Freshman Seminar  
SFA 101 (section 58)  
Fall 2017

Faculty Instructor:  
Name: Angela Bacarisse  
Office: GFNA 130  
Phone: 936-468-4426  
E-mail: abacarisse@sfasu.edu

Student Instructor:  
Name: Sarah Loveday  
Email: sloveday125@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Friday 10-10:50

Office Hours:  
T 10-11 & 2-3,  
W 11-12 & 3-4, R 10-12 & 2-3  
Or by appointment

Department: Theatre

Class Meeting time and place:  
Monday and Wednesday 10-10:50 GFNA 303

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course provides study and practice in methods for success in college. Topics include critical thinking skills, study skills, time and money management, goal setting, career planning, and a review of university resources and regulations.

Program/Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of SFA 101 the student will be informed of the following areas and how they relate to their success

- Evaluate the significance of academic integrity.
- Construct a strategy for accessing and evaluating information through Steen Library.
- Select campus and community service opportunities in which he/she is interested.
- Apply college classroom learning strategies within this class and others.
- Investigate an overview of university resources.
- Develop personal survival skills.
- Examine SFA history, traditions, and pride.
- Argue the true value of a college education.
- Relate university rules and procedures to his/her personal behavior at SFA.
- Demonstrate working successfully with peers, faculty, and staff.

CLASS READINGS AND MATERIALS: All students will receive a SFA 101 Freshman Success Handbook at the beginning of the semester. Information in the handbook will be used for class discussions. You will also need a class notebook of some type.

COURSE METHODS AND ACTIVITIES: You will participate in the class in the following ways:
* Small group discussion
* Whole class discussion
• Guest speakers
• Visits to campus locations
• Videos
• Games and exercises
• Illustrated lecture
• Individual meetings

**Grading Procedures:**
SFA 101 is a graded course. Passing this course will give you one semester credit that can be used toward the total number of credits you need to graduate. Grades are based on a 100% point system. 90-100 is an A, 80-89.99 is a B, 70-79.99 in a C, etc. A 79.99 is not a B, it is a C.

**Tentative Major assignments and points:**

**Participation in Special Events: 30%**
If you must miss one or more of these events, other make-up events will be announced throughout the semester. You will need to attend events to earn your points. The class will participate in 4 scheduled special events:
- **Preview Night of Tartuffe, Monday October 2, 7:30pm**
  
  This includes a paper worth 5 points 10 pts

- **Preview Night of Mr. Burns, Monday November 6, 7:30pm**

  This includes a paper worth 5 points 10 pts

- **A third event will be at the art gallery TBA** 5 pts

- **A forth event will be your choice of sporting event** 5 pts

**General attendance and participation 10%**

Attendance is mandatory! Participation is mandatory! Therefore, please plan to attend ALL class sessions! You have 2 free choice absences. Above and beyond 2, each absence will have 1 point deducted from your final grade.

**Mid-Term Exam: 10%**

There will be ONE exam during the semester. This exam will be based on the material in the readings and class discussions. It will include true/false, multiple choice, and short essay items. Paper will be provided. There will be NO FINAL EXAM.

**Assignments: 35%**

Several times during the semester, you will be given an assignment to be completed. These assignments will be worth 5 points each. NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE.

- **Who am I?** 5 pts
- **Goals** 5 pts
Academic integrity assignment 5 pts
Alcohol awareness assignment 5 pts
Individual presentations 10 pts
Value of a college education assignment 5 pts

Group Final Presentations: 15%
Using what you have learned about yourself and the college experience you will be assigned to groups and will write and produce a play/devised work about the Freshman Experience.
Group Final Presentations 10 pts
Reflective writing on group work 5 pts

Average (C) Represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect. This score does not indicate any shortcoming. All the work was done adequately and completely, and the work showed basic understanding and mastery of the course material.

