First Year Experience/Strategies for College Success

The University of Toledo
College of Natural Sciences and Math
NMS 1000-010 and 018
CRN 45702 and 55248

Instructor: Dr. Kristi Mock
Email: kristi.mock@utoledo.edu
Student Drop-in Hours: MW 1-2:30, TR 1-2
Drop-in Hours Location: BO 2086F
Instructor Phone: 419 530-4080

Offered: Fall 2021
Course Website: Blackboard Learn
Class Location: ST 0129
Class Day/Time: TR 2:30-3:25 PM
Credit Hours: 2

Peer Mentor: Grace Gretz
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CATALOG/COURSE DESCRIPTION

THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED BY ALL UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE COLLEGE. Course will introduce new students to the University and college, provide information on requirements, regulations, campus resources and career exploration, and help students achieve their academic goals.

First Year Toledo

First Year Experience/Strategies for College Success is a part of First Year Toledo, a comprehensive first year program that incorporates multiple elements over the entire first year to help all new University of Toledo students achieve their college goals. Our goal for this course is to provide an open forum for discussion about college transition issues, and to promote greater self-awareness and a sense of belonging and purpose. Over the course of the semester, we will investigate the hidden curriculum—instructor expectations or campus norms that are not always spelled out in a syllabus or textbook, which will allow you to make informed decisions to maximize your potential.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course has 4 basic goals:

- To help you navigate your university, college, and department
- To help you identify your career goals and path to get there
- To help you find campus resources to support you
- To help you make connections to your campus and community

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This is a blended online course, designed to stimulate student learning through the web-based delivery of readings, video, and assessments, paired with real-time collaborative activities and discussion during weekly class meetings.

Communication: As your instructor, I am here to help! The best way to contact me is through email and I will do my best to respond to you within 48 hours (often more quickly). I have specific drop-in hours listed at the very beginning of this syllabus. I will be ready to meet with students at those times, but you are always welcome to just come by BO2086GF and see if I am around. You can also email me to make an appointment outside drop-in hours, including virtual appointments.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The goals of this First Year Experience (FYE) course are to help you successfully navigate college and get the most from your college experience, by helping you to become a true agent in your education.
To accomplish these goals, by the end of this course you will:

1. Identify personal fit with careers.
2. Identify academic pathways (majors) that are aligned with career goals.

3. Choose an academic pathway that meets their personal/academic goals.
4. Demonstrate increased self-efficacy and self-regulation in learning.
5. Develop professional and interpersonal skills.
6. Develop financial literacy skills and apply them to financial decisions.
7. Connect to campus resources that support academic pathway navigation.
8. Develop connections to the community of scholars (e.g. in their field of endeavor).
9. Develop connections to the community both within and outside UT.
10. Demonstrate cultural competency including positive connections with others whose identity and culture is different from their own.

PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES
None

TEXTS AND ANCILLARY MATERIALS
All course materials will be provided in class or via the Blackboard course site. There is no required textbook for this course.

TECHNOLOGY   REQUIREMENTS
Students need to have access to a properly functioning computer throughout the semester. The Browser Check Page will enable you to perform a systems check on your browser, and to ensure that your browser settings are compatible with Blackboard, the learning management system that hosts this course.

Other information you may find useful can be found at http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/required-info-online-learners.html.

ACADEMIC POLICIES
Academic Policies for Undergraduate Students: All students at the University of Toledo are expected to read, understand, and follow the academic policies that govern their attendance at the University. These policies include, but are not limited to, academic dishonesty, academic forgiveness, adding and dropping a course, grades and grading, and the missed class policy. Please use the following URL to read a comprehensive list of academic policies that pertain to you in this class and throughout your academic journey: http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate/. If you have any questions after reading through the policies, please let me know.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS
We will abide by the following Agreements for Learning Communities:
*   You may pass (you do not have to share if you choose not to)
*   Allow others to finish; do not interrupt
*   Share airtime
*   Speak from personal experience
*   Conversations are confidential

OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADE ASSIGNMENT
It is a very high priority of mine to ensure fairness and equity in all grading aspects of the course. There is nothing about this class that requires a certain number of students to get a certain grade. We don't use a curve, so every one of you can achieve the grade that you are willing to earn!

