I. 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.

II. Program and 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 the student is interested in.
- Apply college classroom learning strategies within the 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 the student’s personal behavior at SFA.
- Demonstrate working successfully with peers, faculty, and staff.

III. Class Readings and Materials

There is no required book for this course. Any required reading or materials will be provided in class or via D2L. You will also need a class notebook to keep required coursework and assignments organized.

IV. Course Methods

You will participate in the class in the following ways: small group and whole class discussions, guest speakers, visits to campus locations, videos, illustrated lectures, individual meetings, games and exercises.
V. Grading Policy and Assignments

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. The grading system is as follows:

- 450 - 500 points    A
- 400 - 449 points    B
- 350 - 399 points    C
- 300 - 349 points    D
- 299 points & below  F

Attendance Policy 250 points

- **Instructor/Student Meetings** (25 points per meeting; 75 possible points): Two individual meetings with the instructor or the student instructor will be scheduled. The purpose of the meeting is to allow you to ask questions, get clarification on college processes, or just to develop a professional relationship. Your participation in these meetings will count as 25 points per meeting.

- **Outside Events** (20 points): You will be required to attend one of the following outside events provided by SFA: Fine arts event, planetarium, or observatory. You must provide sufficient documentation of the event. Attendance at one of these events will be valued at 20 points.

- **Class attendance** (10 points per class; 130 possible points): Class attendance is mandatory and will be recorded during each class meeting. Therefore, please plan to attend all sessions.

- **Tunnel of Oppression** (attendance; 25 points): Our class will attend the Tunnel of Oppression event together, hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, on **November 4th at 6:30pm**. Then, a reflection assignment will be due. Details on the assignment will be provided before attending Tunnel. **You must attend the Tunnel in order to complete the reflection.**

Group Assignment 100 points

As a class we will be completing a group service project. This project will be determined by the class. A reflection over the project will be a separate reflection assignment.

Writing for Reflection 100 points

You will be assigned four writing for reflection assignments, each valued at 25 points. These assignments may range from journaling, structured papers, or online discussions. Formatting for these assignments will be provided to you in class and accessible in D2L. You will complete assignments over the following:

- **Goals Reflection** (25 points):
- **Assigned in class** (25 points):
- **Tunnel of Oppression** (reflection; 25 points):
- **Group Assignment** (25 points):

Exam: InterviewStream 50 points

Interview Stream is a program provided by Center for Career and Professional Development to prepare students for internship and job interviews by allowing them to participate in online mock interviews. Instead of completing a final paper for the class, students will complete a reflection exercise using a computer or tablet with a webcam, and submit the interview to the instructor and student instructor for review. This reflection experience will allow you to think about what you have learned in your first semester on campus and how these experiences are affecting you, while allowing your instructors to
provide you with feedback. More details about this assignment will be provided via D2L, including how the assignment will be graded.

**Bonus Point Opportunity**

Students may receive bonus points for taking part in the following activities, with proof of attendance:

- Attending your college’s convocation (see D2L for a list of locations and dates) – **10 points**
- Attending an outside-of-class SFA academic or cultural lecture *(must be approved by instructor prior to attending and bring proof to class)* – **10 points**
- Attending an SI or tutoring session at the AARC – **5 points per visit, up to 25 total points. AARC pink slips must be provided to instructor for each visit.**
- Attending an informational organization meeting *(must bring handout/proof of attendance)* – **5 points**

**VI. Class Rules**

Following these rules will help maximize the SFA 101 experience for you and your classmates.

- Attend every class.
- Read the assigned material and submit all required work on the day it is due. **No late work is accepted.**
- Participate in individual and group activities and discussions.
- Treat everyone in the class with respect and courtesy.
- All students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior and use language appropriate for the classroom learning experience.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class time.

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.

**VII. Communication**

Please check your SFA email account regularly as this is the official email for SFA. D2L will be the official tool used in your SFA 101 class for communicating the important reminders, announcements, and further assignment directions. Please email your instructor, Ryan Brown-Moreno at brownmorre@sfasu.edu for any course questions.

**VIII. 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. For SFA 101, contact the Student Success Center (Steen Library, Room 203; 936-468-5803).
IX. General Student Policies

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

1. **Student Academic Dishonesty (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
   ly 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

5. **Student Code of Conduct (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 (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not ba
   biding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

2. **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](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

3. **Course 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.

4. **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (6.1)**
   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 eare 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.
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<td>Week 1, August</td>
<td>Class Introduction-Resources, D2L, mySFA</td>
<td>Differences between HS &amp; College: Developing Personal Responsibility</td>
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<td>Week 2, September</td>
<td>AARC Overview&lt;br&gt;Bring syllabus Thursday</td>
<td>Navigating College: Time Management &amp; Prioritization!&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Bring all syllabi to class!&lt;/i&gt;</td>
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<td>Week 3, September</td>
<td>Who are you, what are you, &amp; why are you? Finding your purpose.&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Schedule 1st Individual Sessions&lt;/i&gt;</td>
<td>SMART Goal Setting&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Writing Assignment #1&lt;/i&gt;</td>
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<td>Week 4, September</td>
<td>Learning Strategies: Note-taking &amp; Reading textbooks</td>
<td>Learning Strategies: Study Skills &amp; Test Taking</td>
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<td>Week 5, September</td>
<td>Linking Academic &amp; Social Engagement</td>
<td>Developing Relationships: Networking for your future!</td>
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<td>Week 6, October</td>
<td>The SFA Way &amp; Academic Integrity</td>
<td>University Rules and Procedures</td>
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<td>Week 7, October</td>
<td>Success in College: Grades, GPA, Course Selection, Academic Advising</td>
<td>Student Success Panel&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Writing Assignment #2&lt;/i&gt;</td>
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<td>Week 8, October</td>
<td>SFA History, Traditions, Pride&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Schedule 2nd Individual Sessions&lt;/i&gt;</td>
<td>University resources: Scavenger hunt!</td>
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<td>Week 9, October</td>
<td>Personal Survival Skills: Alcohol, Drugs, and UPD</td>
<td>Personal Survival Skills: Health &amp; Stress Management</td>
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<td>Week 10, October</td>
<td>Critical Thinking &amp; Academic Integrity</td>
<td>Accessing &amp; Evaluating Information-Library Services</td>
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<td>Week 11, November</td>
<td>Managing Motivation &amp; Maintaining Mindset</td>
<td>Career Planning&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Writing Assignment #3&lt;/i&gt;</td>
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<td>Week 12, November</td>
<td>Sharpening your Study Skills: Test preparation!</td>
<td>InterviewStream</td>
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<td>Week 13, November</td>
<td>The Value of a College Education: Money Management &amp; Budgeting</td>
<td>Re-evaluate SMART Goals: Check your progress!</td>
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<td>Week 14, November</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Break</strong></td>
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<td>Week 15, December</td>
<td>Review learning strategies &amp; study skills: Prepping for finals!</td>
<td>My first semester at College: Reflection&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Writing Assignment #4&lt;/i&gt;</td>
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<td>Week 16, December</td>
<td><strong>Finals Week</strong></td>
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