



Course Syllabus

SLS 1101 - 478

The College Experience Fall Term 2024-2025 (0640)

Welcome

Welcome to SLS 1101! You have enrolled in a fun, introspective course that I hope you will enjoy. This course is designed to strengthen the student's skill set in a manner that can promote future academic, occupational, and overall life success. I look forward to working with you this semester.

Instructor Contact Information

Dawn Janusz

Pronouns: She/Her

Email

Janusz.Dawn@spcollege.edu

Phone: 727-341-3767

Office and Online Chat Hours:

By Appointment

Office Location:

HE 175

Departmental Contact Information

Dr. Joseph Smiley

Title: Dean

Email: Smiley.Joseph@spcollege.edu

Phone Number: 727-712-5851

Appointment Information: Call or Email contacts above to schedule an appointment

Course Information

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Credit Hours: 3

Modality: Online

Course Description: This course is designed to strengthen skills essential to success in college, with further applications to post-college plans. Included are study and test-taking strategies; effective interpersonal skills; time management techniques; creative and critical thinking skills; college services and resources; educational policies, procedures, regulations and terminology; and library resources, research strategies, and information skills for online, blended, and traditional learning environments. Students testing into one or more college prep courses are required to take SLS 1101.

Course Objectives

1. The student will explore effective college readiness skills by:
 - a. Applying effective test-taking and note-taking strategies.
 - b. Examining the writing process for academic writing.
 - c. Identifying techniques to reduce anxiety and deliver an effective presentation.
 - d. Identifying effective reading strategies for academic texts in a variety of formats.
 - e. Investigating personal learning preferences and developing corresponding learning strategies.
 - f. Recognizing strategies to engage active learning, motivation, and mindset.

2. The student will explore life management skills critical for actions beyond the classroom by:

- a. Describing mental health fundamentals and strategies for improving mental health.
 - b. Discussing the benefits of physical exercise and sleep for both brain and body.
 - c. Identifying sources of major and minor expenses necessary for personal budgeting.
 - d. Explaining the positive effects of diversity.
 - e. Demonstrating effective communication strategies.
3. The student will examine the various facilities and services available to students at St. Petersburg College by:
- a. Constructing an educational plan through collaboration with, and guidance from, an academic advisor.
 - b. Explaining how to access individual course and college wide policies.
 - c. Explaining how and when to use available college resources such as library databases, tutoring, accessibility services, etc.
4. The student will apply critical thinking capabilities by:
- a. Identifying effective steps for time management and goal setting.
 - b. Describing the role that logic and creative thinking play in problem solving.
 - c. Explaining how technology skills relate to critical/creative skills.
 - d. Discussing civic awareness or civic engagement.
5. The student will outline the components of a career path by:
- a. Determining motivations for attending college and considering what it means to be college and career ready.
 - b. Examining how personality tests and skill inventories help to evaluate career paths and identify personal interests to meet educational goals.

Required Textbook and Other Resources

College Success Access Code

Required or Optional: Required

ISBN: 9781640870161

Authors: Lumen, Inc.

Publisher: Lumen, Inc

Edition: Latest

First Day Access (Digital Books) Program

What is First Day Access: Textbook Savings Program?

This course is participating in the First Day Access Program. You will be given access to the course materials through MyCourses. You will receive instant access to the required materials and save 20-50% or more off the retail price. **You have the option to opt out of the program within the first 10 days of class** if you want to purchase your materials elsewhere. Opting out of the program is likely to cause you to pay a higher rate. **The opt-out date is 10 days from the first day of class.**

The materials that are accessed through MyCourses are **NOT** included in your tuition. **If you do not click on the button to opt-out, you agree to pay the discounted fee and SPC will bill your student account at the First Day price after the opt-out deadline passes- approximately 2 weeks after your class starts.** This will show as a bookstore charge. Please check your student account. If you have BLOC or are a 3rd Party vendor then the charges will be covered ***exceptions do apply**, if you are self-pay, please make those payments to the business office.

Refund Policy

If you drop a class within the drop deadline for your course, the refund policy will be the same as SPC's [drop w/refund policy](#). If you withdraw after the drop deadline ([see your schedule for dates](#)), then you will be responsible for those charges on your account (For example, if you receive a "W" you will not be eligible for a refund).

