



## Course Syllabus

**SLS 1101 - 1182**

**The College Experience Fall Term 2023-2024 (0625)**

This ONLINE course includes the following section numbers: **SLS1101-189-1182**

## Welcome

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Dear class,

I am excited that you are starting this most helpful ONLINE course with me. This course will be for some students a review in specific areas while for others will be the confirmation that this course offers tools that might have been necessary to have engaged in your earlier college experience, but for some reason, did not. College Experience will give you the tools to become very successful in your academic studies. For this success, you will need to "pick" up the tools and utilize them. Then, I guarantee that you can build a very useful foundation as you continue in the world of academics.

Blessings, Dr. Neoka Apple

Syllabus Revised 8/8/23

## Instructor Contact Information

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Neoka Marple Apple, PhD

**Email**

apple.neoka@spcollege.edu

**Phone:** NA

**Office and Online Chat Hours:**

Chat hours arranged via appointment times per individual student request

**Office Location:**

NA

**Zoom Link for Class:**

NA

## **Departmental Contact Information**

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Douglas Rivero, PhD

**Title:** Assistant Dean

**Email:** rivero.douglas@spcollege.edu

**Phone Number:** 727 394 6948

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

## **Course Information**

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**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**

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### **1. The student will demonstrate effective study, note-taking and test-taking strategies by:**

- a. preparing realistic and effective study plans for a variety of subject matter.
- b. developing effective test-taking and note-taking strategies.
- c. identifying the symptoms of test anxiety and strategies to manage it.
- d. identifying how motivation, attitudes, and theories of intelligence affect success.
- e. identifying situations in which different note-taking formats work effectively.
- f. incorporating active listening into note-taking methodology.
- g. identifying the variability in test taking formats.

### **2. The student will employ computer skills beneficial to success in online, blended, and traditional learning environments by:**

- a. demonstrating use of the MySPC account and its functions.
- b. developing use of the college-wide online learning management system and its functions.
- c. demonstrating study skills and strategies to enhance independent learning.
- d. demonstrating knowledge of the college resources to problem solve technology-related issues.
- e. utilizing college online resources to problem solve content-related concerns.
- f. explaining academic honesty as applied to the learning environment.
- g. demonstrating appropriate etiquette for online communication.

### **3. The student will apply effective interpersonal communication skills that reflect a respect for diverse worldviews and cultural perspectives by:**

- a. explaining the function of nonverbal communication in the context of academic and career settings.
- b. demonstrating civility through appropriate interpersonal communications with peers, faculty and staff.
- c. identifying active listening and examining the similarities and differences in the exchange of ideas according to cultural heritage and context.

d. discussing civic awareness or civic engagement.

**4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of appropriate time management techniques applicable to both academic and lifestyle environments by:**

- a. developing a time management plan for the session, listing exams, long-term assignments and other school and personal/family commitments.
- b. developing daily and weekly time management plans.
- c. developing a list of techniques to make the most effective use of available time.
- d. identifying the importance of understanding values in the development of goals.
- e. developing short-term and long-term goals.
- f. developing strategies for stress management.

**5. The student will demonstrate creative and critical thinking skills and writing skills by:**

- a. identifying the importance of goal setting as well as the evaluation of goal identification in decision making.
- b. identifying common impediments to making decisions, using a variety of techniques.
- c. identifying alternative ways of achieving goals in decision-making situations, using a variety of methods.
- d. applying critical thinking and writing strategies to academic course work.
- e. identifying individual learning styles through various inventories and developing learning strategies based on their results.
- f. explaining the effects of mnemonics on information retrieval.
- g. applying techniques to strengthen memory links.

**6. The student will identify the various facilities, services and resources available to students at St. Petersburg College by:**

- a. producing an educational plan through collaboration with and guidance from a academic advisors.
- b. completing a career assessment and developing career plan compatible with their personality, ability, and interests.
- c. identifying and applying career development strategies in the form of cover letters, resumes, portfolios, interview skills, etc.
- d. identifying the available testing services.
- e. identifying the various services available through campus learning centers and information commons.

f. demonstrating knowledge of college-wide special student services.

**7. The student will demonstrate knowledge of college culture, policies, procedures, and regulations along with an understanding of appropriate educational terminology beneficial to success in college by:**

- a. identifying registration, class attendance, honor code, class and college withdrawal, and graduation procedures affecting students.
- b. recognizing terms and concepts relating to the college experience and culture.
- c. utilizing the college catalog and the student handbook as information resources.

