

NSM 21 (SECTION 90): FIRST YEAR SEMINAR: "BECOMING AND EDUCATED PERSON"
PART OF EOP LC 7 SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL EQUITY LEARNING COMMUNITY

INSTRUCTOR:	Enid T. González-Orta, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Director, Science Educational Equity Program
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EOP COUNSELOR	David Ortega E-mail: ortegad@csus.edu Tel: (916) 278-6183
OFFICE & HOURS:	211F Humboldt Hall T: 4:30-5:15 PM W: 11:00-11:45 AM OR by appointment
CLASS TIME & LOCATION:	T/Th 3:00-4:15 PM 450 Sequoia Hall
PHONE:	(916) 278-6519 (SEE Office)
EMAIL:	Please contact me using the Message feature of SacCT for all class-related questions. For emergencies, please use my E-mail address: gonzalezorta@csus.edu Please note, E-mails received late in the evening and/or Saturdays past noon may not be answered until the following workday.
REQUIRED TEXT BOOKS & MATERIALS:	Tashiro, L. & Santos, R. (Eds.). (2009) Sacramento State, first year seminar: Perspective and empowerment. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning. One Book: <i>Full Body Burden</i> by Kristen Iverson. Supplemental readings specific to this section of NSM 21. These will be posted on SacCT.
ONLINE RESOURCES:	Materials for this course, including syllabus, notes, handouts, etc. can be found on SacCT 9.1

COURSE DESCRIPTION: NSM 21 is a freshman seminar intended to provide students with an introduction to the nature and possible meanings of higher education, and the functions and resources of the University. This course is designed to help student develop and exercise fundamental academic success strategies to improve their basic learning skills. The seminar will also provide students with the opportunity to interact with fellow students and the seminar leader and to build a community of academic and personal support. This course also fulfills General Education (GE) area E: Understanding Personal Development.

This section of NSM 21 and the Science Educational Equity Learning Community will have an emphasis on preparing students for majors/careers in natural science, math, engineering, computer sciences, and/or engineering. A significant portion of course content and applications will be specific to the fields mentioned and students will be expected to engage in extracurricular activities designed to link students to faculty, staff, students, and support systems in these fields. Therefore, if you are not interested in the any of the fields mentioned above or in exploring the possibility of pursuing a major/career in one of these fields, you should contact your EOP Counselor/and or the instructor to see about changing to a different learning community and section of NSM 21.

COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Goals

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of academic content knowledge regarding self-development as a physiological, social and/or psychological being.
2. Students will critically examine prior or current experiences or behaviors from their own lives in response to real world physiological, social and/or psychological contexts (may be evident in self-assessment, reflection or creative work).
3. Students will apply skills and knowledge regarding development of the self to differing situations, such as real world challenges, and/or to make connections across perspectives.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to identify their own perspective and make connections/comparisons across perspectives.
2. Students will be able to plan, monitor, and assess their own learning.
3. Students will be able to set personal and/or professional goals.

Assignments & Exams

Assignments & Exams	Point Value	Point Total
Written Responses	10 points each (15 assignments)	150
Reports on Extracurricular Events	10 points each (4 assignments)	40
Midterm	50	50
Oral Presentation	50	50
Final Exam	75	75
Attendance/Participation	30	30
Advising meeting with Prof. Gonzalez-Orta	5	5
Meeting with EOP counselor	5	5
Total Points		405

Written Assignments**190 pts**

- Written responses to questions on assigned readings and/or class activities (15 x 10 pts = 100). Note: some writings will be completed in class and some outside of class. There will usually be one each week, though some weeks will have two and some none.
- Reports on Attendance at Extracurricular Events (4 x 10 = 40 pts). Each student must attend and write a **one page report** on FOUR extracurricular activities/events. At least one of the events must be science/health related and at least one must be non-science/health related. Reports on at least TWO of the events must be submitted on or before October 24 (the date of the Midterm), and the remaining reports must be submitted on or December 12 (the last class day for this course). Examples of the types of activities/events include: MOSS Mixer, STEM Speaker Series, WOW events, UNIQUE events, ONEbook events, and others posted on website.

Participation**40 pts**

- Attending Class, Contributing to Discussions, and Engaging in Class Activities (30 pts). Note: approximately half of these points will be awarded for your physical presence in class, and the other half for the quality of your participation as assessed BY THE INSTRUCTOR!
- Meeting with EOP Counselor: Each student must meet with his/her EOP counselor at least once during the Semester (students are to arrange these meeting with their counselor (5 points).
- Advising Meeting with Dr. Gonzalez-Orta. Each student must meet with Dr. Gonzalez-Orta at least once during the semester (5 points).

Oral Presentation**50 pts**

Each Student will work on a project, which will require preparation of PowerPoint slides and an oral presentation on a particular career. Details on assignment will be given during the 10th week of classes and presentations will be given during the 14th week.

Midterm exam (multiple choice and essay questions)**50 pts****Final exam (multiple choice and essay questions)****75 pts****GRADING**

Final grades will be awarded for the following levels of performance:

A =95%-100%,

A- = 90%-94%

B+=86%-89%,

B = 83%-85%,

B- = 80%-82%

C+=76%-79%,

C = 73%-75%,

C- = 70%-72%

D = 60%-69%,

F =59% and below

CLASS CONDUCT/AND OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Class attendance and participation: Class attendance and participation are MANDATORY. Attendance will be monitored either by roll call, completion of in-class assignments, and/or submission of assignments that are due during a particular class period. If a student who misses FOUR (4) scheduled classes will be awarded a WU grade in the class, even if their total points in the course would have earned a passing letter grade if they had not missed four or more classes. A WU grade is described as an "Unauthorized Incomplete" and is counted as an F grade in G.P.A. calculations.

