Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: SOC 105—FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE
Number of Credits: 1 semester hour
Pre/Co-requisites: None

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with important concepts in student retention and positive student outcomes. Topics may involve drug and alcohol issues, health and personal safety, library resources, computer resources, academic policies and procedures, freshman transitions, general education, career exploration and diversity.

Course Objectives: As a two-year college, Dakota College at Bottineau subscribes to a philosophy that promotes student success through faculty, staff, and student interaction. This course is formatted to foster that interaction and to meet the following objectives:

1. Increase student's ability to adjust to the demands of the first year of college
2. Assist students in developing positive learning skills
3. Expose and orient students to the programs and services available on campus
4. Inform students about policies and procedures that govern campus life

Instructor: Professor Russ Gagnon, 852-3463, not after 9 p.m.

Office: Minot Campus Administration Building Room 159
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and by appointment when not in class.
Phone: 800-777-0750 ext:4338 or 701-858-4338, Fax: 701-858-4232,
Email: russ.gagnon@minotstateu.edu

Textbook(s): *College Success Simplified 3rd Ed.*, Enid Leonard, ISBN 978-0-205-75737-4, Pearson

Course Requirements:

1. Attend class.
2. Completion of assignments, tests, and daily in-class work.
3. Grading:

90-100% =A 80-89% =B 70-79%= C 60-69%= D 0-59% =F

Tentative Course Outline:

First Week Survival
Confidence Building and Goals
Minimizing and Managing Stress
Multisensory Learning
Time Management
Developing Concentration
Memory: How It Works
Active Listening and Notetaking
Textbooks: Critical Reading and Thinking
Writing Effectively
Test Taking
Preparing for a Career
Diversity
Managing Your Money
Well-being and Being Well
Relationships
Effective Communication
Safety: Protecting Yourself from Crime

General Education Goals/Objectives:

Technology - Objective 2:
Uses electronic resources for course related assignments and information

Skill 1: Selects appropriate electronic resources
Skill 2: Recognizes differences in Internet resources based on address extensions
Skill 3: Identifies proper academic library search engines
Skill 4: Evaluates quality/value of web-based information

Beyond - Objective 4:
Works collaboratively with others
Skill 1: Participates in class discussions and in any group projects or activities
Skill 2: Participates in class discussions, peer editing, and group activities or projects, responding productively and respectfully to the work and ideas of others and considering the ideas and suggestions of others

Relationship to Campus Theme: Dakota College at Bottineau emphasizes nature, technology, and beyond as a focus for the unique blend of courses and programs offered here. This course utilizes technology to enhance the educational environment and encourages personal growth as they embark on the adventure of being a college student.

Classroom Policies:

Missed Classes: Attendance is expected. Unannounced quizzes, tests, and class projects can be made-up only when the instructor excuses students prior to class. You are responsible for the activities of each class period. If you know of a conflict ahead of time, you are welcome to submit assignments early. Recognizing the importance of student participation and interaction with classmates, excessive absences necessitate failure in the class.

Assignments: All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date due unless specified prior. Late assignments receive one-half credit minus errors. All late assignments are due before the final examination is administered. Make sure the class name, your name, date due, and exercise number appears in the upper-right corner. If handing in multiple pages, sequence them according to the order in the exercise, and staple in the upper left corner.

Electronic Devices: Turn off or mute cellular phones and pagers, **NO TEXTING** during class, prior permission for computer use is required. I will have my cell phone on for campus emergency notifications.

Academic Dishonesty and Grade Appeals: plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on exam, paper or project; failure in course; and/or expulsion from the university. For more information, refer to the "Academic Dishonesty" or "Grade Appeal" policy in the university catalog or the student handbook online: http://www.dakotacollege.edu/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf

Disabilities and Special Needs: If you have any condition, such as a physical or learning disability, for which you need extra assistance, please see me immediately. If you have already met with Student Development personnel, please provide me with information regarding your special needs as soon as possible so that I can make appropriate accommodations.