Above Average (B) Represents achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements. Not only were all the basic expectations met, it exceeded minimum expected quality levels. This work probably showed one or more of the following characteristics: excellent understanding of the class material, excellent application of theory to practice, unusual thoroughness in thought and preparation.

Superior (A) Represents achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. This work is superior in every respect, and represents the highest level of achievement. Its quality is so good that it would be unreasonable to ask a college student to improve upon it.

Below Average (D) Represents achievement that is worthy of credit even though it does not fully meet course requirements. While there was merit to what was done, there were also deficiencies that meant the work did not fully meet the minimal expectations.

Failure (F) Represents performance that fails to meet the course requirements and is unworthy of credit. This work shows serious deficiencies in regard to the expectations for the assignment.

Some people do not work hard enough to earn the grade they want. This is your responsibility. Some people have to work harder than others to earn a certain grade. This may not be fair, but it is a fact of life. A grade is not a gift from the instructor. A grade is earned based on the degree of accomplishment of various tasks.

Classroom Rules:
Following these few rules will help maximize the SFA 101 experience for you, your classmates and your instructors:
- Attend every class
- Read the assigned material and turn in all required work when due
- Participate in individual and group activities and discussion
- Treat everyone in the class with respect and courtesy
• Electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class time. AFTER THE FIRST OFFENSE, EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE WILL CONSTITUTE A DEDUCTION OF 1 POINT FROM YOUR FINAL GRADE.
• Ask questions!

When students have personal technology available in the classroom, it should be used appropriately. Using devices for interacting on social media sites is not an appropriate in-class use of technology. Sending or receiving texts, instant messages, or making/receiving phone calls can cause distractions to the instructor and to fellow students. Cell phones, computers, and other electronic devices in the classroom are to be used for class purposes only.

MAIL: Please check your SFA email account regularly. Your SFA account is the official email account for SFASU.

D2L will be the official tool in your SFA 101 class for communicating the important reminders, announcements, and further assignment directions.

COURSE COMPLAINTS: Any college course complaints or problems should first be discussed with the course instructor for the particular course. Difficulties can usually be resolved there. If the complaint cannot be resolved, the next person to see is the appropriate department chairperson. SFA 101 office Steen Library, Room 203L; 936-468-1588.

GENERAL STUDENT POLICIES:
The following policies apply to all students enrolled in courses at Stephen F. Austin State University.

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7
Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and submission of completed assignments are expected. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports (including the first 12 day attendance report) and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 936-468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.
Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty
Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

Student Appeals
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy (i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)). If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at http://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

TENATIVE CLASS CALENDAR: (subject to change)

8/28  Introductions and Time Management
8/30  goals and introductions- continue time management.
9/4   continue goals, Who is my advisor?
9/6   classroom do’s and don’ts
9/11  Important for Graduation!  Goals assignment Due Guest Lisa Rodrigues
9/13  SFA Theatre Handbook, Guest Cleo House, Director of the School of Theatre
9/18  History and Traditions with Sarah
9/20  Library! Meet in Linc classroom with Tina, the fine arts librarian
9/25  Summer Opportunities, Academic Integrity
9/27  Study Skills- AARC program
10/2  NO CLASS, go to TARTUFFE
10/4  Discussion of Tartuffe and college Theatre experience
10/9  Being a Student Director- invited student panel
10/11 MIDTERM EXAM
10/16 Alcohol and Drug Awareness- SFA SWAT
10/8  Survival Skills with Detective Kennedy
10/23 Art Gallery
10/25 Prep for Advising and Registration
10/30 creating your own theatre
11/1  developing your piece
11/6  NO CLASS, go to MR. BURNS, A POST APOCOLYPTIC PLAY
11/8  presentations
11/13 Value of a College Education
11/15 individual meetings
11/20 THANKSGIVING
11/22 THANKSGIVING
11/27 Question and Answer with Sarah
11/29  Surviving Finals, preparing presentations

12/4  preparing Final Presentations

12/6  Final Presentations