Should you choose to purchase the required materials out of pocket you **MUST** opt out to avoid being charged. If you do not opt out by the deadline, which is 10 days from the start of class, then you must request to be opted out and proof of purchase must be submitted to tharrison@bncollege.com to prevent First Day Fees being added to your account.

Performance Assessment and Grading

Each module contains a variety of assignments including discussions, writing reflections, and chapter reviews.

Late Work Policy

Late work must be approved in advance with professor.

Grading Scale

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = <60

Course Attendance

Week 1 - Must have completed Begin Here Lesson

Week 2 - Must have completed Lesson 1

Technology Requirements & Policy

View the [MyCourses Minimum Technology Requirements](#).

Minimum Technical Skills: Students should know how to navigate the course and use the course tools (email, discussion, gradebook, etc.). MyCourses tutorials are available to students new to this LMS and are located at the beginning of the course. Most features on MyCourses are accessible on mobile devices, although it is recommended that you use a computer for quizzes, tests, and essay assignments.

Accessibility of Technology

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Accessibility](#)
- [Microsoft Accessibility](#)
- [Google \(YouTube\) Accessibility](#)
- [Panopto Accessibility](#)
- [Turnitin Accessibility](#)
- [Honorlock Accessibility](#)
- [Cengage Accessibility](#)
- [McGraw-Hill Accessibility](#)
- [Pearson Accessibility](#)

Privacy

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Privacy](#)
- [Microsoft Privacy](#)
- [YouTube Privacy](#)
- [Panopto Privacy](#)
- [Turnitin Privacy](#)
- [Honorlock Privacy](#) and [SPC's Honorlock Security and Privacy FAQ](#)
- [Cengage Privacy](#)
- [McGraw-Hill Privacy](#)
- [Pearson Privacy](#)

Important Dates

Class Dates: 12-AUG-2024 to 06-DEC-2024

Drop Date: 16-AUG-2024

Withdrawal Date: Please reference the Academic Calendar below

<https://www.spcollege.edu/academic-calendar>

Learner Support and Other Student Resources

Use the following links to view web sites on SPC's:

- [Free Tutoring](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)
- [Academic Support](#)
- [On-Campus and Online Support](#)
- [Student Services](#)

Additional Resources:

- [Academic Calendar](#)
- [Learning Resources](#)
- [Career Services](#)
- [International Student Services](#)
- [Veterans Services](#)

Communication Plan

I will utilize the following communication channels in this class: MyCourses announcements, MyCourses emails, SParC, Virtual Office Hours and phone calls.

Monday - Friday I will respond to emails and missed phone calls within 24 hours, and 48 hours on the weekends. I will grade assignments and provide feedback within 7 days after the due date.

Students' and Instructor's Expectations

It is important that all of your attention be focused on the content to be learned so when you are in class you shouldn't be using your computer, cell phone, and tablet for casual use, only academic purposes. Any use of these devices (including texting) for non-academic purposes draws your attention away from the course work and is therefore subject to disciplinary action. Whether you are taking a course online, blended, or in the classroom, you may be required to have discussions of class assignments and share papers and other class materials with instructors and classmates online. The learning management system, MyCourses, will be used for this purpose and you should complete the Introduction to MyCourses so that you are comfortable with the system and can complete your assignments. Whether you are in an online class or a physical classroom, certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with your peers and your instructors. You need to contribute to a positive learning/teaching environment, respecting the rights of others and their opportunity to learn. No one has the right to interfere with the teaching/learning process. Below are the traits of a successful student. These guidelines pertain whether your course is online or in the classroom. When communicating, you should always:

- Treat everyone with respect in every communication
- Use your professor's proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you are in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
- Use clear and concise language
- Remember that college level communication should use correct grammar, whether written or spoken. Avoid slang.
- Use correct spelling and avoid texting abbreviations
- Avoid using the caps lock feature as it can be interpreted as yelling online
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and, even when spoken, your message might be misunderstood
- Be cautious with personal information (both yours and others')

Online Student Participation and Conduct Guidelines

The practices of courtesy and respect that apply in the on-campus classroom also apply online. Any discriminatory, derogatory, or inappropriate comments are unacceptable and subject to the same disciplinary action applied in courses offered on campus.

