FRSH 1000: Freshman Seminar
SPRING 2008 SYLLABUS

CLASS
Course number: FRSH 1000
Time: Tuesday 8.30 am- 10:30 am
Room: 134
Website:

INSTRUCTOR
Name: Dr. Ian R. Haslam Campus Provost
Office: Room 127
Office Hours: Th. 130pm -230 pm
Office Phone: 604-648-4462
E-mail Address: Haslam@fdu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The Freshman Seminar program provides students with a learning experience that helps and supports the transition and adjustment to college and campus life. Students are introduced to the mission and values of the University and its commitment to global education and technology. Students are expected to participate in learning experiences that facilitate their growth and development in both the academic and interpersonal areas and to enable them to become effective citizens of the world. Respect for individual and cultural differences is fostered throughout the course, as is the generation of positive attitudes toward life-long learning.

RELATION TO THE COLLEGE MISSION:
- The freshman seminar will help to empower students with effective communication skills (E1).
- Students will be encouraged to communicate orally, visually and in writing throughout the course.
- Students will develop their relationships with other students in the class who come from global and cross cultural communities around the world (I2).
- The freshman seminar will require active participation in all aspects of the class including the in class and out of class ‘wellness’ activities. Students will be expected to participate fully in a democratic classroom process (R3).

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Provide opportunities for intellectual, academic and personal growth in the areas of values clarification, self-concept, decision-making, goal setting, critical thinking and the development of academic and personal coping skills.
2. Provide opportunities to participate and become actively involved in all aspects of academic and social life.
3. Provide opportunities for leadership development.
4. Provide a systematic plan for selection of areas of study and career opportunities.
5. Assist in the development and enhancement of positive study skills and habits.
6. Provide opportunities for global experiences and all for the exploration of critical societal, community and campus issues.
7. Facilitate the development of skills for self-advocacy, independence and autonomy.

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE TOPICS:
- Part 1: Planning ahead
  - Strategies for success
  - Time management
- Part 2: Take charge of learning
  - How we learn
  - Engagement with learning
  - Critical thinking
Part 3  Sharpen your skills
  o  Listening note taking and participating
  o  Reading strategies
  o  Improving your memory
  o  Taking exams and tests
  o  Effective writing and speaking
  o  Research and college libraries

Part 4  Get connected
  o  Majors and careers: Making the right choices
  o  Relationships
  o  Diversity: Appreciating differences among us

Part 5  Know yourself
  o  Exploring your values
  o  Staying healthy

TEXTBOOK:

TEXTBOOK WEBSITES:

**OPPORTUNITIES TO ENCOURAGE STUDENT LEARNING:**

Learning opportunities include quizzes, learning/application journals, regular attendance, active class participation, other assignments and a final exam. The learning opportunities schedule is as follows:

- **Journal and/or writing assignments** 20%
  - Goal setting assignment 5%
    - Setting goals for each chapter in our book and for your time on college is VERY important. We will practice the task by completing your goals for success this semester.
    - Please submit your goals for review on 9-11-07
  - Time management assignment 5%
    - Complete the “Your daily Plan” exercise from P39 in your textbook.
    - This assignment is due on 9-18-07
  - Critical thinking assignment 5%
    - This assignment is on page 97 in the textbook. Critically reflect on the challenges you face in the classroom. Complete Exercise 5.3.
    - This assignment is due 10-30-07
  - Effective speaking assignment 5%
    - Give a one minute speech to the class on a topic of global interest at the time.
    - This assignment is due 11-13-07
  - My Personal Journal 30%
    - At the end of each week complete the personal journal questions for each chapter. Keep these in a file folder. Make sure they are typed and spell checked for grammar and accuracy. Use illustrations if you feel this would help.
    - This assignment is due 12-04-07
  - Healthy living assignment 20%
    - Complete an activity and diary for the week. Include only those activities that you completed purposefully to stay healthy, fit and well. Reflect in a short paragraph how you felt when you were doing the activity and at the completion of the activity.
    - This assignment is due 11-27-07.
  - Class participation 30%

Attendance and participation are mandatory and will significantly count toward the final grade. If you have any unexcused absences, you may fail the course and you will have to retake Freshman Seminar.

Quizzes and exams may be a combination of true/false, multiple choice, fill in the blanks, match the following, problem solving, and analytical and short answer questions.
FINAL GRADES WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE FOLLOWING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 94</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>71 – 73</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>68 – 70</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>61 – 67</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 60</td>
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Incomplete (I) can be awarded in special cases. University policy must be followed.

WAYS TO ENHANCE LEARNING:

- Share your different perspectives.
- Be prepared for each class meeting with the textbook chapter readings.
- It is also very important to keep communication lines open.
- Regular attendance and active participation in class are absolutely necessary to pass this course with an acceptable grade. Only emergencies with supporting documentation qualify as reasons not to be in class. Work does NOT constitute an emergency.
- Please make all your appointments (for example, doctors, job interviews) outside of the time that this class meets.
- Participation during the class meeting and group discussion is encouraged.
- Take good notes during the class meeting and then rewrite his/her notes incorporating the class discussion as well as details from the textbook/additional readings/journals in order to have a complete set of study material.
- College level writing skills must be used for all written work.
- Assignments should be typed in double space. It is a good practice to keep an electronic copy of all assignments submitted in case the original is lost/misplaced.
- To maximize your benefit from this course you are expected to be on time for class, turn off your cell phone (if you have one)
- Be both mentally and physically present at the start of every class meeting and for the entire duration of the class.
- Maintain appropriate classroom behavior to enable learning to take place.

IMPORTANT DATES:

**SPRING SEMESTER 2008 (Second Semester)**

- New Year’s Day Holiday (US & Canada) | Jan. 1
- **New Student Orientation (Thursday-Friday)** | Jan. 3-4
- Classes Begin, 8:00 AM (Monday) | Jan. 7
- Final Day Drop/Add Changes | Jan. 18
- Last Day for Student Withdrawal from Classes | Mar. 7
- Good Friday Holiday (US & Canada) | Mar. 21
- Easter Monday Holiday (Canada) | Mar. 24
- Last Day of Classes, Spring Semester (Wednesday) | Apr. 16
- **Final Examinations (Thursday-Wednesday)** | Apr. 17-23
- Semester Ends, 11:00 PM (Thursday) | Apr. 24
## COURSE SCHEDULE *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Material and Assignments</th>
<th>Professor</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>Strategies for success</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Jan 15</td>
<td>Time management</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Improving memory</td>
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<td>Diversity</td>
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<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 17-23</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM WEEKA</td>
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* This syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be made based on our class experiences. You will be informed sufficiently in advance about any relevant changes.

### WITHDRAWALS

In the event you choose to withdraw from our course, the burden of following through with the withdrawal process is your responsibility. You may or may not be dropped for excessive absences. However, failure to attend does not guarantee being dropped. Please understand that if you do not officially **withdraw before the end of the 9th week of the semester (March 7, 2008)**, you must be assigned a grade based upon what you have earned. This may be anything from A (unlikely) to F. Please refer to the College Catalogue for more detail. If you believe you MUST withdraw, for any reason, PLEASE consult with me first! Perhaps we can find a way to help you complete our course successfully.