Tompkins Cortland Community College

Master Course Syllabus

Course Discipline and Number: FSS 137 **Year: 2023-2024**

Course Title: Freshman Seminar in New Media **Credit Hours: 1**

Attendance Policy: *To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.*

Services for Students with Disabilities: *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for accommodations. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

Course Description

Designed to enhance the college experience for first-year matriculated students. The Freshman Seminar employs an interactive design and a variety of instructional modalities (e.g., discussion, lecture, and research, multi-media) to enhance student development in three areas vital to student success: study skills, program development, and career/transfer awareness. Students may not apply credit for more than one Freshman Seminar and may not apply credit for both ACAD 150 and a Freshman Seminar toward their degree. Prerequisites: Prior completion or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 099 and RDNG 099 if required by placement testing. 1 Cr. (1 Lec.) Fall semester.

Course Context/Audience

Intended for students in the first semester of the New Media program, this course will introduce students to the program's goals, provide a foundation for achieving program learning outcomes, and foster academic success.

Basic Skills/Entry Level Expectations

Writing: W1 If required, the student must be concurrently enrolled in ENGL 099. Very limited writing, e.g., short written responses.

Math: M0 Course requires very little or no math.

Reading: R1 If required, the student must be concurrently enrolled in RDNG 099. The course requires very limited reading of shorter pre-college materials and limited beginning college-level materials that will also be covered extensively in class.

Course Goals

The goals of this course are:

1. Students will have a better understanding of the college and strategies for success.
2. Students will engage in a range of ideas and career choices through engaging guest lecturers.
3. Students will become more self-aware in thinking about their strengths and skills (StrengthsQuest).
4. Students will reflect on a life in New Media and think about the trajectory of a successful career (The Last Lecture).

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will feel more of a connection to the college and fellow students in the New Media program. Students will understand how to be successful at the community college culture and academics. Students will through self reflection, define more of what they want out of the college experience.

Course Objectives/Topics

Objective/Topic	% Course
Guest Lecturers	%50
Orientation to the New Media program and college including file management strategies.	%20
StrengthsQuest exploration and life wisdom from a new Media thinker (the Last Lecture)	%20

General Education Goals - Critical Thinking & Social/Global Awareness

CRITICAL THINKING OUTCOMES	**HOW DOES THE COURSE ADDRESS THE OUTCOMES** (Include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used to address the goal/outcomes)
Students will be able to ➢ develop meaningful questions to address problems or issues. ➢ gather, interpret, and evaluate relevant sources of information. ➢ reach informed conclusions and solutions. ➢ consider analytically the viewpoints of self and others.	Group projects and discussions are designed to help students identify personal questions from the college experience in a self-reflective manner. The Strenghtsquest project helps students see and consider their own strengths and the strengths of others.
SOCIAL/GLOBAL AWARENESS OUTCOMES	**HOW DOES THE COURSE ADDRESS THE OUTCOMES** (Include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used to address the goal/outcomes)
➢ Students will begin to understand how their lives are shaped by the complex world in which they live. ➢ Students will understand that their actions have social, economic and environmental consequences.	Students will be exposed to different career options through lectures and guest speakers. Students will become aware that their lives will be shaped by technology and forces and that the world will be more interconnected and the career they may have may not exist yet.

Instructional Methods
Lectures will provide a general orientation to the college and specifically to the New Media program with strategies for success. Guest lecturers will give students different perspectives on careers in New Media. Discussions will follow the book reading, The Last Lecture. Student participation and discussion will occur with work done on StrengthsQuest.

Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
Written responses to guest speakers	%60
Longer written assignments to: The Last Lecture, StrengthsQuest.	%40

Text(s)
The Last Lecture, Pausch, Randy, Hyperion, 2008.

Bibliography

Art of the Digital Age, Wands, Bruce, Thames & Hudson, 2006.

On Course, 5th ed., Downing, Skip, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008.

StrengthsQuest, Clifton, Donald, The Gallup Organization, 2004.

Other Learning Resources

Audiovisual
The Arts and Communication programs at TC3 are building up the DVD permanent collection of the library.

Electronic
The New Media lab has Internet access. A vast amount of content can be found on the Web.
In addition, the TC3 library has Interlibrary loan possibilities and databases of art and other resources available for students and faculty including, Films on Demand, Netflix, Amazon.com Video on Demand and CAMIO.

Other
The New Media Program has funds for guest speakers each year.

The Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art is nearby and has frequent free public programs with nationally recognized artists, and is actively assembling a collection of contemporary art, which includes new media.

The George Eastman House Museum is a ninety-minute drive, and specializes in all aspects of photography and imaging, including new media.