussion = 40 points

In-class group activities = 40

Looking Ahead Assignment = 20 points

S (satisfactory grade) = ≥70% of all points available

U (unsatisfactory grade) = <70% of all points available

**Assignment Descriptions:**

**Class Attendance:** Students will earn one point for each class period attended during the semester and can earn one point for active participation each class. Active participation includes participation in large and small group discussion, individual and small group activities, and active listening. Points may not be earned for unexcused absences through make-up work. Students who miss class due to an excused absence may earn an attendance point through a make-up assignment.

We have many guest speakers coming to this class to expose you to different resources on campus and their expertise. I will be at all the guest speaker lectures to take attendance and make notes about which students are participating in the discussion. The guest invited to this class are all wonderful people and deserve our respect, to help encourage active listening and engagement there will be surprise opportunities to earn extra points.

**In-class group activities:** We cover a lot of topics in this class and to reinforce the concepts we talk about there will be multiple group activities during the semester. These types of activities include creating study plans, how to read scientific/academic article, writing a summarization of a scientific/academic finding with proper citation, and more.

## Looking Ahead Assignment:

## Prepare a 400- to 500-word plan outlining your plans for engagement and involvement during your time as an undergraduate student at FSU. You should use what you have learned in this class and FSU’s online resources to research opportunities available. Discuss both academic and co-curricular involvement opportunities you would like to experience, when you plan to do so, and what you hope to gain from each experience. Try thinking about themes we covered over the course of the semester for example you can make plan for how you plan to form study groups for classes you think might struggle in, make a plan for applying to a professors research group, or identify internships that would you want to apply for that each stage of your educational journey.

The plan should be typed in Times New Roman 12-point font and double-spaced. The assignment must be submitted Canvas by the due date. Plan to discuss this essay in class at the last meeting of the semester.

**University Policies & Information:**

**University Attendance Policy:**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**Academic Honor Policy:**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>)

**Americans With Disabilities Act:**

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

To receive academic accommodations, a student:

(1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS);  
(2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and,  
(3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Office of Accessibility Services  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice)  
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
[oas@fsu.edu](mailto:oas@fsu.edu)   
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

**Confidential Campus Resources:**

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program  
University Center A, Rm. 4100  
(850) 644-7161  
Available 24/7/365  
Office Hours: M-F 8-5  
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

University Counseling Center  
Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor  
942 Learning Way  
(850) 644-8255  
<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services  
Health and Wellness Center  
(850) 644-6230  
<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>

**Free Tutoring from FSU:**

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services' comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see <http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring> or contact [tutor@fsu.edu](mailto:tutor@fsu.edu). High-quality tutoring /is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

**Syllabus Change Policy:**

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

Outlining the Course

**The schedule is subject to change based on availability of guest speakers.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Week of** | **Theme** | **Topics Covered** |
| 1 | 8/23 | Welcome | Introductions, go over the syllabus, setting up for the semester |
| 2 | 8/30 | Developing Health Study Habits | Introduction to Note Taking and Studying for Success |
| 3 | 9/6 | Developing Health Study Habits | Getting to know study help on campus -- Guest Speakers from ACE and TLE |
| 4 | 9/13 | Developing Health Study Habits | Group Activity – Creating a study plan |
| 5 | 9/20 | Finding & Writing in STEM | How to find STEM information for all occasions – In-class group activity |
| 6 | 9/27 | Finding & Writing in STEM | How to read scientific and academic articles – In-class group activity |
| 7 | 10/4 | Finding & Writing in STEM | Guest speaker writing center |
| 8 | 10/11 | Finding & Writing in STEM | Writing for research, industry – In-class group activity |
| 9 | 10/18 | Finding & Writing in STEM | Writing for social media with guest speaker |
| 10 | 10/25 | Getting involved in FSU STEM | Getting involved on campus – In-class group activity |
| 11 | 11/1 | Getting involved in FSU STEM | Working with FSU research for resume building |
| 12 | 11/8 | Getting involved in FSU STEM | Guest speaker how to build and maintain a professional network |
| 13 | 11/15 | Getting involved in FSU STEM | Guest speaker Career Center on finding internships |
| 14 | 11/22 | **Thanksgiving week** | **No Class** |
| 15 | 11/29 | Wrap-up Week | Looking Ahead Assignment write up due and reflecting on the semester |
| 16 | 12/6 | **Finals Week** | **No Class** |