Midterm Grading

Midterm grades will be assigned by the beginning of the 10th week of classes and are used to assist students with determining their academic standing. Attendance is also recorded during the 8th week to meet state and federal laws regarding financial aid disbursement. Please note, if you are not attending class it could affect your financial aid (scholarships, grants, loans or Federal Work Study).

If you decide you are not going to attend this class (or any other class you have registered for), you must formally withdraw (drop) from the course. You can do this by logging onto the myUT portal, clicking on the "Student" tab, and then under "My Toolkit" click on Register/Drop/Withdraw.

Final Grading

Your overall grade will be calculated based on your total earned points *divided* by 20.

You have 21 total points that you can receive:

- There is one point available for each assignment. (21 total points)
    - Assignments will be evaluated on a quarter point scale based on effort.
    - Please reach out if you miss more than 2 classes. Each unexcused absence after 2 will drop your grade by a letter.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

	A = 93-100%	A- = 90-92%
B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86%	B- = 80-82%
C+ = 77-79%	C = 73-76%	NC

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Your safely and well-being as a University of Toledo student is important to the faculty, staff, and administration; as such please take a minute to review the following university policies that apply to you as a student of the University:

- https://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/policies.html
- The University of Toledo's Title IX (Sexual Misconduct) Policy - 3364-50-01
- Nondiscrimination 3364-50-02
- Nondiscrimination on the basis of disability - Americans with Disability Act compliance 3354-50-03
- Consensual romantic and/or sexual relationships - Policy 3364-25-65
- Student Code of Conduct 3364-30-04

Please use this URL to view a more comprehensive list of student policies: https://www.utoledo.edu/policies/audience.html/#students

Institutional Classroom Attendance Policy

Please be aware that the university has implemented an attendance policy, which requires faculty to verify student participation in every class a student is registered at the start of each new semester/course. For this course, if you have not attended/participated in class (completed any course activities or assignments) within the first 14 days, I am required by federal law to report you as not attended. Unfortunately, not attending/participating in class impacts your eligibility to receive financial aid, so it is VERY important that you attend class and complete course work in these first two weeks. Please contact me as soon as possible to discuss options and/or possible accommodations if you have any difficulty completing assignments within the first two weeks.

Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability (ADA)

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance.
Students can find this policy along with other university policies listed by audience on the University Policy webpage (http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/audience.html/#students).

Academic Accommodations

The University of Toledo embraces the inclusion of students with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring equal opportunity and seamless access for full participation in all courses. For students who have an Accommodations Memo from the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources, I invite you to correspond with me as soon as possible so that we can communicate confidentially about implementing accommodations in this course.

For students who have not established accommodations with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources and are experiencing disability access barriers or are interested in a referral to health care resources for a potential disability, please connect with the office by calling 419.530.4981 or sending an email to StudentDisability@utoledo.edu.

ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT SERVICES
Please follow this link to view a comprehensive list of Student Academic and Support Services (http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html) available to you as a student.

SAFETY AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR UT STUDENTS
Please use the following link to view a comprehensive list Campus Health and Safety Services available to you as a student.

<p style="text-align:center">SPECIAL COURSE EXPECTATIONS DURING COVID-19</p>

Maintaining a safe campus during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic remains a top priority. UToledo continues to follow the guidance of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Ohio Department of Health to keep our campus safe.

ATTENDANCE
The University of Toledo has a missed class policy. It is important that students and instructors discuss attendance requirements for the course. Before coming to campus each day, students should take their temperature and complete a self-assessment for symptoms of COVID-19, such as cough, chills, fatigue or shortness of breath. Anyone with a temperature at or above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or who is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should not come to campus and contact their primary care physician or the University Health Center at 419.530.5549. For more information on the symptoms of COVID-19, please go to https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html

COVID-19 testing for sick students is available on both Main Campus and Health Science Campus. Call 419.383.4545 for an appointment. Absences due to COVID-19 quarantine or isolation requirements **are** considered excused absences. Students should notify their instructors and follow the protocols summarized in this document on Navigating COVID-Related Course Concerns.

