



## IS1100 – Freshman Seminar Syllabus Fall 2015

### Instructor Information

**Name:** Chad Smith  
**Email:** chad.w.smith@ttu.edu  
**Phone:** 806-834-1689  
**Office Location:** Kinesiology and Sport Management, Room 138  
**Class times:** 2:00-3:20pm - Tuesday  
Education Building, Room 166  
**Office Hours:** MW 1:00-2:00pm or by appointment

### Keep up with RaiderReady on Social Media



Like RaiderReady on Facebook and follow @RaiderReady on Twitter to stay up-to-date about important deadlines, announcements, and helpful tips to make your first year a success.

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### Course Purpose | Why RaiderReady?

The primary goal of **RaiderReady** is simple – we want you to be successful here at Texas Tech University. **RaiderReady** will provide you with an opportunity to connect with university faculty and staff in a small classroom setting. Through your enrollment in this course, you will be given the tools necessary for your success in your academic endeavors; you will enhance your studying and learning abilities, engage in the critical thinking process, and become an active member in the Texas Tech community. The skills you develop from this course are essential for your achievement at the university.

**RaiderReady** is taught in a seminar format. This is an active style involving you with reading, questions, activities, discussions and more. Interaction and community are key concepts and foundations of this course. Do not expect to sit back and listen to your instructor lecture – be prepared to be actively involved with your instructor and fellow classmates during the class!

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### Learning Outcomes | What Will I Learn From This Course?

#### *Success In College*

##### **Listening and Note Taking Skills**

- Recognize important lecture information through the use of active listening
- Identify and use a note-taking strategy

##### **Academic Professionalism**

- Recognize the difference between a high school and college course
- Learn how to communicate with faculty and staff members

##### **Information Literacy, Studying, and Test Taking Skills**

- Analyze reliability, validity, and credibility of sources
- Improve and build upon test-preparation and test-taking skills

#### *Daily Life*

##### **Academic Priority Management**

- Design effective time management strategies
- Evaluate personal time management plan and how it compares to how you spend your time

##### **Wellness and Stress Management**

- Understand the essential elements of wellness: physical, social, financial, career, and community

- Recognize stressors and develop techniques to positively manage stress
- Know the rights and responsibilities of students in the University community
- Understand how to manage conflict
- Identify and use resources available at Texas Tech to support student safety and wellness

### Financial Literacy

- Identify and avoid common pitfalls of student spending and saving patterns
- Explains pros and cons of credit

### Beyond The Classroom

#### Communication and Diversity

- Discuss and consider information and viewpoints that differ from personal worldviews
- Analyze the tone and content of your communication
- Develop conflict resolution and effective bystander intervention skills

### Course Materials | What Will I Need For This Course?

Baldwin, A., Tietje, B. and Stoltz, P. (2015). *The College Experience* (Compact for Texas Tech University). Boston: Pearson. ISBN 9781323163450

### Course Grading | What I Will Need To Do To Be Successful?

Assignment	Possible Points	Grade Distribution
Attendance	40 Points	<b>A - 150 - 175</b> <b>B - 124 - 149</b> <b>C - 98 - 123</b> <b>D - 72 - 97</b> <b>F - 71 points and below</b>
Daily Activities	25 Points	
Convocation	15 Points	
Campus Safety & Wellness Activity	15 Points	
Mapworks	15 Points	
Individual Meeting	15 Points	
Campus Resource Presentation	20 Points	
Success Roadmap Reflective	30 Points	
Writing Assignment		

#### Attendance (40 total points – 5 points daily)

Daily attendance in class is vital to your success in this course. Students are expected to participate and be actively engaged in each class. You will gain 5 points daily for attendance. Absences may be excused at the discretion of the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of any absences before missing class. Please note that notification of an upcoming absence does not guarantee that the absence will be excused. Information on observances of religious holy days can be found in the Course Policies section of the syllabus.

