WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY 3credits
College of Professional Studies

FYE: 101 First Year Experience
Days/times
Classroom Number

INSTRUCTOR:

OFFICE HOURS:

Additional hours by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: First Year Experience is designed to help students develop the skills needed to be successful at WVSU and beyond. Course content includes developing college-level reading and study skills, career and major exploration, managing time and money wisely, building connections with faculty and students, awareness of campus and community resources, and increasing sensitivity to other cultures so students can effectively interact in an rapidly changing diverse and global community.

COURSE OJECTIVES: This course will enable students:

1. Become familiar with West Virginia State University history and on-campus services.

2. Explore and discuss the steps to take in the first year of college that will improve your learning and study habits to promote success.

3. Develop life skills in the areas of finance, health, wellness, and safety.

4. Develop an appreciation for various cultures and backgrounds through exposure to campus events, cultural activities, and group learning exercises.

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

1. Describe campus services.

2. Critically analyze and perform various learning, reading, and study approaches.

3. Practice fiscal and personal responsibility.

4. Demonstrate cultural understanding in a collaborative environment.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTs

* This course is 30% online using the learning management system (LMS) available at by clicking the WVSU Online option on the main webpage www.wvstateu.edu. Many resources and assignments will only be available to students online. Because of this, it is important that you have access to a reliable high-speed internet connection to be able to perform the required online activities of this course through your own computer or through one of WVSU's student computers available in the Drain Jordan Library or the Center for Online Learning Lab in 222 Wallace Hall. It is also important that you have a backup plan for securing an internet connection if your internet connection fails. Loss of internet services is not an excuse for late assignment submission or for missing an exam. If using your own computer, please make sure your computer is up-to-date with java, flash, shockwave, adobe reader, internet explorer, etc. These are free updates and should be done during the first week of class.*

REQUIRED TEXT:

To be developed

COURSE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Exams (to be specified by instructor)

Make-up exam policy (to be specified by instructor)

Assignments: Specific assignments will be chosen by individual instructors. However, every class will have at least for assignments used to assess the four student outcomes. Instructors will choose one assignment for assessment from each of the following categories:

Student Outcome 1, describe campus services: campus scavenger hunt for various campus services offices; note matrix detailing location, contact info, and detailed explanation of services provided for various campus services.

Student Outcome 2, Critically analyze and perform various learning, reading, and study approaches: study strategy exams; learning style assessments; develop 4 year plan of study including electives; time management log.

Student Outcome 3, Practice fiscal and personal responsibility: wellness log; scavenger hunt of student handbook.

Student Outcome 4, Demonstrate cultural understanding in a collaborative environment: discussion, paper, speech of assigned common reading; discussion, speech, paper on diversity.

METHODOLOGY: Course activities will include: to be completed by instructors detailing methods of course content delivery.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: For participation in this course, students are expected: (to be specified by instructor)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is required in every course at West Virginia State University. Academic dishonesty is defined as plagiarism, cheating, falsifying records, etc., and may be punished by the instructor imposing sanctions ranging from verbal or written reprimand, the awarding of an "F" for the course, and/or suspension.

CLASSROOM INTEGRITY & ETIQUETTE: Instructor to complete this section including guidelines on behavioral expectations, food/drinks, email, cell phones, laptops, etc.

ATTENDANCE: To be completed by instructor.

EXPECTATIONS:

GRADING: The grading scale for this course is as follows:

	COURSE REQUIREMENTS	DUE DATE	% OF GRADE
1.	Student outcome 1 assessment assignment		
2.	Student outcome 2 assessment assignment		
3.	Student outcome 3 assessment assignment		
4.	Student outcome 4 assessment assignment		
5.			
6.			
7.			

