

Bowie State University Freshman Seminar Course Syllabus Template

Fall 2015 FRSE 101. (Section number) (3 credit hours)

Instructors:
Fax:
Email:

Phone:
Office Hours:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Freshman Seminar is designed to assist students' pursuit of academic excellence and their successful social and academic transition into Bowie State University. It consists of exploring Bowie State's history, engaging experiential and cultural activities, and developing critical thinking skills for firm foundations that lead to higher education success. This course is required of all new students and transfer students with fewer than 12 transferable semester hours.

COURSE READINGS

Feldman, Robert S. P.O.W.E.R. Learning: Strategies for Success in College and Life. 6th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2011. ISBN 978-007-744-2941

- **NOTE: This textbook includes a REQUIRED subscription to Connect. If you choose to obtain your book from another vendor such as Amazon, you must still purchase Connect! The cost for Connect from McGraw-Hill is \$30 or \$45 with the ebook.**

Ernest J. Gaines – A Lesson Before Dying. New York: Vintage Books a division of Random House, Inc. 1994. ISBN 978-0-375-70270-9

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to:

1. improve the quality of the freshman year experience,
2. assist students in defining career goals and developing a plan to achieve them,
3. foster a positive transition into the college environment, and
4. increase critical thinking.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Students will be graded on their completed assignments, quizzes, papers, presentations, and regular, on-time attendance. A point system will be applied to determine the final grade.

Grading Scale

A	90-100%	10% Paper
B	80 -89%	10% Quizzes
C	70 – 79%	10% Attendances
D	60-69%	10% Workshops (2)
F	59% AND BELOW	60% Instructors input

PROPOSED COURSE OUTLINE

Week of	Topics Covered	Activities Due
Week 1 - 8/31	Welcome/Syllabus/History *BCSSE Inventory given to all sections	
Week 2 - 9/7	Making the Most of Your Time :	
Week 3 - 9/14	Who am I? How do I learn? *CONVOCATION – MANATORY ATTENDANCE*	
Week 4 - 9/21	Technology & Information Literacy *Library Scavenger Hunt*	
Week 5 - 9/28	Taking Notes	
Week 6 - 10/5	Test Taking *Testing	
Week 7 – 10/12	Building your Reading Skills * MID-TERM EXAMS * * Academic Advising week for students with less than 60 credits *Testing	
Week 8 - 10/19	Improve Your Writing *Testing	
Week 9 - 10/26	Improving Your Speaking *Testing	
Week 10 - 11/2	Decision Making *Testing	
Week 11 - 11/9	Stress & Wellness *Advisement Week* *Testing	
Week 12 - 11/16	Diversity *Testing	
Week 13 - 11/23	Money Matters *Thanksgiving Break* *Testing	
Week 14 - 11/30	Money Matters	
Week 15 – 12/7	Final Exams	

*** Subject to Change**

QUIZZES:

Each week a quiz will be given online for that week's assigned chapters from POWER Learning. To get there go to www.bowiestate.edu and click on BSU Online. Log in and click on FRSE 101.

ASSIGNMENTS: (Instructor input)

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS

All assignments, instructions, due dates and grades are accessible through BSU Online. If you are unfamiliar with BSU Online please make an appointment with the instructor immediately via email or telephone.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. Class attendance and promptness: Students are permitted a maximum of three (3) unexcused absences per semester. Students who exceed this limit will receive a reduction in overall letter grade. If you are absent from class, it is **YOUR** responsibility to meet with the instructor and provide official documentation such as a doctor's note. Disciplinary action may be taken against students attempting to use forged documentation.
2. Preparedness: Students are expected to come to class prepared to work and to discuss the material that will be covered.
3. Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and orderly manner. Students are expected to submit their own work. **Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.** Cellular phones, pagers and any other form of noise distractions are prohibited. Such noise distractions will be confiscated. If you are the source of the disruption, you will be asked to leave the class. Inappropriate language, attire (no head gear, pajamas, sheer, excessively short or low clothing), and behavior are strongly discouraged and may also result in a grade reduction.
4. Grading: (Instructor input)

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who have a disability and who would like accommodations should report immediately to Disability Support Services (DSS), located in the Thurgood Marshall Library, lower-level, room 078 and 079. You may contact Dr. Michael S. Hughes, DSS Coordinator at 301-860-4067 or mhughes@bowiestate.edu.

Important Information for Instructors

*Students must attend 2 workshops (mandatory) presented by the Academic Advising Center.

*Students will submit a paper. Each paper should include: references and cover page.

Each paper will also be written in MLA or APA Style. (Evaluation criteria attached) (topic determined by instructors)

*I have attached a schedule from the Library about Research 101.

*BCSSE inventory will be given to all freshman sections (paper & pencil).