#### Daily Activities (25 Points)

You are expected to take an active role in your own learning experience in this course. Throughout the semester, your instructor will collect work from you that you have done during class for a grade. The points you earn for your participation in these class activities will be added together for a total of 25 possible points.

#### Convocation (15 Points)

Attend New Student Convocation on September 8, 2015. At Convocation, participants will hear from three speakers. If you will not be able to attend Convocation, you will need to coordinate an alternative activity with your instructor. New Student Convocation is a ceremony designed to welcome students to the Texas Tech community, to inspire students, and to challenge students to achieve academic success. Just as Commencement is a ceremony that marks the completion of study, New Student Convocation celebrates a student's entry into higher education.

**Campus Safety & Wellness Activity (15 Points)**

Student safety and wellness is a top priority at Texas Tech University. With this in mind, the more knowledgeable you are about personal safety and security issues, the safer you will be. To gain an understanding of the essential elements of wellness (physical, social, financial, career, and community) you will participate in at least one activity related to campus safety and wellness. Your instructor will provide a list of activities from which you may choose.

**Mapworks Assessment (15 Points)**

The Mapworks (Making Achievement Possible) online survey is designed to help students succeed at TTU. Students are required to complete Mapworks and schedule a meeting with his/her instructor to discuss the results of the Mapworks survey. The Mapworks assessment will launch on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Students will receive an email with instructions on this date.

**Tunnel of Oppression (10 Points)**

The Tunnel of Oppression is an annual event sponsored by University Student Housing. Tunnel 2015 will be held September 29-30. This event provides an opportunity for the TTU family to reflect upon how prejudices and bias can negatively impact the community. Participants are led through the "Tunnel" and view several educational scenes that address bias issues such as: race, relationship violence, sexual assault, disability, transgender issues, body issues, socioeconomic privilege, ethnocentrism, religion, mental health, and gender. Tunnel's goal is to support social justice awareness and develop student leaders who can reflect upon how beliefs and actions impact their community. The conclusion of Tunnel provides students with an opportunity to discuss their experiences and learn about campus/community resources.

**Individual Meeting (15 Points)**

Your course instructor wants to ensure that you are on the path to success. In an effort to make sure you are getting acclimated to campus and to provide you with individualized tips, you will meet with your instructor this semester. This meeting is designed to be helpful for you as you continue into the semester and to help guide you to those resources that you can most benefit from.

**My scheduled office visit is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Campus Resources Presentation (20 points)**

An important part of college is engaging with the campus and community, and familiarizing yourself with the many resources that are available to you. You will work in groups of 4-5 to research two campus resources and present your findings to your classmates.

Through this activity, you will:

- Engage with campus resources, services, and opportunities that enhance classroom learning and inform their educational decision-making
- Develop skills in locating and gathering information
- Practice a range of strategies that develop and demonstrate effective critical thinking and communication skills
- Exhibit problem-solving and teamwork skills by conducting group project
- Form social groups that provide the peer support necessary for a successful college experience

**Success Roadmap (Reflective Writing Assignment) (30 points)**

Throughout this course, you will be actively involved in learning and integrating practical applications to promote success. At the end of this course, you will reflect upon what you have learned while enhancing critical thinking and study strategies. You will think about how you learn, what you have learned, how it has affected you, and how it contributes to your overall education. Your reflection will also showcase your experiences and learning at Texas Tech, both within and outside of this Raider Ready course.

## **Assignments**

All assignments are due on the expected due date and will only be accepted in class via hard copy, unless otherwise noted by the instructor. Late assignments will be lowered by one letter grade each day they are late. Readings must be completed before coming to class and students should be prepared to discuss each reading. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, and follow appropriate style guidelines. Please keep records of all your work until you receive your final grade for the course.

## **Academic Integrity**

"It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension." (2013-14 Texas Tech University Catalog, p.64). Academic Dishonesty, as defined in the catalog, "includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the students." (2013-14 Texas Tech University Catalog, p.64).

## **Announcements and Class Information**

You are expected to adapt to any changes in due dates, readings and schedules. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining any information distributed during that class period. Students should log in daily to Blackboard/Email for important announcements regarding deadline changes and/or campus activities.

