



UF CENTER FOR NEW STUDENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS
STUDENT LIFE | UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

First Year Florida: Enhancing Freshman Experience

Section Number: SLS1102 - 14477
Class Meeting: M W 12:30PM – 1:45PM
Location: CSE E119
Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Materials

1. First Year Florida Course Packet (will be provided through Canvas)
2. F-Book traditions booklet (free and provided by us!)

Goals and Objectives

First Year Florida is a course designed to aid students in a successful transition to the University of Florida. This course aims to help students develop the practical, social, and intellectual skills that are essential to a fulfilling four years at UF.

As a result of taking this course, students will pursue four main learning outcomes, which are to...

1. Begin a successful intellectual transition to the University of Florida through academic and career exploration.
2. Continue their transition into the broader UF community and develop their own personal senses of community through purposeful engagement.
3. Set a foundation for personal health and wellbeing.
4. Learn how to navigate formal and informal environments at the University of Florida.

Pursuant of these outcomes, students in this course will...

- Connect with faculty, staff, and peers at the University of Florida.
- Identify university resources and services that contribute to their personal and educational goals.
- Recognize the purpose of reflection, critical thinking, and enriching educational opportunities within and outside the classroom.
- Evaluate the effects of personal and communal well-being on student success and engagement.
- Recognize the academic, conduct, and citizenship expectations of the University of Florida.
- Begin to develop an awareness and respect for being a part of diverse communities, both at the University of Florida and in larger local, state, national, and international contexts.
- Identify personal means by which they can become engaged, active members of their respective communities.

UF Policies

U Matter, We Care Statement

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care Initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another, and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing Staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but First Year Florida students will be given a specific time to complete it during class. Students enrolled in First Year Florida will be asked to complete a separate course evaluation. This is a time for you to provide direct feedback on your Peer Leader and Instructor.

Academic Honesty Statement

An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. As a University of Florida student, one is expected to neither commit nor assist another in committing an academic honesty violation. Additionally, it is the student's duty to report observed academic honesty violations. Violations of the Honor Code and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Specifically, instructors will rigorously pursue incidents of plagiarism of any type or incidents of referring to any unauthorized material for any class requirement. Before submitting any work for this class, please read the policies about academic honesty at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/>, and ask the instructors to clarify any expectations you do not understand.

***Preamble:** In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.*

***Honor Code:** We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*

***Pledge:** "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

ADA Statement

The University of Florida provides high-quality services to students with disabilities, and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Class Policies

Expectation of Classroom Behavior

As college students, you will be treated and respected as an adult. You are expected to do your best work, meet assignment deadlines, and treat other members of the class and the University with courtesy and respect. Everyone in this course deserves to be treated with respect, should expect to be treated with respect, and is expected to treat others in kind. Throughout our class discussions, presentations, and other activities you will be expected to be respectful of one another and any presenters. Throughout the semester we will be discussing some challenging issues, and it is essential that you remain open-minded, present, and respectful. We encourage everyone to share their opinions and beliefs, but students must not express these in a way that may be offensive to or disparaging of others. Finally, disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Cell phones must be off or on silent before entering the classroom.

Late Work

Assignments must be submitted by the due date and time noted in Canvas. If there is an extenuating circumstance that prevented an assignment from being turned in, please discuss it with your Co-Instructor and/or Peer Leader prior to the date of submission to receive up to 2 additional days to complete the assignment. Assignments received after that period will lose 10% every day that it is late. The instructors will confer with students who have DRC accommodation and adjust due dates according to student needs.

Technology

This class will utilize Canvas for assignment submissions in conjunction with paper assignments. If there is any difficulty submitting an assignment, please contact your instructor and peer leader to let them know. The class will use professional courtesy and put away cell phones in class, unless needed for an activity with the discretion of the instructor and peer leader. If laptops are necessary for a specific class, the teaching pair will let students know prior to the date.

All students are required to have a valid UF email account and must be able to access Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking the SLS1102 Canvas site for the course calendar, required readings, announcements, and other course resources and materials. You should contact the UF help desk if you experience technological issues with Canvas. Do not contact your instructor or teaching assistant if you are having issues with Canvas without a ticket number from the UF help desk.