In the event that you have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been diagnosed as a probable case, please review the CDC guidance on self-isolation and symptom monitoring, and report the disclosure to the Division of Student Affairs by emailing StudentAffairs@utoledo.edu or by connecting with their on-call representative at 419.343.9946. Disclosure is voluntary and will only be shared on a need to know basis with staff such as in the Office of Student Advocacy and Support, The Office of Residence Life, and/or the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources to coordinate supportive measures and meet contact tracing requirements.

FACE COVERINGS

Face coverings are required while on campus, except while eating, alone in an enclosed space, or outdoors practicing social distancing. Students will not be permitted in class without a face covering. If you have a medical reason preventing you from wearing a face covering due to a health condition deemed high-risk by the CDC, submit an online application to request an accommodation through the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources. Students will need to provide documentation that verifies their health condition or disability and supports the need for accommodations. Students already affiliated with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources who would like to request additional accommodations due to the impact of COVID-19, should contact their accessibility specialist to discuss their specific needs. You may connect with the office by calling 419.530.4981 or sending an email to StudentDisability@utoledo.edu.

VACCINATION

Doctors and other health care professionals agree that the best way to protect ourselves and each other is to get vaccinated. Case data clearly show that vaccines remain highly effective at preventing serious illness from COVID, including the highly contagious delta variant. If you have not yet received your COVID vaccine, the University encourages you do so as soon as possible. No appointment is needed to get the shot at the UTMC Outpatient Pharmacy, University Health Clinic or Main Campus Pharmacy. Once you receive the COVID vaccination, please register on the COVID Vaccine Registry site at: https://utvaccinereg.utoledo.edu/.

SPECIAL NOTES

It's important to note, that based on the unpredictability of the COVID-19 virus, things can change at any time. So please be patient and understanding as we move through the semester. I also ask that you keep me informed of concerns you may have about class, completing course work/assignments timely and/or health concerns related to COVID.

TENATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Activities (SLO's)	Assignments (points) - deadline
Week 1 T	Ice Cream Social (5,8,9,10)	
R	Student Panel (3,5,7,9)	Discussion Board post (1) – _due before class_
Week 2 T	Technology (4,5)	Outlook Assignment (1) – due Sunday Week 2
R	Settling in? (4)	2-week check-in (1) - due Thursday Week 3
Week 3 T	How to College (4)	Weekly Schedule (1) – due Sunday Week 3 Semester Schedule (1) – due Sunday Week 3
R	**Release Day** (9)	Attend a Welcome Week activity (1)
Week 4 T	Campus Resources (5,7,9)	

R	College Etiquette (4,5)	
Week 5 T	UG Research (3,5,8,9)	
R	UG Research (3,5,8,9)	
Week 6 T	Academic Planning (2,3,7)	Two-Year Plan (1) – due before you register
R	Honors Day - everyone should come (3,7)	Honors Project (only required for Honors students) Part 1 – due Sunday Week 8 Part 2 – due Sunday Week 15
Week 7 T	GPA & Grade Calculation (4)	Calculate Midterm Grades (1)–due Sunday Week 7
R	**No Class - Fall Break**	Enjoy!
Week 8 T	Registration Tips and Tricks (2,3,4,7)	
R	How to Study for Science Classes (3,4,5)	Note-taking (1) – due Sunday Week 10
Week 9 T	Careers in Chemistry (1,2)	
R	Career Project (1,2,5)	Career Group Project (1) – due Sunday Week 11 Discussion Board post (1) – due Sunday Week 12
Week 10 T	Diversity (5,10)	Diversity Reflection (1) – due Sunday Week 13
R	**Release Day** (5,10)	
Week 11 T	Grit (3,4,5)	
R	**No Class - Veteran's Day**	
Week 12 T	Finance (6)	Payback (1) – due Sunday Week 12
R	Finance (6)	Budget (1) - due Sunday Week 13
Week 13 T	Myth of Multi-tasking (3,4,5)	Read article on Discussion Board – *due before class* Discussion Board post (1) – *due before class*
R	**No Class - Thanksgiving**	
Week 14 T	Resume Workshop (5)	Draft Resume – *due before class* Resume (1) – due Sunday Week 14
R	**Release Day** (5)	Cover Letter (1) – due Sunday Week 14
Week 15 T	Fun with Chemistry	
R	Wrap Up (5)	Reflection (1) – due Sunday Week 15
	Student Involvement (9)	Up to (3) points including Welcome Week Activity