

University Experience UC 175-740

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Text Books

All Readings will be available via Blackboard.

Course Description

This course seeks to develop academic and library skills, to foster personal development, and to provide information about campus resources, thus empowering students to have a successful transition to the higher education experience.

As an online course, this class will be administered via Blackboard. Students are expected to log on regularly to the Blackboard site. Creating and maintaining an online presence is an excellent way to achieve success in this course. Remember, this is a bi-term course, which means this course will begin on March 19, 2012 and end on May 11, 2012. This course has been divided into seven course modules and we will follow these modules throughout the bi-term. Each module is important and all students are expected to complete all assignments, projects, readings, etc. assigned within each module.

Course Objectives

1. Introduction to Campus Technology including WKU Webmail, Topnet, and Blackboard
2. Identifying and developing critical thinking skills as we progress throughout the course
3. Developing college level Research practices and Information Literacy when conducting research for your classes
4. Exploration of your Active Learning practices and how to use them to succeed as a college student
5. Choosing a Major and Career path that best fits your personal goals
6. Identifying the importance of Diversity both in the educational/professional realm as well as in everyday life
7. Exploring the rewards of Campus and Community Engagement and how it can create a well-rounded and employable individual

Student Expectations

1. Participation in discussions as well as an online presence throughout the entire length of the course.

2. Completion of readings, quizzes, course assignments and assessments.
3. Completion of all Library Skills requirements.

Assignments

E-Mail/Blackboard Activity - Each student must set up an e-mail account through Western Kentucky University. Students should check their e-mail regularly for assignment updates, upcoming activities, and other class-related messages. Students must also be familiar with Blackboard and check their course sites regularly. This activity will consist of emailing me a short personal introduction as well as posting this introduction to the appropriate Discussion Board available through Blackboard. This should be completed no later than March 21, 2012.

10 points

WKU Homepage Scavenger Hunt – Students will complete this project during the first week of class to familiarize themselves with the WKU homepage as well as the information available to them as WKU students.

20 points

Class Participation - An important part of UC 175 is the community developed via the Blackboard site. Thus, students are expected to maintain an online presence throughout the entire course by logging on to the Blackboard site and participating in class discussions via the Discussion Boards and other forms of communication. Your questions, comments, suggestions and ideas will help to make this class more meaningful. Students should login to their UC 175 Blackboard site at least three times per week to view new posts and announcements. To receive full points for this category students must complete all activities assigned within the Course Modules including, but not limited to, questionnaires, daily schedules, handouts, etc.

100 points

Library Skills Assessments - Each student will complete an Annotated Bibliography as a part of the Library Skills Component of UC 175. Instructions and samples of this project will be available via Blackboard.

100 points

Discussion Board Posts – All students will be required to post to the appropriate Discussion Boards throughout the semester. Specific instructions will accompany each Discussion Board prompt within each Course Module. Students are expected to provide well-prepared, thoughtful and substantial posts to each prompt as well as responses to at least two classmate's original posts. These responses must also be well-prepared, thoughtful and substantial. (Merely posting 'I agree' or 'I do not agree' will not be considered substantial and full points will not be awarded.)

100 points

Career Presentation – Students will create a personal career path Presentation using Powerpoint. Specifications for this project will be discussed later in the semester.

100 points

Quizzes - There will be four quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will be announced so that you may prepare for the varying content. The quizzes will follow the completion of each Course Module.

100 points

Read and React Papers - Students will compose two (2) typed, two-page, double-spaced writings on the concepts and subjects discussed from our article readings. These papers will be assigned upon our completion of certain book chapters and after we have discussed several key concepts via the Discussion Boards. Again, all readings (articles and book chapters) will be available via the Blackboard site.

70 points (35 pts. each)

Assignment Values

Class Participation	100
Discussion Boards	100
Library Skills Component	100
Career Presentation	100
Quizzes (Various Subjects)	100
Read and React #1	35
Read and React #2	35
WKU Homepage Scavenger Hunt	20
<u>E-Mail/Blackboard Activity</u>	<u>10</u>
Total Points Possible	600

Grading Scale

A = 550-600

B = 500-549

C = 450-499

D = 400-449

F = 399-Below

ADA Statement and Non-Discrimination Policy

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office of Student Disability Services located in the Downing University Center. Students may contact the OFSDS at (270) 745-5004. The instructor CANNOT make any accommodation without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

WKU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

Important Dates to Remember

Retrieved from http://www.wku.edu/registrar/academic_calendars/index.php

SPRING SEMESTER 2012	
Classes Begin	Monday, January 23
Spring Break	Monday-Friday, March 5-9
Second Bi-Term Begins	Monday, March 19
Final Examinations	Monday-Friday, May 7-11
Commencement Weekend	Friday and Saturday, May 11-12
Final Grades Due	Tuesday, May 15 (noon)

The instructor reserves the right to make necessary changes to the syllabus during the course of the semester.