**8. The student will demonstrate the ability to investigate a subject using a variety of library resources and services by:**

- a. completing a library orientation.
- b. locating materials using the library online catalog.
- c. locating articles using online periodical databases.
- d. identify terms and concepts relating to library research and services such as call number, interlibrary loan, magazine, journal, citation and database.
- e. demonstrating information literacy and how to prevent plagiarism.
- f. completing a library skills exercise.

**9. The student will demonstrate the ability to navigate a variety of financial literacy mechanisms by:**

- a. identifying the college procedures for obtaining scholarship and student financial aid assistance.
- b. examining the variance between loan categorizations.
- c. generating a functional budget plan.
- d. analyzing personal finances.
- e. explaining the impact of loan repayment interest rates.

## **Required Textbook and Other Resources**

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**College Experience**

**ISBN:** 9781640870161

**Authors:** Lumen Inc

**Publisher:** Lumen Inc.

**Publication Date:** latest

**Edition:** Latest

**Notes**

Embedded in course

## **First Day Access (Digital Books) Program**

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### **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](mailto:tharrison@bncollege.com) to prevent First Day Fees being added to your account.

## **Performance Assessment and Grading**

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Follows SPC main grading system of A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

E 59-50

## **Grading Scale**

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Use 12 font and New Times Roman.

## **Availability of Course Content**

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All modules are opened with due dates.

## **Course Attendance**

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Attendance is ascertained by the submission of timely assignments.

## **Technology Requirements & Policy**

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Students also MUST become proficient with MYCOURSES and the tools contained within the program to be successful in this course.

## **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

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**Class Dates:** 14-AUG-2023 to 08-DEC-2023

**Drop Date:** 18-AUG-2023

**Withdrawal Date:** Please reference the Academic Calendar below

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

## Learner Support and Other Student Resources

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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](#)

## MyCourses Assignment Schedule

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Due Date	Name	Type	Points
8/20	BEGIN HERE	Event	40
8/20	1-Motivating Success	Event	50
8/20	Succeeding With Waymaker	Event	N/A
9/3	4-Goal Setting and Time Management	Event	50
9/3	9-Beyond the Classroom	Event	50

<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Points</b>
9/3	6-Learning Styles and Strategies	Event	60
9/17	2-Career Coach	Event	50
9/17	3 - MY Learning Plan Module (due as soon as you have academic advisor approval)	Event	100
9/24	5-Thinking and Analysis	Event	40
10/1	11-Financial Management	Event	55
10/1	10-Health Management	Event	50
10/8	12-Career Exploration	Event	40
10/8	8-Social Interaction and Diversity	Event	35
10/15	7-Study Skills	Event	70

## **Course Assignment Schedule**

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Be sure to refer to the **ACADEMIC CALENDAR** webpage as given in this Syllabus under Important Dates. There are many days when SPC is closed.

It is important to note that **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 6 BY MIDNIGHT.**

As a reminder, your text book is embedded within this course, so no hard copy is required. Please re-read the section concerning **TEXTBOOK** for any questions.

## **Students' and Instructor's Expectations**

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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.

**Academic Honesty Policies - Honor Code**

We expect you to be **honest** in all of your academic work. By enrolling at the College, you agree to obey all of the standards of **academic honesty** and **integrity** and you should understand that failing to observe the rules may result in academic and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College. As members of the

College community, you also have an ethical obligation to report violations of the SPC academic honesty policies you may witness. 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.

## **How to Be a Successful Student**

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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.

## **Policy: Attendance/Participation/Withdrawal**

Students classified as "No Show" for both of the first two weeks will be "administratively" withdrawn from any class which they are not attending. It is the student's responsibility to know the attendance policy of the class in which they are enrolled.

The student's financial aid will be adjusted based on their updated enrollment status.

- 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 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.
- Students who are not actively participating in class as defined in an instructor's syllabus will be reported to the Administration during the week following the last date to withdraw with a "W" (as posted in the academic calendar on the college's web site).
- Students will be able to withdraw themselves at any time during the term. However, 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. Withdrawing after the "Last Date to Withdraw with a Grade of "W" can have serious consequences. If the student withdraws from a class after the deadline posted in the academic calendar, the student will receive a final grade of "WF", which has the same impact on the student's GPA as a final grade of "F." A "WF" grade also could impact the student's financial aid, requiring repayment of financial assistance. 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**

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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**

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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.



## Safety and Security

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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](http://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](http://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)

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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**

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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](http://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**

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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**

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The St. Petersburg College website at [www.spcollege.edu](http://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>