**UNIV 1131 – FRESHMAN PASS**

**FRESHMAN POTENTIAL FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS SEMINAR**

**Section 001 – SH 333**

**Spring 2014**

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**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday – 2pm or by appointment

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**Course Description**

The Freshman Potential for Academic Success Seminar (PASS) is required for first-year students on academic probation who want to improve their academic skills. Students will become more familiar with university policies and procedures to understand their probation situation more fully. Freshman PASS focuses on enhancing and improving specific learning skills and behaviors necessary for academic success, such as: goal setting, time management, note-taking, textbook reading, and test-taking strategies.

**Students who are required to take UNIV 1131 for the Freshman PASS program must receive a grade of "P" (passing grade) in the course in order to remain enrolled in future academic sessions.  Students who receive a grade of "F" (failing grade) in the course will be dropped from future academic sessions for which they are enrolled and future attempts to enroll will be blocked.  Appeals for future enrollment will be considered by the Director of the University Advising Center.**

For more on the Freshman PASS policy, please go to [www.uta.edu/pass](http://www.uta.edu/pass).

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will utilize the LASSI and VARK self-assessment tools in order to identify strengths and opportunities for greater self-management.
2. Identify and apply self-management methods for impacting attitude and motivation.
3. Students will understand academic opportunities and threats in order to formulate individual learning strategies.
4. Students will apply individual learning strategies across academic programs and in personal and career development.
5. Students will apply principles of behavior modification to self-regulate or change identified academic challenges.

**Required materials**

* **Three ring notebook or folder** for graded assignments, class information and handouts
* Paper and pen/pencil for taking notes and completing in-class assignments
* Daily/Weekly Planner

**REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSING THE CLASS**

**Attendance**

*This is a ten-week course, taught 2 hours per week.* **Attendance is required and missing more than three (3) class dates will result in a grade of “F” for the course**. In-class assignments will be provided in most class sessions and cannot be made up if missed. Additionally, homework for the class will be collected at the start of each class session and may not be turned in late. Therefore, it is in your best interest to arrive at class on-time and be in attendance every day that class meets.

**Assignment Guidelines**

Class lessons are dependent upon your application of the material and techniques in your other classes. Therefore, expect to have homework.

* Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date they are listed on the syllabus.
* In-class assignments may not be made up.
* All work done outside of class should be typed unless a worksheet is provided. In cases where work that is hand-written is accepted, be sure to write legibly. If I cannot read it, I will assume it is incorrect and points may be deducted.
* Assignments must be completed according to the specified assigned format.
* Assignments not stapled or without a name will not be graded for credit.

**Required Assignments** Grade

1. Pre-Evaluation P/F
2. Transitions & Expectations P/F
3. LASSI – Score Results P/F
4. LASSI – In class assignment P/F
5. SMART Goals P/F
6. Time Management Assessment P/F
7. VARK – Score Results P/F
8. VARK In-class assignment P/F
9. Note-Taking & Reading Skills Strategies P/F
10. SQ4R Method P/F
11. Issues in Higher Education Articles/Proposals P/F
12. Instructor Meeting P/F
13. Academic Improvement Plan P/F

(Completed during required instructor meeting)

1. 5-day Study Plan P/F
2. Language of Personal Responsibility (Victim vs. Creator) P/F
3. Motivation Reflection P/F
4. Issues in Higher Education – Presentation P/F
5. Issues in Higher Education – Paper P/F
6. Academic Improvement Plan – Midterm Evaluation P/F
7. Post Evaluation P/F

**Other Assignments**

Other assignments will be given by the instructor throughout the semester. The assignment and point values will be assigned as appropriate. Assignments may include activities such as mini-quizzes, written responses for reflection over relevant material, credit for attending UT Arlington events and community service, in-class exercises, etc.

**Meeting with Instructor**

All students must schedule an individual meeting with the instructor. Failure to attend this meeting will result in a grade of “F” for the class.

**Grading**

Course assignments will be graded on a Pass/Fail grading system. Students are expected to complete all work to the best of their ability and submit all assignments by the due date. Work that is submitted completely and by the assigned due date will result in a grade of “P”. Incomplete, illegible, or late work will result in a grade of “F”. Students who earn a grade of “P” in at least 70% of the course assignments and complete their instructor meeting by the assigned deadline will successfully pass the course with a grade of “P”.

## COURSE POLICIES

**Email Communication with Students**

Students are encouraged to use their UT Arlington email account to receive official UT Arlington notifications. With email filters in place, I cannot guarantee that I would receive an email not sent by your UT Arlington email account. Therefore, for the purposes of this class, **I require that you communicate with me via your UT Arlington email account.** Any email sent from a non-UT Arlington email account will not be read or replied to.

* When sending email, enter in subject line: **UNIV** **1131; then subject or reference to the email content**

**“Instructor’s Office Mailbox:”**

If you find that you need to turn in an assignment to my office, you must drop it off at the Service Desk of the Science & Engineering Library (basement of Nedderman Hall). Ask the library staff member to put date, time dropped off and to initial your work before putting it in my mailbox so that your grade will be assessed properly.

**Classroom Participation Policy**

College level behavior, courteousness, and attentiveness are expected from each student. **Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic equipment**. Students that neglect to turn off their phones will be asked to leave class for the remainder of the class period and will be assessed absence deductions accordingly. Put away newspapers, magazines and assignments from other classes before the beginning of class. Each student is expected to keep up with course assignments, readings, and to attend class. An attitude of cooperation, a willingness to contribute ideas and experiences, and openness to new concepts and theories will enhance your collegiate experience.

Disruptions and/or distractions to the learning environment are not acceptable. Students who interfere with learning will be asked to leave class immediately and to schedule an instructor conference to discuss re-admission to class. Students with behavior or attitudes deemed inappropriate to the university setting will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Resources**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Academic Integrity**

All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to the schedule as needed.**

I LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU!