

Fall 2016  
**SLS1102: First Year Florida**  
Section 2545

Thursday 9:35 a.m.  
MAT 117 | R 3

**Teaching Team:**

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Office hours by appointment. Text or email us!

**Course Description:**

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, emotional, and intellectual skills that are essential to a fulfilling four years at UF, provide a foundation for a well-rounded college experience, connect students to the University of Florida, promote engagement within and outside the classroom, and communicate university expectations.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

First Year Florida educates new students to maximize their learning and development. As a result of take this course, students 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 well-being on student success and engagement.
- Recognize the academic, conduct, and citizenship expectations of the University of Florida.
- Develop an awareness and respect for being a part of a diverse global community.

### Required Readings:

- "A Higher Standard" by Ann Dunwoody (provided at Preview or available for purchase at the Bookstore); Common Reading Program (CRP) Book 2016
- First Year Florida Course Pack – FYF CP (will be posted to Canvas and e-mailed to you on September 5<sup>th</sup> after drop/add ends)
- TED Talk: "Is there a real you?" By Julian Baggini  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/julian\\_baggini\\_is\\_there\\_a\\_real\\_you](http://www.ted.com/talks/julian_baggini_is_there_a_real_you)
- Stress Management from ULifeline
  - Good Stress, Bad Stress: <http://www.ulifeline.org/articles/450-good-stress-bad-stress>
  - Managing Stress: <http://www.ulifeline.org/articles/427-managing-stress>
- TED Talk: "Practical diversity: taking inclusion from theory to practice" by Dawn Bennett-Alexander <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExcDNly1DbI>

### Technology:

This class will utilize Canvas for assignment submissions in conjunction with in paper assignments. For every assignment submitted in this class, you will need to submit it via Canvas and bring a printed copy to class. Use of cell phones is only permitted when explicitly told to do so. For the most part, notes will be taken by hand, and thus, laptop/tablet use will be somewhat limited inside the classroom. Of course, please remain focused for the duration of class.

*Communication with the Teaching Team.* Fallen prefers an email, and Sam prefers text message to coordinate meeting times. Both forms of communication are acceptable for each of us! Emails will be replied to within 24 hours and texts/phone calls within 12 hours. Emergencies should be handled appropriately (see "U Matter We Care Initiative")

### Absence/Late Policy:

All absences and late arrivals must be accompanied with an excuse in order to receive participation or tardy points. Students are counted tardy after five minutes, no exceptions. If you are running late, please let us know (i.e. text, call, etc.). Attendance is approximately 30% of your grade and is integral to your success in this class. Basically, we kindly request that you make it to a 1-credit class for 50 minutes once a week each week! 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>.

## Academic Honesty:

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 [www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr), 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 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, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) 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

## Expectations of Classroom Behavior

As college students, you will be treated and respected as adults. You are encouraged to share your ideas and express your opinions in class and you will be expected to respect other's opinions and values as well. 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. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Cell phones must be off or on silent before entering the classroom.

## U Matter, We Care Initiative

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 are in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto: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 at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>. Additionally, students enrolled in First Year Florida will be asked to complete a separate course evaluation for further information. This is a time for you to provide direct feedback on your Peer Leader and Instructor.

## Grading Scale

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>. Below is the course grading scale:

94-100 (A); 90-93 (A-); 87-89 (B+); 83-86 B; 80-82 (B-); 77-79 (C+); 73-76 (C); 70-72 (C-); 67-69 (D+); 63-66 (D); 60-62 (D-); 59 or below E

*Note:* There will be no curve. However, there will be some extra credit opportunities. This class is also based heavily on active participation and punctual completion of assignments. It's nearly impossible for you to fail this class! We're here to help you!

## Course Overview

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assigned Reading</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>8/25</b>	Welcome to FYF: Icebreaker & Syllabus		- Bring an item that represents an important part of you!
<b>9/1</b>	Self-Assessment	- TED Talk: Is there a real you? (p.2) - Begin CRP book (9/29)	- Student Profile - Personalized Journal/Journal #1
<b>9/8</b>	Campus Resource Scavenger Hunt <i>*wear outdoor attire*</i>		- Journal #2