Attendance

All absences and late arrivals must be accompanied by an email prior to the start of class to receive attendance or tardy points. Students are counted tardy after 5 minutes, no exceptions. Attendance is approximately **22%** of your grade and is integral to your success in this class. Excused absences include University Sponsored events, Religious Holidays with prior notice, Medical/Emotional/Family Emergencies with appropriate documentation. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Students will be permitted to have **ONE** unexcused absence this semester, with no notice or explanation to the instructors. After the first unexcused absence, points will be deducted from the attendance grade. Students who do not use their free absence will receive ten extra credit points.

UF Grading Policy

This course adheres to the UF Grading policy for assigning grade points. For more information, please visit: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Participation

“Participation means the action of taking part in something.” For our class, participation looks like actively listening/engaging in classroom conversations. Not being on your phone or laptop when it is not needed/permitted and contributing to class dialogue and discussions throughout the semester. We will not be tallying when you do and do not participate, but we do have the expectation that you are participating in class and being an active member of the classroom environment.

Grading Scale

A	100 to 90% (575 to 518)	C	76.9 to 70% (442 to 403)
B+	89.9 to 80% (517 to 500)	D+	69.9 to 67% (402 to 386)
B	86.9 to 80% (499 to 460)	D	66.9 to 60% (385 to 345)
C+	79.9 to 77% (459 to 443)	E	59% or below (344 to 0)

Course Overview

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
6/30	Day 1: Welcome to FYF	Canvas Profile/NameCoach Syllabus Quiz Student Interest Survey About Me Slide
7/2	Day 2: Time Management and Financial Literacy	Weekly Schedule Example Video Reflection 1
7/7	Day 3: Career Connections Center	Gator CareerLink CHOMP LinkedIn Profile Student Panel Questions
7/9	Day 4: Student Involvement Panel	One-on-One Signups Video Reflection 2 Student Panel Reflection Draft Resume
7/14	Day 5: Study Abroad	Find a Study Abroad Program
7/16	Day 6: Advising and Registration Prep	3 Semester Plan Video Reflection 3
7/21	Day 7: Exploring Gainesville	F-Book Traditions
7/23	Day 8: Navigating Difficult Conversations	GatorWell ScreenU Campus Resource Presentations Video Reflection 4
7/28	Day 9: Campus Resources	
7/30	Day 10: Service-Learning Project	Service-Learning Reflection Video Reflection 5
8/4	Day 11: Disability Resource Center	One-on-One Meetings Completed
8/6	Day 12: End of Semester Wrap Up	FYF Evaluation (in class) Video Reflection 6

Assignments

Assignment	Points Possible
Syllabus quiz	10
Student Interest Survey	10
Canvas Profile and NameCoach	20
"About Me" slide	10
Weekly Schedule	10
Student Panel Questions	10
Linkedin Profile	10
Study Abroad Assignment	10
Course Evaluation	10
F-Book Assignment	10
Draft Resume	10
Career Link	25
CHOMP	25
Student Panel Reflection	25
GatorWell ScreenU	25
3 Semester Plan	25
One on One meeting	50
Service Project	50
Group Resource Presentation	50
Video Reflections (6 x 10 points each)	60
Attendance (12 x 10 points each)	120
Total Possible Points	575

Assignment Descriptions

Setting up Canvas Profile

Students will set up their Canvas profile with a profile picture, biography, and NameCoach recording.

Syllabus Quiz

Students will take a short quiz to ensure they have read and understood the syllabus.

Student Interest Survey

Students will complete a survey to allow the teaching team to learn more about their students. The survey will cover student interests and expectations for the course.

About Me Slide

Students will create a slide to be added to a resource on Canvas. This will be a small introduction to the class to learn more about their fellow classmates.

Weekly Schedule Assignment

Following our Time Management lesson, students will use a calendar tool or the template provided to create a weekly schedule. Students must include the time they are in class, the time they work (if applicable), the time they need to study/do homework, and the time they need to do at least 1 fun thing for themselves.

CHOMP

CHOMP is an online, interactive, self-guided career and educational planning system designed to help you make decisions about your future career goals and education plans. <https://career.ufl.edu/careers-interests/chomp/>. This is an opportunity to explore deeper into your major or work towards understanding a different area of study. You can make an individual Career Planning Appointment to better understand your assessment results and how you can use them to make more informed career decisions.

You must submit a screenshot of your CHOMP results on Canvas to receive credit.

