# **IDS 1107: The Florida State Experience**

**Kickstart Your College Successes**

**Section ##**

**Summer B 2023**

**1 Credit Hour**

## **Instructor: Dr. Samantha Tackett**

**Peer Mentor: Devin White, Mayra Garcia Jaral, Samera Ahmed**

**Email: stackett@fsu.edu**

## **Meeting Time: Weekly --**

## **Location/Delivery: TBD**

## **Office Hours: Monday – Friday by appointment**

**Course Description:**

This 1-credit hour course is designed to help you get the most out of your college experience. In this course, we’ll discuss topics like self-discovery, stress management, building a routine, mapping out your educational goals, and more. This course is affiliated with the Academic Center for Excellence’s Proactive Referral and Engagement Program and will be facilitated by ACE faculty and Academic Success Mentors. The Academic Success Mentors excel at assisting students’ development of personal and academic skills and using campus resources that will be instrumental to your college experiences.

Although the course has open enrollment, it is designed to assist first-semester college students to engage with personal, social, and academic interests in a manner that supports their transition to campus, meet members of the FSU community, and experience academic success throughout their first year and beyond.

Throughout the semester students will learn about and engage with the freely accessible personal, social, and academic resources that the FSU community has to offer. The course structure is a series of active, engaging, individual and small group in-class activities and personal exploratory, discovery, and/or reflective campus-based activities outside of the class sessions. Students in this class can expect to participate in our 6 weekly class sessions, use Canvas to access and upload course materials, engage with class activities, and explore relevant campus locations, programs/services, and events.

## **Course Objectives:**

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

1. Identify key characteristic about the new academic system into which they have transitioned and state personal skills and requirements necessary to thrive personally, socially, and academically in college.

## Identify ways their personal, social, and academic identities and interests intersect with the people, programs, and places within the Florida State community.

1. Recognize how one’s interests can continue to be developed within the larger Florida State community through engagement activities well beyond their first term of enrollment.
2. Communicate with their instructors and fellow students in ways which support their goals and demonstrate the values of the Florida State community.

## **Equipment:**

To complete course assignments, students must have access to a computer/tablet, internet, self-recording capacity (audio/video), and present on campus.

## **Suggested Readings:**

* Tips for a Smooth College Transition. <https://www.bestcolleges.com/blog/tips-for-smooth-college-transition/>
* Transition to College. <https://www.collegedata.com/resources/transition-to-college/transition-to-college-survey-results>
* Adjusting to College Life. <https://jedfoundation.org/set-to-go/the-transition-for-students/>
* Dr. Dweck’s Theory of Mindsets: Growth Mindset. <https://www.mindsetworks.com/science/>
* Studying and Strategies. <https://academicsupport.uw.edu/study-skills/studying/>
* Monitoring Your Learning and Goals. <https://ace.fsu.edu/study-tools-and-tips/monitoring-your-learning-and-goals>
* Test Preparation. <https://ace.fsu.edu/study-tools-and-tips/learning-and-test-preparation>
* Note Making. <https://ace.fsu.edu/note-making>
* FSU Social and Personal Engagement. <https://union.fsu.edu/soi>
* FSU Events Calendar. <https://calendar.fsu.edu/>

## **Evaluation and Grading Policy:**

The Florida State Experience is a one-credit hour course with a course grade outcome of A through F. There are no exams.

To receive a passing grade, students must attend and participate in the six weekly class activities, complete and submit each of the weekly assignments by their due date.

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.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assessments** | **Points** | **Grading Scale** | | |
| Class attendance | 6 wks x 5 = 30 | A 93–100 | C 73-76.99 |
| Weekly assignments | 6 x 10 = 60 | A- 90–92.99 | C- 70-72.99 |
| Looking Ahead: Plan for Success | 1 x 10 = 10 | B+ 87-89.99 | D+ 67-69.99 |
|  | **Total =**  100 | B 83-86.99 | D 63-66.99 |
|  |  | B- 80-82.99 | D- 60-62.99 |
|  |  | C+ 77-79.99 | F Below 60 |

**Assignment Descriptions:**

**Class Attendance:** Students will earn five points for each class period attended during the semester and can earn ten points for submitting their completed weekly activities which are started during our class sessions. Active participation includes participation in whole-class and small group discussion, individual and small group activities, and active listening. Students with unexcused absences will not receive attendance points, however they can earn points from correctly completing and submitting activities by the assignment deadline. Points may not be earned for unexcused absences through make-up work.

**In-class activities:** We cover a lot of topics in this class – together. To reinforce the concepts and heighten the meaningfulness for each student, we practice related skills and discuss the experiences, processes, and/or outcomes. Participation in the class activities and discussion is required to amplify your learning and to pass the course.

## **Looking Ahead: Your Plan for Success**

## Create a plan that identifies your intentions for campus engagement during your first year as an undergraduate student at FSU. State specific goals and campus resources for your ***personal***, ***social***, and ***academic*** development during your year of transition to college. You should use what you have learned in this class and FSU’s online resources to research opportunities available to undergraduates.

## For personal and social development, consider describing a couple of opportunities for personal involvement with a campus community, special experiences specific to FSU, and what you hope to gain from each experience. For academic development, consider describing skills to improve to thrive in the new academic system and interesting opportunities for involvement and/or achievement (e.g., applying to a professor’s research group, finding internships). Consider including a plan of action for when you are struggling with a course, (e.g., forming study groups, finding resources).

The plan should be 400 – 500 words in length, typed in a 12-point font size and common font style (e.g., Times New Roman, Calibri, Arial), and double-spaced. If submitting as attachment, then the assignment must be a common file format (e.g., MS Word, Notepad) and submitted to Canvas by midnight on the due date. Prepare to discuss your plan during the last class session 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.

**Course Schedule**

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| **Week** | **Day** | **Course Theme** | **Topics** |
| 1 | 6/26 | Transitions: How college is different | Syllabus review, class introductions, ice breaker Activity: Different system, different skills |
| 2 | 7/3 | Campus Resources (Personal, Social, & Academic) | Present your results for the Scenario-based Campus Resources Scavenger Hunt |
| 3 | 7/10 | Time Management Prioritizing, scheduling, & managing | Discuss strategies and habits to maximize time and learning Activity: Create weekly schedules that support personal, social, and academic engagement goals |
| 4 | 7/17 | Maximize Your Learning | Discuss how to study effectively Activity: Create a test preparation plan |
| 5 | 7/24 | Self-discovery | Discuss strengths-based approach and identify personal barriers Activity: Strengths/temperament surveys and small group role play of 2-3 challenging scenarios |
| 6 | 7/31 | Growth Mindset | Discuss techniques and strategies for personal growth and productively coping with challenges Activity: Identify strategies and campus resources to address potential stressors related to the “Looking Ahead: Plan for Success” assignment |