<b>9/15</b>	Involved UF <i>Guests: Student leaders</i>		- Campus Resource Profile
<b>9/22</b>	Academic Success		
<b>9/29</b>	Common Reading Program		- Journal #3 - Complete Reading CRP Book - Attend on CRP Event
<b>10/6</b>	Stress & Conflict Management	- See "Stress Management" (p.2)	- 1-on-1 form Pt. 1
<b>10/13</b>	Citizenship & Service <i>Guest: Center for Leadership and Service</i>	1-on-1's week	- 1-on-1 form Pt. 2
<b>10/20</b>	<b>NO CLASS: Service Project</b>		- Journal #4
<b>10/27</b>	Diversity and Culture <i>Guest: Multicultural &amp; Diversity Affairs</i>	TED Talk: Diversity (p.2)	- Service Project Reflection
<b>11/3</b>	Campus Connections & Professional Development <i>GPS in CRC</i> <i>*come in Business Pro*</i>		- Journal #5 - Extra Credit IIC - Gator CareerLink Pt. 1
<b>11/10</b>	A Healthy You!		- UF Professional 1-on-1 reflection
<b>11/17</b>	Picnic & Chat on North Lawn		- Journal #6 - Gator CareerLink Pt. 3
<b>*NO CLASS 11/24: THANKSGIVING BREAK*</b>			
<b>12/1</b>	Final Wrap Up, Moving Forward, and Celebration! <i>With possible special guest.</i>		- Final Portfolio - Activity/ Involvement Fair attendance proof - Workshop Success Series
<b>*NO CLASS 12/8: Reading Days and Finals Week*</b>			
<b>Common Reading Program Event: _____</b>			
<b>Community Service Project: Week of 10/20 (tentative)</b>			

# Assignments

Assignment	Points Possible
Student Profile	20
Journal	130
Attendance/Participation/Engagement	150

Gator CareerLink	150
Activity Fair Attendance	50
Common Reading Program Event	50
Workshop Success Series Attendance	
Campus Resource Profile	50
CRP Event Attendance	50
Teaching Team 1-on-1	50
Service Project Attendance	50
Service Project Reflection	150
UF Professional 1-on-1	50
Final Portfolio	100
Extra Credit	TBD
<i>Total</i>	<b>1000</b>

# Assignment Descriptions

## **Gator CareerLink Profile Activation Assignment**

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 now! By activating your account, you will have access to all the Career Resource Center'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 CRC right away.

Part 1: (30 points) To activate your profile and receive credit, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to [www.crc.ufl.edu](http://www.crc.ufl.edu)
2. Click on Gator CareerLink Student Login.
3. You will be directed to a UF Authentication page. Type in your GatorLink username and password.
4. Next, click on "My Profile."
5. Fill out both the Personal and Academic profile as much as possible. You must complete all fields with a red asterisk in order to have an active profile. Make sure to save your information.
6. Once your profile is complete, click on "My Jobs."
7. Find and print an internship, part-time, full-time, or volunteer experience you would be interested in applying for now or in the future. To receive credit for this assignment, turn in the printed job description to your FYF instructor. You do not actually have to apply for the position - this is just for practice.

Part 2: (20 points) Attend the Professional Development class on 11/3

### Part 3: (100 points) Professional Development and Involvement Reflection

1. Explain in roughly 1 page your professional goals both at UF and beyond. Address how you could use your Gator CareerLink account to grow here.
2. Explain in about 1 page your goals to get involved on and/or off campus. If you received an Individual Involvement Consultation (IIC) with Student Activities and Involvement (SAI), you may use what you learned in this paper. Think about these if you're stuck
  - a. Multicultural Affairs
  - b. Academics & Research
  - c. Student Life
  - d. Creating your own organization
  - e. Think big! With 1000+ organizations and being at a research institution, the world is your oyster!
3. Explain in about 1 page how authenticity, professional goals, and ambition all combine to mold your potential UF career. Also, touch on your goals to grow UF, fellow Gators, and/or yourself.

*If you have problems activating your account, please email [GCLHelp@crc.ufl.edu](mailto:GCLHelp@crc.ufl.edu) with your name, UF ID # and description of technical problem*

### **Journal**

Every few weeks, you will be asked to submit a minimum 1-page journal entry. Each prompt, if any, will ask you to reflect on a topic or concept learned the previous week. Really think about what we learned and how it pertains to your first year experience. We will grade on completion and apparent effort. You are asked to do the above at minimum but we encourage you to journal more often than the class requires. Include pictures if you'd like, document your Fall semester, and have fun with it!

