LinC 100. 2 Section L  (Th 10:20-11:30 a.m., PPHAC 232)

Introduction to College Life

Fall, 2005

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**Office Hours:** M, W, F 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.
M, W 1:30 - 2:10 p.m.
Th. 1 - 2 p.m.

**Student Advisor:** Amanda Moulton

**AIM:** JesusFreak51585

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This half-unit course requirement introduces first-year students to the intellectual life of Moravian College, promotes a smooth transition to college life, and helps students develop a coherent plan for their education. Elements of the course include: familiarizing students with policies related to being a student and a member of the Moravian College community; assisting the transition to becoming a successful college student; discussing the purpose of a liberal arts education at Moravian College and relation to life after college; developing goals, objectives, and plans for one’s education; and engagement in college life.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES:**

To ensure fairness across different sections the workload is comparable in all sections and the course grading principles are common to all sections. The course is graded and is weighted as a half-unit course. The final grade is totally determined by your willingness to become actively involved in this course that is aimed at enhancing your college experience. The course has six components, which are described below. The course grade is based on these six components as follows.

- Attendance and participation in scheduled classes 30%
- Completion of 6 outside of class short personal reflection papers 24%
- Attendance and write-ups of community events 20%
- Development of a personal education plan 10%
- Participation in a speaking assignment 10%
- Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting 6%

**Attendance and participation in scheduled classes**

This is the most heavily weighted component of the course. This reflects our hope that much of your learning experience comes about by active participation in class. Some classes will involve group activities; some will have speakers and or panels that will share information and insights about college. If you miss a particular class you will miss that learning experience and there will be no opportunity to make it up.
We have 15 class meetings (the first one was during orientation when we met to discuss the common summer reading.) You will earn 20 points for each class you attend, for a total of 300 points. By attending a class we mean you come prepared to the class, arrive on time, participate, and stay until the end of the class.

**Personal reflection papers**

You will be asked to write six reflection papers (each with a minimum of 250 words). Some of these will be related to reading assignments. For each reflection paper handed in when due, you will earn 40 points. Late reflection papers can only learn 20 points. Your instructor has the right to turn back a submission as unacceptable and require you to resubmit a revision if your work doesn’t clearly convey that you have tried to do a good job on the write-up. If this occurs multiple times your instructor may decide to award only partial credit for resubmissions. The total number of points you can earn on this component of the course is 240 points.

**Community events**

At Moravian, you will have many opportunities for additional learning experiences outside the classroom. To help you develop the habit of taking advantage of those opportunities, this course requires you to attend 5 community events over the course of the semester. The first community event was the presentation by the author of the summer-reading book during orientation and was required of all first-year students. Attendance to this event earned you 60 points. You will earn a maximum of 35 points for each of the remaining 4 community events.

Two of the remaining 4 community events have been pre-selected by your instructor in consultation with your student advisor. These are:
1. “Fighting the Freshman 15” featuring Tom Ryan, Wednesday September 14 at 7 p.m., Prosser Auditorium.
2. “Ghosts”, play presented by the Moravian College Theatre Company, Thursday October 20 at 8 p.m.

You are free to choose the remaining two events. The instructor or the student advisor will inform of the appropriate events available for you to choose.

Each write-up (250 words) is due within a week of the date of the event, with the exception of the event attended during orientation. Its write-up is due on Thursday September 8. While these write-ups are not graded per se, it is hoped that you will make them high quality submissions. As long as you make a good-faith effort and hand in the write-up on time, you will earn full point value (35 points). If the write-up of an event is handed in late, the maximum point value you will earn on it is 20 points. Your instructor can turn back a submission as unacceptable and require you to resubmit a revision if your work does not clearly convey that you have tried to do a good job on the write-up. If this occurs multiple times, you will receive only partial credit for resubmissions. The total number of points for attending five community events and submitting the following write-ups on time is 200 points.

What qualifies as a community event that you can attend? Any program that is sponsored or co-sponsored by the M.C. Arts and Lectures Committee as well as the Cohen Lecture automatically qualifies. Other events that qualify will be announced in class.

**Personal Education Plan**

We want your college experience to be positive. We also want you to be aware of all the different educational, personal, and social opportunities that Moravian College offers to its students. To ensure that
this happens we ask you to take personal responsibility for your educational plan and to spend some time during your first semester in college thinking about your future. That is what this assignment is intended to do. Details for this assignment will be provided in class. The due date for the Personal Education Plan (PEP) is Thursday November 10. As long as it is handed in on time and your instructor deems it of acceptable quality, you will earn 100 points for this assignment. A PEP that is turned in late can only earn 50 points.

