Faculty Instructor: Dr. Hollie Smith
Office: BPSC 3.105
Office Phone: 936-468-2988
Email: hsmith@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30 pm
Department: Student Life

Student Instructor: Chinye Nwaobi
Email: nwaobicf@jacks.sfasu.edu
Office Hours: by appointment
Major: Accounting
Classification: Senior

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 polices.

Credit Hour Description
SFAS 1101 “Freshman Success Seminar” (1 credit hour) is an optional but highly recommended course for all first-year freshman and transfer students at Stephen F. Austin State University. Direct instruction is provided for two 50-minute meetings per week for 16 weeks. Students have weekly readings and assignments that focus on topics related to student development and college success. These activities average at a minimum two hours per week to prepare outside of classroom hours.

Course Delivery Modality
This course is a fully in-person course which offers all of its meetings in person on campus at a scheduled time. Instructional content will be made available through illustrated lectures, individual meetings, guest speakers, small group and whole class discussions, visits to campus locations, videos, games, and exercises.

Respect for Diversity
At SFA, our commitment to diversity and inclusion is more than words—it is actions. We believe diversity and inclusion are the keys to promoting more engaged individuals locally and globally. We at SFA are committed to amplifying a campus culture that nurtures belonging and embraces similarities while celebrating that every Lumberjack will be different. Those differences are valued, acknowledged, and supported purposefully. We encompass ground-breaking strategies fostered from our diverse campus while taking a holistic approach to how we function as a university.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives (Program/Student Learning Outcomes):

This course supports the mission of Stephen F. Austin State University:
Stephen F. Austin State University is a comprehensive institution dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, creative work, and service. Through the personal attention of our faculty and staff, we engage our students in a learner-centered environment and offer opportunities to prepare for the challenges of living in the global community.

This course also supports the mission of the Student Success Center:
The Student Success Center supports undergraduate students by optimizing campus resources through innovative and intentional programs, which empowers students to attain academic success and persist toward graduation and beyond.
III. Program and Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of SFAS 1101, the student will be informed of the following areas and how they relate to their success:

- Evaluate the significance of academic integrity.
- Apply college classroom learning strategies within the class and beyond.
- Relate the Wellness Model to personal life activities and behaviors.
- Apply a Growth Mindset to learning in college and beyond.
- Evaluate the importance of academic advising while in college and explore SFA advising protocols.
- Demonstrate an increased understanding of cultural diversity, inclusion and social justice.
- Demonstrate the understanding of metacognitive skills and applying strategies academically and beyond.
- Construct a strategy for accessing and evaluating information through Steen Library.
- Select campus and community service opportunities in which the student is interested.
- 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.

IV. Class Readings and Materials

All students will receive a SFAS 1101 Freshman Success Handbook in a digital format at the beginning of the course. Information in the study sheet and handbook will be used for class discussions. Make sure you get them, read them, and understand them. You will also need a class notebook to keep required coursework and assignments organized.

V. Grading Policy and Assignments

SFAS 1101 is a graded course. Passing this course will give you one semester credit that can be used towards the total number of credits you need to graduate. **Required for participation and attendance, leadership, and cultural development points:**

**Participation and Attendance (75 points)**

- **Class Attendance (50):** Students will lose points for being tardy and/or missing class.
- **One-on-One Meetings with Instructor (5):** Each student is required to set-up one outside of class meeting with one of the instructors. You will sign up for these meetings during class.
- **Class Reflections (20):** You will be assigned two writing prompts (10 points each) throughout the semester to be completed using Brightspace/D2L or to be turned in at the beginning of class. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. These assignments are intended to provide you with an opportunity to reflect on and benefit from what is happening in college.

**Leadership (20 points)**

- **Leadership presentation (20):** Each student may partner with one other classmate to put together a leadership presentation over a topic of interest. Each presentation will begin with a short icebreaker that is facilitated by the student(s), followed by a 10-15 minute presentation.

**Cultural Development (5 points)**

- The Office of Multicultural Affairs will host several in person and virtual equity, diversity and inclusion activities throughout the semester. You must participate in at least one of them. Examples include Something to Chew On, Brave Space Series, Tunnel of Oppression, Poverty Simulation, The
Monologues, and various other programs. A list of fall offerings will be advertised on the 
http://www.sfasu.edu/multicultural/480.asp website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation, Attendance, and Class Reflections</th>
<th>75 pts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Development</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Development</td>
<td>5 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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90-100 = A  
80-89 = B  
70-79 = C  
60-69 = D  
59 or below = F  
QF= Failure due to unauthorized withdrawal or excessive absence.

VI. Class Rules
Following these rules will help maximize the SFAS 1101 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.
- When on Zoom, show your video. Actively participate.
- 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 and form of communication for SFA. Brightspace/D2L will be the official tool used in your SFAS 1101 class for important reminders, announcements, and further assignment directions.

