Freshman Seminar
SFA 101 (section 04)
Fall 2019

Faculty Instructor:  
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Office Hours: check office door or check costume shop or by appointment  
Department: Theatre

Student Instructor:  
Name: Madison Eben  
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Office Hours: Friday 10-10:50

Class Meeting time and place:  
Monday and Wednesday 10-10:50 GFNA 302

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

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 the Wolves, Monday Sept. 30, 7:30pm
    This includes a paper worth 5 points 10 pts
  - Preview Night of Titus Andronicus, Monday November 11, 7:30pm
    This includes a paper worth 5 points 10 pts
  - A third event will be at the art gallery TBA 5 pts
  - A fourth event will be your choice of event on campus a special lecture, sporting event, art movie, not in GFNA! 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
- Library assignment 5 pts
- Academic integrity assignment 5 pts
- Alcohol awareness assignment 5 pts
- Individual presentations 5 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.

Academic Integrity (4.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) 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 your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been
purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating
the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.
Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades (5.5):
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic
chair/director, 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. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will
automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of
computing the grade point average

Students with Disabilities
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, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) 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/

Acceptable Student Behavior
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 (see the Student Conduct Code,
policy 10.4). 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 prohibition 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. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other
assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Diversity inclusion statement
This class may engage in material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin,
sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, and disability. While I encourage you
to formulate and express your thoughts and opinions throughout the semester, discriminatory
remarks will not be tolerated and may constitute disruptive behavior under the student code of
conduct.

TENATIVE CLASS CALENDAR: (subject to change)

8/26 Introductions
8/28 Time Management
9/2   goals and introductions
      *Due*

9/4   Who is my advisor?

9/9   classroom do’s and don’ts

9/11  Important for Graduation!
      *Goals assignment Due*

9/16  SFA Theatre Handbook

9/18  History and Traditions with Madison

9/23  Library! Meet in Linc classroom
      *Library assignment Due*

9/25  Summer Opportunities, Academic Integrity

9/30  NO CLAS, go to *Wolves*
      *Academic Integrity Due*

10/2  Discussion of *Wolves* and college Theatre experience
      *Wolves assignment Due*

10/7  Being a Student Director- invited student panel

10/9  Study Skills- AARC program

10/14 MIDTERM EXAM

10/16 Alcohol and Drug Awareness- SFA SWAT
      *Alcohol Awareness assignment*

10/21 Survival Skills

10/23 Art Gallery

10/29 Prep for Advising and Registration

10/28 creating your own theatre

10/30 developing your piece

11/4  presentations
      *individual presentations*

11/6  Value of a College Education

11/11 NO CLAS, go to *Titus Andronicus*
      *Value of Ed. assignment Due*

11/13 individual meetings
11/18  Question and Answer with Madison

11/20  Surviving Finals, preparing presentations

11/25  THANKSGIVING

11/27  THANKSGIVING

12/2   preparing Final Presentations

12/4   Final Presentations presentations and evaluations due