Final grades based on the following percentages:
90-100% - A
80-89% - B

70-79% - C
60-69% - D
Below 59% - F

COURSE OUTLINE (TENATIVE):

Week	Date	Topic/Activities	Assignments Due
1		**Introduction to the course – syllabus** College etiquette	
		Campus Tour	
2		**Online Services (Webmail, MyState, WVSU Online Orientation)**	
		Transitioning and commitment	Transition email
3		Time Management Strategies Create a Semester Calendar, Weekly Schedule Ideal/ Real, and Master to do List	
		Counseling and Academic Support Services, tutoring	
4		**Financial aid, scholarships, on-campus employment**	
		Financial Literacy (Guest speaker)	
5		**Developing Effective Learning Skills**	
		Campus Resources (TRIO Programs, Adult and Commuter Services, Health Services, Fitness Services)	
6		**Career Services and Cooperative Education**	
		Library Services and Tour	Note matrix of campus resources
7		**Being a part of an HBCU and Living in a Diverse Society**	
		Campus safety, Wellness, Online wellness (guest speakers)	
8		**Title IX**	Diversity discussion (online)
		Test preparation and test taking strategies	
9		**Campus Programs (ROTC, Honor's Program, Leadership Institute)** **Use of student handbook**	
		SGA, Student Organizations, Student Leader panel	Student handbook scavenger hunt

10		Break	
11		**Advising, status sheets, MyDegree@State**	
		Introduction to college and departments	4 year plan of study including core courses, general education courses, and electives
12		**Common Reading Experience**	
		Introduction to other colleges and departments	
13		**Common Reading Experience**	
		Progressive relaxation techniques	Common reading reflection paper
14		**WVSU History (including history as HBCU, land-grant institution, vision, mission, Alma Mater, etc)**	
		Critical thinking and ethical thinking	
15		Recap on do's and don'ts - Finals Week. Create a "Finals" study schedule	Advising assignment
		Celebration	Proof of attendance at 3 university events
16		Final Exams	

Important Dates:

SUGGESTED ASSIGNMENTS TO ASSESS STUDENT OUTCOMES FOR IDS 101 OR FYE 101

Student Outcome 1 — Describe campus services:

- Campus scavenger hunt for various campus services offices

- Note matrix detailing location, contact info, and detailed explanation of services provided for various campus services

Student Outcome 2 — Critically analyze and perform various learning, reading, and study approaches:

- Study strategy exams

- Learning style assessments

- Develop 4-year plan of study including electives

- Time management log

Student Outcome 3 — Practice fiscal and personal responsibility:

- Wellness log

- Scavenger hunt of student handbook

Student Outcome 4 — Demonstrate cultural understanding in a collaborative environment:

- Discussion, paper, speech of assigned common reading

- Discussion, speech, paper on diversity

OTHER SUGGESTED ASSIGNMENTS

- Attendance at campus activities such as State Stride, Cares Day, college convocations, campus job fairs, campus/college/department guest speakers, cultural activities including plays and concerts, legislative day, faculty lecture series, etc.

- Attendance at community events

- Advising assignment (copy or picture of advising worksheet, photo with advisor, etc)

- Calculate GPA

- Career paper (career of interest, personal mission statement, career goals, action plan)

- Myers-Briggs test and feedback

- Vision Board (detailing dreams, goals, aspirations)

- Transition paper (detailing difference between WVSU and previous school experience, areas of interest at WVSU, questions/concerns about transitioning)

- Interview with someone in professional field of interest

- Schedule planning for the semester using syllabi

- Meta-cognitive skills and strategies

- Reflect on past learning experiences

- Three Strengths and Three Areas of Growth as a Student

- Have students take notes about something. In small groups compare note-taking approaches.

FYE SUGGESTED CONTENT FOR COLLEGES/DEPARTMENTS

- College etiquette

- Study skills

- Time management

- Test preparation

- Learning styles

- Choosing a program of study or major

- Connection with specific College or Departments

- Introduction to other Colleges/Departments

- Ethics in area of discipline

Recommendations for Fall 2015

- Continue with FYE committee (likely will need mix of new members and returning members) to develop course pack or textbook, rubrics for shared assignments

- Designate central person for FYE that will train instructors, assess the course, and head advisory committee to review course annually

- Develop fully online course