When you send an email to your instructor, department chair, dean, or classmates, you should:

- Use a subject line that describes what you are writing about
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
- Be clear, concise, and courteous
- Sign your message with your name
- Use your SPC email account to ensure delivery. Sometime emails from non-SPC accounts are stopped by the spam filter and the recipient may not receive it.

Your faculty member will include in the syllabus expectations for response times on email.

Recordings in the classroom:

Students may record lecturers in class for personal use (such as studying or documenting complaints to the institution) without explicit permission. However, students may not record non-lecture portions of class (such as skills labs, student group work, individual student instruction, Q/A sessions, recording studio critiques, group/individual production and computer lab time, practicums/internships, or clinical/simulation rotations) or other students without explicit permission, and may not disrupt class in making such recordings (such as trying to use a device with a calculator or calculator app in a class that does not allow calculators, or blocking the view or aisles for others in the class). Having an approved ADA accommodation is considered explicit permission to record from the college.

Students making such recordings may not share recordings without explicit permission and are personally liable for unauthorized dissemination. If in doubt, please discuss with your professor before class.

When posting to a discussion board, you should:

- Write posts that are on-topic and within the scope of the course material
- Take your posts seriously; review and edit your posts before sending
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
- Read all messages in a thread before replying
- Avoid repeating someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, "I agree." You should include why you agree or add to the previous point
- Always be respectful of others' opinions, even when they differ from your own
- Express any differing opinions in a respectful, non-critical way
- Not make personal or insulting remarks
- Be open-minded

The instructor has the **authority** to ask a disruptive student to leave a classroom or lab. The instructor may also delete posts or materials from an online or blended class and/or take disciplinary action if disruptive behavior continues. This ensures that all students in the class have an opportunity to learn.

How to Be a Successful Student

Attending class is vital to your success, particularly the first few days of class as you are introduced to the requirements and topics you will be covering. Therefore the college limits when you can add classes. Please [check our registration page](#) regarding when classes can be added.

You may drop a course through the [Drop with Refund](#) date listed on your Fee Schedule and be eligible for a refund, although withdrawing may affect your financial aid. If you are thinking of withdrawing, please speak with your instructor, an [Academic Advisor](#) or a [financial aid counselor](#).

Showing up is the first step in ensuring your academic success. Active participation is the next step - whether you are in a classroom or taking classes online. Each of your faculty will give details in the syllabus about their attendance policies. If you are going to miss a session, or be offline for any reason, please let your instructor know in advance. If you don't attend during the first two weeks of a term you will automatically be withdrawn from the class and this can cause serious problems if you receive financial aid. In fact, if you withdraw prior to completing 60% of a class and receive any form of federal financial aid (grants or loans) you will be required to repay a portion.

Academic Honesty Policy

You are expected to be honest in all your academic work. By enrolling at the College, you agree to abide by all the standards of academic honesty and integrity and failing to observe the rules may result in academic and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College. The academic honesty policy and procedures are available online:

- [Academic Honesty Policies, Honor Code](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures](#)

These documents include details on what is meant by:

- Cheating
- Bribery
- Misrepresentation
- Conspiracy
- Fabrication
- Collusion
- Duplicate submissions

- Academic misconduct
- Improper calculator, computer or online use

Some of your courses may include online material that is protected by copyright. This means that the work is available for you to use in your studies, but you can't copy and share the materials (copyright.gov). Please see [SPC's copyright information](#). It's your responsibility to be academically honest in all of your work.

Generative AI Not Permitted

The best-known example of Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) is ChatGPT, a chatbot that allows you to type a question as if you were talking to a real person, and it quickly offers a seemingly meaningful, original answer. Tools like this are powerful and can be useful in many contexts, but you must be aware of their limitations, as they can produce inaccurate, fabricated, and even offensive content. In addition, the work produced is not technically your own. In order to avoid violating [SPC's academic integrity policy](#), students must be sure to follow the course's policies regarding the use of artificial intelligence in academic work. The AI policies for this class are outlined below.

You are strictly prohibited from using use Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence), including ChatGPT and similar AI tools, in this course. The work produced by AI writing tools is not your own original work and is therefore unacceptable for the assignments in this course. If you cite AI-generated content, the work will be considered incomplete and receive a zero. If you do not cite, the work will be considered plagiarism and receive a zero. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to me.

