

STEM

Dr. Melissa L. Johnson mjohnson@honors.ufl.edu

Steering students towards majors and careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines continues to be a hot topic among educators, legislators, and the general public. In this course, we will work with first-year STEM majors to develop a unique action plan for deeper involvement in their discipline, whether that be through undergraduate research, internships, leadership, global experiences, or other opportunities. Also, Girl Power.

FALL 2016

Contacts, Readings, Resources



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TA's: Grace Kellaher | Sierra Sanchez Courtney Spillman | Sam Stilley



Canvas: http://elearning.ufl.edu Yellowdig: http://www.yellowdig.com



Cuddy, A. (2015). Presence: Bringing Your Boldest Self to Your Biggest Challenges

Course Guidelines



Weekly assignments due Mondays, 11:59pm in Canvas | Late work = points deducted | Need accommodations? Documentation from Disability Resources: 352.392.8565



Honor Code implied on all work submitted | Expect grades within 1 week per assignment | Check UF email on a daily basis | Expect instructor email response w/in 24-48 hrs, excluding weekends / holidays

Course Objectives



Develop skills in writing, oral presentation, use of technology, and teamwork



Build proficiency with resumes, interviewing, negotiating, and networking



Cultivate mentoring relationships



Identify a plan of action for conquering UF

Grading Scale



A: 93-100% B-: 80-82% D+: 67-69%

A-: 90-92% C+: 77-79%: D: 63-66%

B+: 87-89% C: 73-76% D-: 60-62%

B: 83-86% C-: 70-72% E: Below 59%



More than 1 unexcused absence = final grade deducted by 1 letter grade per additional absence

Assignments



ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION | 400 PTS (50 x 8)

- Come to class, on time, don't leave early
- Be an active contributor in class
- Laptops, tablets, mobile devices are OK
- Contact Dr. J w/in 48 hrs of missing class to determine if absence will be excused or not



BI-WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS | 500 PTS (100 x 5)

- Available on Canvas, due Mondays at 11:59pm
- Focuses on resources, short readings, and activities to complete based on course topics
- Allows you to personalize the course topics based on your unique interests



BI-WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS | 400 PTS

- Available on Yellowdig, due Mondays at 11:59pm
- Focuses on resources and articles relevant to course topics
- Each group serves once as discussion leader



PRESENCE DISCUSSIONS | 200 PTS

- Each group leads a 30-45 minute class discussion / activity based on their section of Presence
- Group 1: Intro-Ch 3
- Group 2: Ch 4-6
- Group 3: Ch 7-8
- Group 4: Ch 9-11



PRO DEV CHALLENGE | 500 PTS (250 x 2)

- Complete 1 mission from each group
- Post a photo and a brief (~300 word) review summary from each mission in the designated area on Canvas

GROUP 1 MISSION:

• Individual meeting w/ your peer mentor to discuss your academic, extracurricular, and career interests

GROUP 2 MISSION:

- Research: Attend a research symposium on campus | Attend a workshop sponsored by CUR | Meet with a CURBS peer advisor | Start a research position
- Internships Career: Attend Career Showcase | Attend an E-Day event (engineers) | Attend a career workshop sponsored by the CRC or your major department | Attend a pre-health workshop sponsored by the CLAS pre-health advisors
- Faculty: Interview a faculty member (unique to this class can't overlap w/ Science for Life) | Attend a professor's lecture on campus sponsored by an academic department | Attend an event sponsored by your Hume faculty mentor (if you live in Hume)
- Service: Participate in Gator Plunge
- Study Abroad: Attend the Study Abroad Fair | Meet with a study abroad advisor / peer advisors | Attend a study abroad info session

Weekly Schedule

8/23	 Topic: Introductions In class: Orientation, Activity, TED Talk, Workbook HW: Bi-weekly Assignment #1
8/30	 Topic: Strengths / Networking In class: Strengths Activity, Speed Networking HW: Bi-weekly Discussion #1
9/6	 Topic: Resumes In class: Presence Discussion Intro-Ch 3, Resume Workshop HW: Bi-weekly Assignment #2
9/13	 Topic: Interview Skills In class: Mock Interview Workshop HW: Bi-weekly Discussion #2
9/20	 Topic: Negotiating In class: Presence Discussion Ch 4-6, Negotiating Workshop HW: Bi-weekly Assignment #3
9/27	 Topic: Mentoring In class: Mentoring Discussion, Mentor Group Activity HW: Bi-weekly Discussion #3
10/4	 Topic: Miscellaneous In class: Presence discussion Ch 7-8, Group Discussion HW: Bi-weekly Assignment #4
10/11	 Topic: Academic Involvement In class: Opportunities panel HW: Bi-weekly Discussion #4
10/18	 Topic: Closing In class: Presence discussion Ch 9-11 HW: Bi-weekly Assignment #5, Missions