**Speaking assignment**

As part of our Learning in Common Curriculum, the college mandates a Speaking Across the Curriculum component that every student should experience. You will have the opportunity to do this in this course. Details of this assignment will be provided in class. The total point value you can earn on this component of the course is 100 points.

**Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting**

You will be asked to arrange for an individual meeting with your instructor preceding registration for the spring semester. The dates of these individual meetings may vary depending on whether you are an Add-Venture student, a Comenius scholar, or in the general program. As part of this process it is critical that you understand the LinC curriculum and thoughtfully prepare for this meeting with your academic advisor. This means, for example, that you check the college catalog for specific requirements for any fields you are considering as possible majors for you. You also need to identify six courses as possibilities to discuss with your advisor. You will also write down an explanation for why you chose each of these courses as possibilities. The reason for requiring you to choose six courses, even though most students will enroll in four full unit courses, is to ensure that you still select an optimal schedule for yourself even if one or two of the courses selected are closed when it comes time for you to actually register. You will earn 60 points for scheduling, preparing and attending this individual meeting.

**Course grade**

The maximum point value for all six components combined is 1000 points. Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

- 930+  A
- 900 – 929  A-
- 870 – 899  B+
- 830 – 869  B
- 800 – 829  B-
- 770 – 799  C+
- 730 – 769  C
- 700 – 729  C-
- 670 – 699  D+
- 630 – 669  D
- 600 – 629  D-
- less than 600  F

**LEARNING DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for support of learning disabilities and/or ADHD, should contact Mrs. Laurie Roth, Director of Learning Services, 1307 main Street (phone: extension 1510). Students who wish to request accommodations for support of other disabilities, should contact Dr. Ron Kline, Director of the Counseling Center, 1307 Main Street (phone: extension 1510).
ACADEMIC HONESTY

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of someone else's work as your own. This includes such instances as quoting directly from a published work without giving the author credit (i.e. proper citation), inserting the author's words as your own, using or "borrowing" another student's work, buying a paper from a professional service, etc. It is your responsibility to be familiar with what constitutes plagiarism and, in the event of uncertainty, to ask in a constructive manner about a writing in question before it is due in a final version. You are also required to keep all note cards and rough drafts on papers and assignments until final grades for the course are given. Evidence of plagiarism and cheating will be dealt with in accordance with the college policy on academic honesty found in the Student Handbook. In the event of a suspected infraction – in fairness to your peers and the standards of the college – it is my job to send the materials in question to the Dean’s Office at which time you are given the chance to provide your perspective on the matter.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS
Assignments must be handed when due for full credit. The consequences of assignments being handed in late are described in the grading procedures section of this syllabus.

REQUIRED READINGS

Moravian College Student Handbook

Moravian College Catalog


Additional Readings will be handed out in class

Note: Please note that it is within the instructor’s purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignments and for the course final grade. Please also note that some changes may be necessary to this syllabus. Any changes will be announced and distributed in written form in class.

INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES

(1) Prepare for College Life at Moravian College

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will:

1) become familiar with college policies related to their role as students and members of the Moravian College community.

2) understand the expectations and responsibilities of being a college student, and a member of the Moravian College community.
(2) Introduction to Liberal Education

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
1) identify and understand the general goals and purposes of the liberal arts and sciences tradition for individuals and within society.
2) articulate the value of liberal learning for their own personal and professional success.

(3) Individual Planning for Education at Moravian College and Beyond

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
1) articulate their specific goals, objectives, and plans for their personal education
2) execute strategies and tools to help them renew and revise these plans in the future.

(4) Academic Survival Skills

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
1) demonstrate intellectual skills, which should result in greater personal, professional, and academic success; including, but not confined to: effective study skills, time management, and goal setting.
2) pursue their educational goals with greater confidence and efficacy.

(5) Personal Coping Skills

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
1) identify and understand aspects of themselves (learning styles, communication styles, coping styles, personal values, cultural values) that will affect personal well being and academic success.
2) engage in a variety of coping skills that work best for them in challenging situations.
3) pursue their personal goals and handle the challenges of adjustment to college with greater confidence and efficacy.