Policy: Attendance/Participation/Withdrawal

Withdrawing from a course with a “W” or “WF” may impact students’ academic standing and financial aid eligibility including placing the student in early repayment. It is the student’s responsibility to understand the consequences of withdrawing.

Attendance

College policy requires students to attend class prior to the published deadline to drop

with a refund. The instructor is required to report non-attendance and the student will be dropped after the second week of classes.

If you don't attend during the first two weeks of the term, you will be automatically dropped, and a "W" grade will be assigned. If you receive financial aid, you should contact a financial aid counselor to determine any impact to your award amounts.

It is the student's responsibility to know the attendance policy of the class in which they are enrolled.

- Depending on the modality of the course, attendance may be online, LIVE Online, blended, or on-campus.
- For LIVE Online classes, attendance will be taken online during the normal class meeting time/days.
- Students who are feeling ill for any reason should communicate in a timely manner with their instructor regarding attending online instead of on-campus, and/or the responsibility of excused absences. Students are also responsible to discuss completing any missed work with the instructor.

Participation

College policy require the instructor to report any student who is not actively participating at the 60% point of a class. The instructor will report the student by the end of the week immediately following the 60% point of the class and the student will be withdrawn from the course and assigned a "W" grade. It is the student's responsibility to understand the instructor's requirements for 'active participation.'

Student Withdrawals

You may drop a course through the [Drop with Refund](#) date listed on your Fee Schedule and be eligible for a refund, although withdrawing may affect your financial aid. If you withdraw prior to completing 60% of a class and receive any form of federal financial aid (grants or loans) you will be required to repay a portion. If you are thinking of withdrawing, please speak with your instructor, an [Academic Advisor](#) or a [financial aid counselor](#).

Withdraw requests submitted after the last date to withdraw with a "W" (see academic calendar) will result in a "WF". Students and instructors will automatically receive an email notification through their SPC email address whenever a withdrawal occurs. Students should consult with an academic advisor or financial assistance counselor prior to withdrawing from a class.

Students who wish to withdraw completely from SPC are not able to totally withdraw from all classes through MySPC. A student must contact an Academic Advisor to totally withdraw.

Student Survey of Instruction

The Student Survey of Instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

Turnitin

The instructor of this course may require use of Turnitin.com as a tool to promote learning. The tool flags similarity and mechanical issues in written work that merit review. Use of the service enables students and faculty to identify areas that can be strengthened through improved paraphrasing, integration of sources, or proper citation. Submitted papers remain as source documents in the Turnitin database solely for the purpose of detecting originality. Students retain full copyright to their works. Review the [Turnitin Usage Agreement](#) for full details. Students who do not wish to submit work through Turnitin must notify their instructor via course email within the first seven days of the course. In lieu of Turnitin use, faculty may require a student to submit copies of sources, preliminary drafts, a research journal, or an annotated bibliography.

View the [Reviewing a Turnitin/Originality Report](#) tutorial.

Title IX

At St. Petersburg College, our faculty are dedicated to fostering a secure and open environment conducive to learning for all students. Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you, or someone you are aware of, has experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, or any form of sexual misconduct, which includes incidents like sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, please know that there are avenues for help and support.

We strongly encourage every member of our college community to be proactive, seek assistance, and report occurrences of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office. It's important to be aware that under Title IX regulations, faculty members are obligated to report such incidents to the Title IX Office. However, if you prefer to have a conversation with someone who is not required to report, you can consult the [SPC's Counseling Services](#).

St. Petersburg College urges everyone in our community to step forward, seek support, and report any incidents of sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination to the St. Petersburg College Title IX Office. They can be reached via email at SPCTitleIX@spcollege.edu or by phone at 727-341-3261. Remember, these resources are here for your support and well-being.

Equal Access

St. Petersburg College affirms its equal opportunity policy in accordance with the provisions of the Florida Educational Equity Act and all other relevant state and federal laws, rules and regulations. The College will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or against any qualified individual with disabilities in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this Rule, the College will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact the Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Office at 727-341-3261; by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489; or by email at eaeo_director@spcollege.edu.