VIII. Course Complaints/Evaluations
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 SFAS 1101, the chairperson is Lydia Richardson, Program Coordinator of the Freshman Success Courses. (Steen Library, Room 203; 936-468-5808; lprichardson@sfasu.edu).

Near the conclusion of each semester, students enrolled in SFAS 1101 electronically evaluate the course and instructor. Evaluation data is used for, (1) course and program improvement and planning; and (2) instruction evaluation purposes. As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the SFAS 1101 faculty are committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical! The course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through mySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.
IX. General Student Policies

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

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 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

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

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 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 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 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 Academic Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.
X. Mental Health Statement

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

At Stephen F. Austin State University, our faculty, staff, alumni and students believe in doing things “The SFA Way.” We expect the best from ourselves and from each other, and we hold each other accountable when we fail to maintain these standards. Grounded in the five “Root Principles” below, members of the SFA community seek to strive for personal excellence in everything that we do.

The Principle of Respect: Lumberjacks command respect and treat others with respect • They are considerate of others and tolerant of differences • They demonstrate respect for those around them by avoiding the use of offensive or profane language • They do not threaten or harm anyone and deal peacefully and civilly with conflict. The Principle of Caring: Lumberjacks think of the needs of others and seek to improve the quality of life of those around them • They are compassionate, empathic and kind • They respond with humility to those they have helped and express gratitude freely to those who help them • Lumberjacks prepare themselves to become leaders in their communities and workplaces • They dedicate themselves to excellence in their chosen field of study and to using what they learn in the service of others. The Principle of Responsibility: Lumberjacks do what is right • They persevere in times of adversity • Through self-control and self-discipline, they strive to do their best • Lumberjacks challenge each other to exceed expectations • They are active learners both inside and outside of the classroom • They are reliable; they do what they say they will do • Lumberjacks hold themselves accountable for their decisions. The Principle of Unity: Lumberjacks are loyal to their friends, family, university, state and country • Lumberjacks stand together against any adversary • They recognize that though we are very different from one another, we are united by the Lumberjack Spirit. Lumberjacks seek to understand the people and world around them • When one lumberjack fails, all fail • When one lumberjack succeeds, all succeed. The Principle of Integrity: Lumberjacks have the courage to do what is right, even when it is hard or unpopular • They respond to each situation with steadfast values that are not subject to change based on the actions of others • They seek opportunities to practice effective and ethical leadership • Lumberjacks are honest; they do not deceive, cheat or steal • Lumberjacks stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves • As lifelong learners, lumberjacks are committed to continuously improving themselves.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
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| Week 1     | **August 23**  
Course overview  
Brightspace/D2L  
mySFA  | **August 25**  
University and library resources |
| Week 2     | **August 30**  
Time management  
About Me Slide due  | **September 1**  
Overview of AARC |
| Week 3     | **September 6**  
Campus involvement and belonging  
Student leader panel  | **September 8**  
Social interactions and working with faculty |
| Week 4     | **September 13**  
Personal Survival Skills  | **September 15**  
Learning strategies |
| Week 5     | **September 20**  
Leading others  
Alcohol and drug awareness  | **September 22**  
Academic integrity  
Accessing and evaluating information  
Library Resources |
| Week 6     | **September 27**  
Stress management  | **September 29**  
Equity, diversity and inclusion |
| Week 7     | **October 4**  
First impression and personal branding  
Successful interactions with peers, faculty and staff  | **October 6**  
Study skills  
Test taking strategies  
Reflection paper due by 11:59pm |
| Week 8     | **October 11**  
Growth Mindset  
Goal-setting  | **October 13**  
Academic Advising and course registration  
Health, safety, wellness  
Sign-up for one-on-one meetings |
| Week 9     | **October 18**  
SFA history, traditions, and pride  | **October 20**  
One-on-one meetings |
| Week 10    | **October 25**  
Leadership presentations  
Student Rights and Responsibilities  | **October 27**  
Career planning/Type Focus  
SFA traditions and history |
| **Homecoming week** |                               |                                                 |
| Week 11    | **November 1**  
Leadership presentations  
Mental health and wellness  | **November 3**  
Value of a college education  
Money Management |
| Week 12    | **November 8**  
Leadership presentations  | **November 10**  
First semester in college reflection |
| Week 13    | **November 15**  
Leadership presentations  
Evaluating your first semester as a New Lumberjack: What have you learned?  | **November 17**  
Finals study plan  
Reflection paper due by 11:59pm |
| Week 14    | **November 22**  
Leadership presentations  | **November 24**  
NO CLASS! Thanksgiving holiday. Relax! |
| Week 15    | **November 29**  
Meet with professor as needed  | **December 1**  
Meet with professor as needed |
| Week 16    | **Finals Week**  | **Finals Week** |

**SFA**: Stephen F. Austin State University
**D2L**: Desire2Learn
**AARC**: Academic Advising and Resource Center