

# Course Syllabus

**Department: Developmental Studies**

**Date: February 14, 2012**

## **I. Course Prefix and Number: GST 116**

**Course Name:** College Study Strategies

**Credit and contact hours:** 3 credit hours/ 3 contact hours

**Catalogue Description including pre- and co-requisites:** This course teaches the strategies students need to be successful in college. Topics range from personal growth issues such as goal setting and time management to the academic survival skills of textbook reading, test-taking and researching and writing a college level paper. Students study current learning theories to enhance their academic achievement. In addition, students learn crucial information about how college works – services offered, policies, and how to navigate the semester. Students apply what they have learned through a community project, which might range from teaching a learning strategy in an off-campus setting to researching and posing possible solutions to an academic or social issue on campus.

## **II. Course Outcomes and Objectives**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students will demonstrate an understanding of learning theories.

Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize the link between personal management (learning style awareness, making healthy choices, goal setting, time management) and college success.

Students will demonstrate the ability to understand and apply skills in areas such as note-taking, test-taking, and textbook reading.

Students will demonstrate the ability to conduct credible online searches, evaluate research materials, and write and revise documented research papers.

Students will apply the basics of oral communication through class presentations.

Students will demonstrate an awareness of community through a service project.

### **Relationship to Academic Programs:**

College Study Strategies (GST 116) counts as General Elective credit and supports student learning skills across the curriculum.

### **College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:**

X writing

ethics/values

X oral communications

X citizenship

- X reading
- mathematics
- X critical thinking
- X computer literacy
- global concerns
- X information resources

### III. Instructional Materials and Methods

#### **Types of Course Materials:**

Types of materials may include newspaper, magazine, and journal articles, college textbooks, print and on-line articles, fiction and non-fiction books, and instructor generated materials.

#### **Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar ...):**

Instructional strategies may include lectures, large and small group discussions, collaborative in-class learning situations, computer/Internet assignments, presentations, structured in- and out-of-class assignments, tests, quizzes, and projects and guest speakers. FLCC on-line instruction using platforms such as Angel may be used.

### IV. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the College and the Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed.):

Formal and informal assessment measures will be used during the course to assess reading, written assignments, exams, quizzes, oral presentations. Citizenship will be assessed through a community service project which will culminate with a written paper and oral presentation. Critical thinking, computer literacy, and information resources will be assessed through a research paper which will be revised as part of the writing process.

### IV. General Outline of Topics Covered:

#### *Personal Growth*

- goal setting
- motivation
- time management
- understanding self as learner
- stress management

#### *Academic Strategies*

- textbook reading
- memory development
- note-taking
- test-taking
- summarizing
- research
- documentation styles

writing a research paper  
oral presentation

*College Awareness*

available services  
policies  
academic calendar  
instructors' teaching styles  
classroom etiquette

*Community Project*

researching a community need  
interacting with college community or the community outside the college  
reporting and sharing results