

EDUC1300 Academic Strategies (based on Learning Frameworks)

*The Teaching & Learning Center
South Plains College*

Instructor:

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**We will also use Remind.com text messaging. You will be given instructions in your Blackboard course.

Office Location/Hours:

Levelland Library, 3rd Floor Office 308; Online via Zoom or Blackboard

**Due to COVID-19, most of my office hours will be held in a virtual environment (Zoom, Blackboard, etc.) for Fall 2020. You must email me for an appointment. I want to meet with you, and I welcome your emails!*

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|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------------------|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | BY APPOINTMENT |
| 11am-1pm | 11am-1pm | 11am-1pm | 11am-1pm | ONLY! |

Required Materials:

- **Consistent and reliable access to a computer with internet access** for daily online work related to this course. (Important news: This is a critical component of any class, especially in Online/Flex format courses like this one!)
- **College Success from OpenStax** (This is a free online textbook and it's linked in your blackboard course), ISBN: 978-1951693183, www.openstax.org/deatils/college-success
- **Change Your Brain, Change Your Grades** by Dr. Daniel G. Amen (This book can be purchased at any major book retailer for around \$10; order now so you can start reading no later than Week 2 of the semester), ISBN: 978-1948836852
- **Microsoft Office 365** (Free to SPC students) for email, file storage, and MS Office applications: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneDrive, etc. Visit <https://office.com> to sign up using your SPC login credentials. Contact the help desk for assistance logging in for the first time: 806.716.2600 or email HelpDesk@SouthPlainsCollege.edu

Course Description:

This course is designed to help you create greater success in college and in life. This is achieved by helping students explore who they are, understand where they come from, and decide where they are going. By applying the strategies of active learning, self-motivation, self-management, self-awareness, and interdependence you will create greater academic, professional, and personal success. The most important part of this course, however, is learning more about yourself...learning who you are as a college student and human being, and learning what it takes for you to keep yourself balanced and on course for success.

This course is a study of the 1) research and theory in the psychology of learning, cognition, and motivation, 2) factors that impact learning, and 3) application of learning strategies. Theoretical models of strategic learning, cognition, and motivation serve as the conceptual basis for the introduction of college-level student academic strategies. Students use assessment instruments (e.g., learning inventories) to help them identify their own strengths and weaknesses as strategic learners. Students are expected to integrate and apply the learning skills discussed across their own academic programs and become effective and efficient learners. Students developing these skills should be able to draw continually from the theoretical models they have learned. This course is recommended for all students, especially nontraditional students and students on academic probation and is required for students returning to college after academic suspension or by placement by the Admissions Committee.

Course purpose:

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for college and life success, equipped with knowledge, skills, strategies and tools to apply to accomplish a variety of tasks in varying contexts.

Course location:

Online: access all online coursework through **Blackboard** which is linked directly on the SPC website via your MySPC/Texan Connect page

Course frequency & design:

Weekly assignments/lectures/due dates TBA; Instructional methods to be used in this course will include Discussion Boards; PowerPoints; Digital Homework; Articles and other resources; and Videos.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the completion of this course, successful students will:

1. **Accept Personal Responsibility**, seeing themselves as the primary cause of their outcomes and experiences
2. **Discover Self-Motivation**, finding purpose in their lives by discovering personally meaningful goals and dreams
3. **Master Self-Management**, consistently planning and taking purposeful actions in pursuit of their goals and dreams
4. **Employ Interdependence**, building mutually supportive relationships that help them achieve their goals and dreams (while helping others do the same.)
5. **Gain Self-Awareness**, consciously employing behaviors, beliefs, and attitudes that keep them on course
6. **Adopt Lifelong Learning**, finding valuable lessons and wisdom in nearly every experience they have
7. **Develop Emotional Intelligence**, effectively managing their emotions in support of their goals and dreams
8. **Think Critically**, employ creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information, including cognitive and metacognitive strategies leading to improved academic performance

Course Evaluation:

Grades are based on the following scale:

90 to 100 = A 80 to 89 = B 70 to 79 = C 60 to 69 = D 0 to 59 = F

Your Grades will be based on the following percentages:

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|---|------|
| Participation Grades (Discussion Board participation, Journal Entries, Reflection Pages, Viewer Response Guides) | 50% |
| Student Success Assignments (Weekly Assignments; Exams & Projects count twice as much as weekly assignments) | 50% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

The grades you receive on your assignments, discussion board, journal entries, etc. are indicators of your progress in this class. It is each student's responsibility to continually monitor academic progress on My Grades in Blackboard.

Missed or late assignments:

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted. **PLEASE no exceptions.** It is not fair to the other students. Each weekly module will open on Friday morning @ 9am and close the following Thursday night @ 11:59pm. You may work on your weekly assignments *anytime* during the 7 days it remains open and available, but the deadline is firm.

- Submit all assignments using **MS Office** software (remember, it's FREE for SPC students!) **I MUST be able to open, download, and save your assignments!** If I cannot, I will email you a reminder to submit the assignment in the correct format. After that, you will receive a 0 for any assignment submitted in a format other than Microsoft Office.
- **Should you forget to attach an assignment,** you will be reminded to do so ASAP. Failure to resubmit will result in a 0.

Attendance policy:

Students must actively attend and participate in the online environment to reach a measure of success.

Absences/going more than a week without logging in and participating will affect your grade in this course. You may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or an 'F' if I believe the objectives of the course cannot be met due to your lack of participation and attendance. If you have excessive absences, I will try to contact you. If you have excessive absences and you do not respond to my attempts to contact you, you will receive an F in the course.

- Students are expected to log in frequently in order to stay up to date with assignments, due dates, and email messages.
- If a student goes 7 days without logging in to Blackboard and/or responding to messages and assignments, they may be dropped from the class.

Online Behavior/Discussion Board "netiquette":

It is expected that you will use professional language, free from slang or profanity, in the discussion board. There may be times when you agree with some people or disagree with others; that is ok in a discussion! The important thing is to discuss topics in a professional, respectful manner. Also, you are expected to keep all posts related to the topic being discussed.

Academic integrity:

It is the aim of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present assignments which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded as a serious offense. If another student has provided the work, that student is equally at fault. Offenders are liable to the consequences for cheating and plagiarism as described in the SPC catalog in sections, "Academic Integrity" and "Student Conduct." Consequences can range from an F in the course to suspension from the college.

Students with Disabilities Statement:

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in the class must notify the Special Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements can be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Coordinator of Special Services. For more information, call or visit the Special Services Office.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Stan DeMerritt, Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations:

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical information, to the Director of Health & Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Chris Straface, Director of Health & Wellness @ 806-716-2362 or email cstraface@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.