FRESHMAN SEMINAR
FALL 2018
PSU 016, SECTION 301, WEDNESDAY 10:10 - 11:00 a.m.
Rm. 216 Thomas

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. James Gregory Ferry
OFFICE: 308B Althouse Laboratory
PHONE: 814-863-5721 (office); 814 380 1949 (cell)
E-MAIL: jgf3@psu.edu
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

PSU 16 is a one credit seminar/discussion course designed to introduce ECOS students to educational, diversity, and life experiences available at Penn State, introduce students to expectations related to their major, provide guidance for personal and academic success, and prepare students for future professional opportunities.

To accomplish our ECOS Learning Goals, each PSU 16 student should:
1. Design a Time Management Plan to assist each student's adjustment to the academic rigors of college life
2. Understand Academic Integrity rules and their relationship to your degree and person
3. Achieve fluency in Library Electronic Resources relevant to each student's specific program of study
4. Develop an awareness of and appreciation for Campus Diversity
5. Develop a perspective for the Professional and Career Development Opportunities related to their major and program of study
6. Demonstrate Engagement across the university at multiple levels (major, department, college, university; and academic, cultural, and social perspectives)

GRADING POLICY

In order to receive an “A” in this course, each student must:

1) Be well prepared for his/her presentations.
2) Complete all assignments.
3) Participate in class discussions.
4) Attend class. Each absence will result in a loss of 5% from the final grade unless an appropriate excuse (decided by the instructor) is provided.
5) Grading breakdown: Attendance 50%
Assignments 20%
Student presentations 30%

MUTUAL RESPECT AND COOPERATION

The Eberly College of Science Code of Mutual Respect and Cooperation (http://science.psu.edu/climate/code-of-mutual-respect-and-cooperation/Code-of-Mutual-Respect%20final.pdf/view) embodies the values that we hope our faculty, staff, and students possess and will endorse to make The Eberly College of Science a place where every individual feels respected and valued, as well as challenged and rewarded.
The Eberly College of Science is committed to the academic success of students enrolled in the College's courses and undergraduate programs. When in need of help, students can utilize various College and University wide resources for learning assistance. 
http://www.science.psu.edu/advising/success

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

The class starts on time. Please be prompt and not leave before the class is over. Talking and eating during the class is distracting. Turn off all cell phones. Use of laptops is not permitted. Please wait until the class is over before you begin to gather your belongings. This class is only one of the many "meetings" you will attend in your professional life. Practicing basic etiquette will make it a more positive experience for everyone.

WORLD IN CONVERSATION PROJECT

World in Conversation (WinC) is a Center for Public Diplomacy that facilitates dialogues for Penn State students by Penn State students. These dialogues are meant to expand perspectives and invite greater understanding on topics that are relevant, complex and often contentious. No one will tell you what you should think; instead they will ask you to express what you actually think. You will have the opportunity to participate in one of these dialogues as a part of this class. Each session is 95 minutes in duration and will occur outside of your regular class meeting times. One week before the sessions for this class begins; you will receive an email explaining how to register. This email will be sent to your PSU account. In order to receive credit, your attendance will be recorded. But keep in mind: You will not be able to attend the program (or receive credit) if you are more than 5 minutes late.

WinC IS WORTH 5% TOWARD YOUR GRADE IN THIS CLASS.

Any questions regarding WinC should be directed to the WinC staff, not me: 814-865-5692 or worldinconversation@psu.edu

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All Penn State policies regarding ethics and honorable behavior apply to this course (see links below for policy statements). Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution. All University policies regarding academic integrity apply to this course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. For any material or ideas obtained from other sources, such as the text or things you see on the web, in the library, etc., a source reference must be given. Direct quotes from any source must be identified as such. All exam answers must be your own, and you must not provide any assistance to other students during exams. Any instances of academic dishonesty WILL be pursued under the University and Eberly College of Science regulations concerning academic integrity.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. If you have a disability-related need for reasonable academic adjustments in this course, contact the
Office for Disability Services (ODS) at 814-863-1807 (V/TTY). For further information regarding ODS, please visit the Office for Disability Services Web site at http://equity.psu.edu/ods/.

In order to receive consideration for course accommodations, you must contact ODS and provide documentation (see the documentation guidelines at http://equity.psu.edu/ods/guidelines). If the documentation supports the need for academic adjustments, ODS will provide a letter identifying appropriate academic adjustments. Please share this letter and discuss the adjustments with your instructor as early in the course as possible. You must contact ODS and request academic adjustment letters at the beginning of each semester.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic of Discussion</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course (J.G. Ferry)</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>BMB Research. “Life Without Oxygen”. Lab tour (J.G. Ferry)</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>September 5</td>
<td>Attend Library Open House (see assignments)</td>
<td>Main Library</td>
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<td>September 12</td>
<td>“Introduction to the Student Health Center” (Cathy Stout)</td>
<td>205 Student Health Center</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>“Financial Literacy Overview” (TBA)</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>September 26</td>
<td>“Using the Online Library” (Janet Hughes)</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>October 3</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>October 31</td>
<td>“Know the Code: Academic Integrity &amp; Ethical Decision Making” (Suzanne Zeman)</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>November 7</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<td>November 21</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 05</td>
<td>Student Presentations:</td>
<td>216 Tilomas</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS

1. Attend the library open house. Pattee/Patemo Library on Wednesday or Thursday, September ?? or ???. Hours are ? AM - ? PM. There will be give-aways and prizes. Bring your participation sheet with you on September 12.

2. What are your goals? One-half page briefly describing the goals you would like to achieve by graduation. Bring to class on September 26.

3. Progress Report. Due November 7. (See page 4.)


5. Student presentations. Twelve-minute PowerPoint presentations with three minute class discussion on topic chosen from: (1) A popular science article (i.e. NY Times Tuesday Science News section) or (2) A career of interest.


PROGRESS REPORT

Briefly answer the following questions (one page typed in 11 pt):

1. How are you doing so far, in general, at Penn State?
2. How are your classes going?
3. Have you had any exams yet? How'd that go? What'd you learn about studying, Etc. from that?
4. How are your roommates?
5. How is it going being away from home for the first time?
6. What else would you like to tell me about?

SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR ASSIGNMENT

During the course of the semester, attend at least one scientific seminar. You can find a list by checking department websites or more easily by looking for the weekly notices posted in the lobby of the buildings. Check out departments of Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, The Huck Institutes for the Life Sciences. After you attend the seminar, hand in a short, no more than one page, report. It should include:

- Title of the Seminar
- Name of the Speaker
- Date, Place
- Brief Summary (You can include what you understood or did not understand; you may include a critique of the presentation, i.e. too fast, speaker was not clear, figures were too busy etc.)

Biology: http://bio.psu.edu/
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: http://bmb.psu.edu/seminars
Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences: http://vbs.psu.edu/events
The Huck Institutes for the Life Sciences: https://www.huck.psu.edu/content/events/upcoming