- 10 points for personalized decoration
- 20 pts for each of the 6 journal entries
- No extra credit will be given for extra journal entries

### **Common Reading Program**

We will attend one CRP event as a class. This event is TBD and will be announced as early in advance as possible. If you are unable to attend the event with the rest of the class due to an academic commitment, please inform the teaching team as soon as possible. Additionally, you will be responsible for finding an alternative event to attend. To see the schedule of other CRP Fall events, please visit:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/crp/events-crp/>.

### **Activity Fair**

This assignment will take place outside of the classroom. You will be required to attend an involvement or activity fair to connect with the many opportunities UF has to offer. You will need to provide a picture of yourself at the fair as proof and could include

this, along with any materials you collect at the fair, in your final portfolio (hint, hint). A few options of events you could attend include:

- Student Organization Fair
- Study Abroad Fair
- Volunteer Organization Fair
- Career Showcase

### **Workshop Success Series**

You will be required to attend one of WSS events. As with the Activity Fair, this is assignment will be completed on your own, outside the classroom. We hope that this flexibility will allow you to choose an event that interests you the most and works the best with your schedule. You must register for the WSS event online at:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/nsfp/first-year-experience/wss>. Workshops will fill up, so be sure to plan again and sign up early!

### **Campus Resource Profile**

Hope you enjoyed your campus resource scavenger hunt. Please create a worksheet about one of the campus resources you visited that includes the following:

- Location (address, room/building, or relative location)
- Hours & Contact
- Services (Free and Charged)
- One student testimonial
- Picture of the location and Google Map image
- Two fun facts
- How it helps 1<sup>st</sup> year students
- A creative, engaging layout (only using bullet points of info won't do, sorry!)

### **Teaching Team 1-on-1**

Meet with Sam for some 1-on-1 time. You may additionally meet with Fallen for extra credit. This is meant to serve as a mid-semester check-in to see how you are doing, but you may complete this activity weeks prior to its due date. Complete part 1 before meeting with Sam, come prepared with some questions about the 1<sup>st</sup> year experience, and follow up with part 2 reflection and turn it in as soon as possible. The worksheet will be uploaded to Canvas under Files.

### **Service Project Reflection**

Our service project prior to the class is TBA. We want to give you all the chance to choose the project we will do together. Here are some options. Please circle/highlight the item we vote to do:

- Gator Plunge
- Boys & Girls Club
- St. Francis Homeless Shelter
- Field & Fork Pantry Food Drive/Volunteering
- Grace Marketplace



Next, you will provide a 3 page reflection covering these areas, each about 1-page:

- What?: Describe some of your experiences, what you expected, how they felt, what you learned, etc.
- So what?: What does service mean to you? Why is service important? How can individuals serve and be an active citizen in everyday life?
- Now what?: How has understanding diversity helped you better serve? How will you remain curious in order to learn and be an effective, educated citizen? How do you believe you will take these lessons into your daily life?

### **UF Professional 1-on-1**

Meet with a faculty member and create a 1-page reflection of your experience. There will be a worksheet uploaded to Canvas to help you facilitate a conversation with the faculty, but feel free to create your own conversation. Preferably, we would like for you to meet with one of your professors, TAs, researchers, or a student affairs professional during office hours or by appointment. Email them asking to meet and let them know that it is for a class and that the conversation should take approximately 15-30 minutes (or more if they have time!). If your professors/TAs are too busy—which is understandable since many of them have many, many students to attend to—contact us and we can get you in contact with a staff member from the Dean of Students Office. So you have an idea of what questions you may ask:

- In what department do you primarily work at UF? Why did you choose it?
- Did you see yourself in this field early on?
- How has your connection to students propelled your career here?
- Why do you believe it is important for students to connect to faculty? What other advice do you have for first year students?

### **Final Portfolio**

This is a culmination of your first year thus far! Let's celebrate and reminisce. Create a memory bag. Decorate the bag similar to your journal. Personalize it! Fill your bag with some memories of your first year, which could be any and all of the following:

- Photos
- Ticket stubs/receipts
- Bracelets/bands
- Turlington flyers
- Notes/birthday cards
- Memorable homework assignments (papers, assignments from this class)
- Anything really!
- TO BE FILLED WITH: notes from your classmates 😊

You will likely be sharing your portfolio/memory bag with the class so be appropriate.

*Thank you all in advance. We are sincerely looking forward to being your Teaching Team and facilitating your positive transition to the University of Florida with this class. See you soon, and Go Gators!*