## **Classroom Etiquette**

You are expected to arrive on time for each class and be prepared to discuss the assigned reading. This demonstrates respect for the learning community we are creating for one another. Supporting one another in dialogue is expected. In this class we want to hear your opinions and ideas and those of others are to be respected and acknowledged even if you disagree with them. Although the instructor will provide lectures on course material, other teaching methods will be used from time to time, which will require a considerable amount of participation and discussion on your part; here is when you have an opportunity to really demonstrate your knowledge.

## **ADA**

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor within the first week or two of the semester to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, you may contact the Student Disability Services office in 335 West Hall; via phone at 806-742-2405; email [sds@ttu.edu](mailto:sds@ttu.edu); or visit [www.depts.ttu.edu/students/sds/](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/students/sds/). Additional information may also be found in TTU O.P. 34.22.

## **Observances of a religious holy day**

Texas House Bill 256 requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. No prior notification of the instructor is required.

## **Technical Assistance**

- IT Help Central is available to assist with eRaider sign-in problems, browser errors, and other technical difficulties you may encounter. For technical assistance, please contact IT Help Central at (806) 742-HELP, email them at [ithelpcentral@ttu.edu](mailto:ithelpcentral@ttu.edu), or visit the [IT Help Central website](http://www.ithelpcentral.ttu.edu) at [www.ithelpcentral.ttu.edu](http://www.ithelpcentral.ttu.edu).
- For student assistance with Blackboard, visit the Blackboard Student Support website at <http://www.tlpd.ttu.edu/content/asp/blackboard/SupportStudent.asp>

## **Technical Requirements**

- Internet access (preferably high speed). Incomplete submission of assignments due to loss of internet connection will not be accepted. Please note that library computers are available 24/5 in case of technical difficulties with your computer.
- TTU E-mail address
- Audio and Video capabilities
- For students who need assistance with Blackboard Learning Management System, visit [www.depts.ttu.edu/lms](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/lms) for information on how to log in as well as troubleshooting tips.

**E-mail Communications**

- Please only use the TTU e-mail system for e-mail communications.
- Students will receive a reply to e-mail messages within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on the weekend.

<b>Class date</b>	<b>Finish This Before Class</b>	<b>Topics To Be Discussed In Class</b>
Aug. 25 <sup>th</sup>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions and Welcome</li> </ul>
<b>Success In College</b>		
Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapter 1 (p. 1-13) and Chapter 10 (p. 95-104)</li> <li>• <u>Convocation Next Week</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Academic Professionalism</b></li> <li>• <b>Information Literacy</b></li> <li>• <b>Online Etiquette/Safety</b></li> <li>• <b>Motivation/Goal Setting</b></li> </ul>
Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapters 5 and 6 (p. 44-62)</li> <li>• Mapworks Assessment Launches 9.8.15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Note Taking Skills</b></li> <li>• <b>Studying and Test Taking Skills</b></li> <li>• Convocation Date 9.8.15</li> </ul>
Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapters 7 and 8 (p. 63-83) and Chapter 2 (p. 14-24)</li> <li>• Individual Meetings Begin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Studying and Test Taking Skills (cont.)</b></li> <li>• <b>Academic Priority Management</b></li> <li>• Assignment Checkpoint</li> </ul>
<b>Daily Life</b>		
Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapter 11 (p. 105-115)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stress Management</b></li> <li>• <b>Student Wellness/Exercise Participation</b></li> </ul>
Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapter 3 (p. 25-34)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Money Management</b></li> <li>• Tunnel of Oppression (9.29 – 9.30.15)</li> </ul>
Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GROUP PRESENTATIONS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assignments</b></li> <li>• <b>Group Presentations</b></li> </ul>
<b>Beyond The Classroom</b>		
Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapter 9 (p. 84-94)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communication and Diversity</b></li> <li>• <b>Alcohol Awareness</b></li> <li>• <b>Sexual Assault/Title IX</b></li> </ul>