COL136
MASTERING THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE
3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
Tamela Reaves
Sandy Frey

Revised Date: November 12, 1997
Revised Date: April 01, 2009
Revised Date: October 2, 2013

Sandy Frey, Chair, Social Science Division
Shirley Davenport, Dean, Arts & Science
COL136 Mastering the College Experience

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisite/Corequisite: Reading Proficiency

B. 3 Semester Hours Credit

C. Mastering the College Experience is a course based learning theory research and thinking. The course emphasizes the development of effective skills in the areas of learning, problem solving, critical reading and campus and community resources utilization. Students will assess their current skills and identify changes appropriate for academic success. (F, S, Su, O)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/CORRESPONDING ASSESSMENT MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain the structure of learning</th>
<th>Learning Style Inventory assignment Class discussion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apply effective planning strategies</td>
<td>Goal Setting assignment Class discussion Time Monitor Log assignment Semester Planner assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employ critical reading, note taking, and test taking skills</td>
<td>Summary Journal assignments Class discussion Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop effective communication styles in speaking and writing</td>
<td>Collaborative activities Scenarios Class discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify campus resources</td>
<td>Resource Guide scenarios Online/on-campus scavenger hunt Campus Resource presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply critical-thinking strategies to non-academic components of life</td>
<td>Community Service project Reflection presentation Class discussion Personal finance assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify the purpose and value of a college experience</td>
<td>Personal mission statement paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe behavioral/attitudinal expectations of college students</td>
<td>Reflection Presentation Assignment Binder/Portfolio Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

A. First Steps
1. Learning styles
2. Multiple intelligence
3. Purpose and value of a college experience
4. Jefferson College resources

B. Planning
1. Personal time management
2. Time management strategies
3. Academic planning

C. Memory
1. Stages of learning and the process of memory
2. Different memory techniques
3. Mnemonic devices

D. Reading
1. Muscle reading technique
2. Reading to answer questions
3. Effective reading methods across the curriculum

E. Notes
1. Note-taking techniques
2. Note-taking strategies for textbooks
3. Notes to use as study strategy

F. Tests
1. Preparation for taking objective tests
2. Predict test questions
3. Relaxation technique prior to exams

G. Thinking
1. Mind set of successful learners
2. Critical Thinking
3. Problem-solving methods across the curriculum

H. Communicating
1. Components of the communication loop
2. Seven steps to effective complaints
3. Three phases of effective writing

I. Diversity
1. Value of diversity
2. Stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination
3. Qualities of a leader in a diverse world

J. Money
   1. Personal finances
   2. Money management techniques
   3. Financial aid for college
   4. Financial impact of degree attainment

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A. Lecture
B. Handouts
C. Videos
D. Collaborative activities
E. Student presentations
F. Discussion
G. Guest speaker
H. Community Service Project

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK


VI. REQUIRED MATERIAL

None

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCE

Student Handbook

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Quizzes (5%-10%)
B. Assignments (60%-70%)
   1. Learning Style Inventory
   2. Goal setting
3. Discovery Wheel
4. Campus resources
5. Time monitor log
6. Personal finance
7. Semester planner
8. Personal mission statement

C. Journals (5%-10%)

D. Reflection presentation/paper (10%)
   1. Class assignments
   2. Community Service
   3. Discovery Wheel

E. Portfolio project (10%)

IX. ADA AA STATEMENT

   Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-481-3169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

   All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website, http://www.jeffco.edu/jeffco/component/option,com_weblinks/catid,26/Itemid,337/)

XI. ATTENDANCE STATEMENT

   Students earn their financial aid by regularly attending and actively participating in their coursework. If a student does not actively participate, he/she may have to return financial aid funds. Consult the College Catalog or a Student Financial Services representative for more details.