Safety and Security

We want to make sure that you are comfortable on campus and feel secure in your learning environment. The SPC campuses are very safe but you should be aware of your surroundings, just as you are anytime you are in a public space. In each classroom there is an Emergency Response Guide to help you during an emergency. It is also a good idea to be familiar with evacuation routes in buildings that you use frequently. **If you have an emergency, dial 911 immediately.** For information on campus safety and security policies, please call 727-791-2560. More information is also available on the [Campus Safety website](#).

The college website (spcollege.edu) is the best source of information in the event of an emergency. It's possible for something like a hurricane to disrupt classes on campus; if this happens there are plans on how to help you continue your education. You should be comfortable using MyCourses as the learning management system will be key in communicating with faculty about course materials and assignments. Make sure you complete the Introduction to MyCourses so that you are familiar with sending and receiving emails, participating in discussion posts, navigating through course materials, and submitting assignments. It is important to be able to use MyCourses for learning activities if your campus is closed.

Federal and state law requires a person designated as a "sexual predator or offender" to register with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). The FDLE is then required to notify the college if the person attends, or is employed, by a college or university. You can find out more information by calling the FDLE hotline (1-888-FL-PREDATOR) or by visiting offender.fdle.state.fl.us/offender. A list of sexual offenders or predators registered for classes at SPC is also available.

Titans Care (Student Assistance Program)

As an SPC student it's vital that you know Titans Care. You can access resources through [SPC's Student Assistance Program \(SAP\)](#), a collaborative resource for students with mental health or general life issues. SAP provides help and education in suicide prevention, mental health, substance abuse awareness and more. It is SPC's belief that

supporting mental wellness is everyone's charge and that one loss as a result of substance abuse, mental illness, or suicide is one too many. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Student Concerns

St. Petersburg College wants to make sure that you are able to receive prompt and fair resolutions to any concerns that you might have. If you feel that you have had a bad experience with a college employee, or you have a concern about college facilities, please bring it to our attention. Begin by speaking directly to the person responsible for the department; direct conflict resolution is an important skill to develop and usually brings about the best results. If you aren't satisfied with the outcome, or are not comfortable approaching the person directly, you may submit the information using an online form: web.spcollege.edu/survey/13002

If you're not able to submit the form online yourself, feel free to ask a college employee to submit the form on your behalf.

SPC Vaccination Policy

SPC is concerned about the health and well-being of all students. We encourage all students to remain current on vaccinations as suggested by appropriate health authorities. SPC does not require vaccinations for general admissions to our degree or certificate programs, with some exceptions for specific programs.

Instructional Continuity During Emergencies

The St. Petersburg College website at www.spcollege.edu is the official source of college information regarding the status of the institution. Other important information will be communicated via SPC Alert, local media outlets, and the college toll-free phone number 866-822-3978. All decisions concerning the discontinuation of college functions, cancellation of classes, or cessation of operations rest with the President or his/her designee. The College realizes that it is possible for a significant natural disaster to

compromise SPC campus facilities sufficiently to disrupt the delivery of classes on campus/campuses for an extended period and is planning ways our operations can continue following such an emergency.

So, if a hurricane or other natural disaster causes significant damage to St. Petersburg College facilities, please visit the college website for an announcement of the College's plan to resume operations.

Further, in the event of such a disaster, the Instructor will continue using the Learning Management System (LMS) of MyCourses for continuation of all required learning and instructional activities in this course, including the issuing of graded online assignments and expectation of student completion of those graded assignments.

Therefore, to keep up with all activities in this course during and after a natural disaster, please plan to continue this course by maintaining online access to MyCourses (possibly through duration of the course's regularly scheduled end date). We will finish this course in MyCourses, as directed by your Instructor online, and your Instructor will use all graded assignments to assess and issue your final letter grade for this course, as normally planned, despite occurrence of the natural disaster.

For all current updates on pandemic conditions or other events, please visit SPC Updates at <https://www.spcollege.edu/spc-updates>

Terms of Instruction

Please note this syllabus is an instructional guide and that the instructor/professor reserves the right to make any changes to it, as needed. This includes changes to the course schedule and assignments, etc., throughout the term. If changes occur, you will be notified as soon as possible via email and/or an announcement in MyCourses. Changes may be necessary for various reasons, including instructor illness, students' progress, weather events, institutional needs, etc. Please approach any changes with flexibility and understanding.