Important Conduct Rules:

Students enrolled in are expected to arrive in lecture on time and to remain in class for the full period (note: you may be counted as absent if you arrive late or leave early)

Students are expected to comport themselves in an appropriate manner during class (i.e., to listen, take notes, and refrain from engaging in conversations with other students during the lecture; to ask questions at appropriate times; and to participate in activities and discussions.

Make-up Exam & Accommodation Policy:

If you are in need of any reasonable accommodation due to disability, please contact the instructor immediately. Please refer to the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities web page for more details to apply for support and accommodation: <http://www.csus.edu/sswd>

If you MUST miss a lecture exam or quiz due to illness please call or e-mail the instructor before noon on the day of the exam (gonzalezorta@csus.edu). Make-up exams will be given contingent on the following: 1) Providing a doctor's note & 2) timely notification of instructor.

DROP POLICY

Note: the procedures provided below pertain to dropping NSM 21. However, because this course is tied to other courses in a learning community, you may be required to drop all courses in the learning community at the same time.

From the University's Advising Website (retrieved 9/2/13):

First 2 weeks - Drop by logging on to My Sac State until the drop deadline, the end of the second week of classes. Approval is only needed for those courses that indicate "Instructor/Department Consent required."

Weeks 3-6 - During this period students must describe the seriousness of the circumstances that necessitate dropping and get the approval of the instructor and department chair on a Drop Petition. Most departments require verifying documents, such as a letter from a doctor or supervisor. In weeks 3 & 4, drop forms are turned in to the department office and no grade is given. In weeks 5 & 6, forms are turned in to the Office of the University Registrar and "W" grades are assigned.

Week 7 through the last day of classes - It is more difficult to drop classes after the sixth week. The drop petition requires signatures from the instructor, the department chair, and the dean of the college, which offers the class. Students are required to have a letter from a doctor or supervisor stating that a medical or work-related circumstances are beyond the control of the student. Turn in forms to the Office of the University Registrar; a "W" grade will be assigned.

Finals Week - No drops allowed.

NO DROPS WILL BE PERMITTED AFTER THE LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION (after December 12).

Students who stop attending class without approval of a drop will normally receive a "WU" grade (if they were passing the course before they stopped attending) or an "F" grade (if they were not passing the course). If the only remaining requirement is the final exam, students who are passing the course may receive an "I" grade if they file an "Incomplete Petition" (as described in a previous section).

POLICY ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to be familiar with the University's Academic Honesty, Policy & Procedures. The policy on Academic Honesty can be accessed from the [University Policy Manual](http://www.csus.edu/umannual/index.htm) (<http://www.csus.edu/umannual/index.htm>).

Cheating in this course will result in a failing grade (F). All cheating incidents, actual or suspected, will be reported to the Department Chair of Biological Sciences and Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Looking at a classmate's paper during an exam or quiz.
2. Talking to a classmate during an exam or quiz.
3. Communicating via cell phone, laptop (i.e. text messaging, talking, sending e-mails, etc.) during an exam or quiz.
4. Copying from another classmate's paper. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Week	Date	Topics	Assigned Readings
1	9/3	Introductions, Goals and Syllabus	
	9/5	Adapting to University Life; Introduction to One Book	FYE: 72-74, 185-189.
2	9/10	Adapting to University Life	FYE: 20-29
	9/12	Adapting to University Life	Guest Speakers: SEE Students
3	9/17	Ideals and Values of American Higher Education	FYE: 65-71, 75-79, 83-91
	9/19	Decoding your Professors	Guest Speakers: Professors from NSM
4	9/24	Team Building on the Challenge Course	Meet behind Yosemite Hall at 3PM!
	9/26	Time Management and Study Skills.	FYE: 31-36 Online Supplement
5	10/1	Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Strategies	FYE: 40-47
	10/3	One Book Discussion	Chapters 1-4 completed
6	10/8	Becoming Educated in, by and for a Multicultural Society	FYE: 190-194
	10/10	Introduction to Health Disparities	Online Supplement
7	10/15	Discussion on Health Disparities and Solutions	Guest Speaker: Student/Professional Panel
	10/17	One Book Discussion	Chapters 5-8 completed
8	10/22	Mid-term Review	
	10/24	Mid-Term Exam	
9	10/29	Meaning and Value of a University Education	FYE: 112-114, 118-120, 121-125
	10/31	Meaning and Value of a University Education	FYE: 268-270, 227-281
10	11/5	Choosing a Career—Self Exploration	Online Handouts
	11/7	Careers Services on Campus	Guest Speaker: Career Center
11	11/12	Goal Setting and Career Planning	
	11/14	Drug and Alcohol Awareness	Guest Speaker: Peer Health Educator
12	11/19	Academic Planning	FYE: 331-337; Online supplement.
	11/20	Academic Planning	FYE: 262-267
13	11/26	Support Programs for Students Pursuing Careers in STEM and the Health Professions	Guest: Richard Aguirre, Activities Coordinator, SEE Program
	11/27	Thanksgiving—No Class!	
14	12/3	In-class Research on Career Options	
	12/5	Student Presentation on Career Options	
15	12/10	Student Presentations on Career Options	
	12/12	Tying up loose ends	
	12/17	Final Exam	

***Note: Schedule may change due to visiting speaker schedules.**