Gator CareerLink Profile Activation

Gator CareerLink is the portal to UF resources that can help you explore career paths, find ways to gain experience, and begin preparing for your career. By activating your account, you will have access to all the Career Connections Center's (C3's) services including job and internship postings, Career Planning appointments, an online mock interview module, and a calendar of all upcoming events and workshops. Activating your profile as a first-year student allows you to become familiar with the Gator CareerLink system and connects you to the C3 right away. To activate your profile and receive credit for this assignment, see the steps below:

1. Go to <https://career.ufl.edu/services-resources/gator-careerlink/>
2. Click on the "LOGIN TO GATOR CAREERLINK" button.
3. You will be directed to a UF Authentication page. Type in your GatorLink username and password.
4. Fill out the questions that come up to add to your profile. You'll be able to edit this later as well.
5. Click on "Jobs" at the top of the page. You will be prompted to complete your personal and academic profile, as well as your privacy settings.

To receive credit for this assignment, turn in the saved job description to Canvas. You do not actually have to apply for the position; this is just for practice.

If you have problems activating your account, please email GCLHelp@ufsa.ufl.edu with your name, UF ID # and description of technical problem.

You must submit a screenshot of your activated GCL profile on Canvas to receive credit.

LinkedIn Profile

Following a tour of the Career Connections Center, students will create a LinkedIn profile, including adding a profile picture and their education. Students will be encouraged to follow the teaching team and their fellow classmates.

Student Involvement Questions

In preparation for our student involvement panel, students will be asked at least 2 questions relating to involvement or student life at UF.

F-Book Assignment

Following the Navigating Campus and UF Culture lesson, students will use their F-Book to complete one unique UF tradition. Students will then submit photo evidence of this tradition and a brief reflection about their experience.

Campus Resource Presentations

Students will present in groups on a chosen campus resource. This assignment will be explained in class and include multiple weeks of preparation within their chosen group.

Draft Resume

For this assignment, you will create a draft resume based on the information given in the Career Connections Center visit and presentation.

One on One

Your Peer Leader and Co-Instructor are more than just administrative figures; they are here because they want to help you succeed. For this reason, you will schedule a one-on-one appointment with either your Peer Leader or Co-Instructor once during the semester. The date listed in the Course Overview indicates that the meeting should take place PRIOR to that date. Your Co-Instructor and Peer Leader will send out their preferred method of 1:1 scheduling at the beginning of the semester to secure a meeting date and time. You are responsible for signing up and attending this meeting to receive full credit.

GatorWell ScreenU

ScreenU is a free, confidential, online assessment available to all University of Florida students and can be completed in as little as 5 minutes. ScreenU can help students identify patterns of alcohol use and provides personalized, non-judgmental feedback and campus resources for students.

GatorWell is here to ensure that you are aware of how your choices can alter your collegiate experience, including physically, mentally, academically, and socially.

FYF Evaluation

At the end of the semester, you will be sent an email from the New Student and Family Programs containing a Qualtrics survey to evaluate this course, its contents, and its teaching team. As instructors we value feedback because it helps us grow and adapt our course to fit the needs of students like you! To receive credit for this assignment you will need to take a screenshot of the completion page after submission and upload that photo into Canvas.

Service Project & Reflection

As a class, we will be completing a service project in the Gainesville community. Gainesville provides UF with the land and resources required to be what we are today so it is important to give back to the Gainesville community whenever we can. Because of class, work and other conflicts, this event will be held outside of class time and additional details will be announced early in the semester. Attendance to this event is mandatory and you will also be required to complete a Qualtrics survey on your experience for full credit. If you have a scheduling conflict with the time, please let the teaching team know and we can work with you on a makeup assignment for the service project. Students will also complete a reflection about their experience throughout the Service Learning Project.

Find a Study Abroad Program

Following our study abroad lesson, students will research different study abroad programs and find a program that suits their needs. Students will submit a screenshot of the program and a paragraph explaining why they are interested in that program, using the priorities we talked about in class.

3 Semester Plan

Following our class registration lesson, students will complete a 3-semester plan for a major of their choice. Students must complete a Spring, Fall, and Spring semester plan with the option to include a summer semester for their own planning purposes. Students' plans should show all of the necessary critical tracking for their major and include a reasonable number of credits for a full-time student.

Video Reflections

Throughout the semester, students will submit a series of video reflections based on the topics learned that week. We will be using Harmonize to post these videos, and students will be required to submit an initial response video and a reply video to at least two of their classmates' videos.