

BLINN COLLEGE---BRYAN CAMPUS
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET
Education 1300- Section A1
Fall 2009

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Office Hours: MW 12-1:15pm
TR 10-11:50am and 2-4pm

Course Description:

The Learning Framework Model consists of self-assessment, self-regulation cognitive theories and strategies, and self-change. Section one of the course introduces students to several powerful learning and personality theories and assessment tools. Section two includes a model of self-regulation using self-monitoring, achievement goals, and motivation principles. Section three focuses on cognitive memory theories and the implications for learning strategies. Section four enables students to complete a project based on cognitive behavior modification principles.

Prerequisites for the Course:

Students must be college ready on reading and writing component of THEA or alternative test. Successful completion of this course will earn you three semester hours for transferable credit.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After studying the material presented in this course of study, the student is expected to do the following:

Evaluate their study of learning skills through the use of assessment instruments

Identify characteristics of successful learners and factors that impact learning

Critically analyze their thoughts and feelings through self-reflection journals

Apply strategies for objective and subjective testing

Explain the concepts of theoretical research in psychology of learning, cognition, and motivation

Demonstrate behavior modification through a project

Learning Framework Model

The Learning Framework Model consists of self-assessment, self-regulation, cognitive theories and strategies and self-change. The course will be divided into the following parts:

Part I - Self-Assessment of Factors That Impact Learning

You will formulate a clear portrait of yourself as a learner by completing inventories and using the data from each to deepen your understanding of your learning strengths and weaknesses. The introduction of Gardner's Multiple Intelligence Theory allows you to develop a more comprehensive view of your own abilities. You will have an opportunity to evaluate your own skills in reading, writing, critical thinking and mathematics. You will take an online Learning Styles Inventory based on a theory of experiential learning. This inventory will introduce you to the concept of differing learning preferences.

Part II – Self-regulation for Learning

Self-regulation is a way of approaching academic tasks through experience and self-reflection. You will come to understand academic self-regulation by setting achievement goals, using self-monitoring techniques, investigating motivation, and using principles of self-discipline and time planning. Motivation theories introduced include Weiner's Attribution Theory of Motivation. You will learn how to heighten your self-awareness and raise your self-esteem. This section also addresses assessment/testing strategies and suggestions for writing in-class essays.

Part III – Cognitive Theory and Strategies for Learning

An information-processing model of cognitive learning is the primary theoretical basis of this section. Other related theories will be explored. Your goal will be to transfer successful strategies of learning across academic programs by using techniques appropriate for different types of academic pursuits. You will learn techniques to memorize information at the surface level and then process the information at deeper levels using elaboration techniques such as networks and maps. You will also study Perry's theory on how intellectual and moral values develop and the implications such development has on how adults study and learn.

Part IV – Self-change Strategies for Learning

The fourth section of EDUC 1300 will present a model of cognitive behavior modification and maintenance. You will design a project based on research and theory and present that research and design in a scholarly format to the class. During your research, you will learn to use different database computer programs and become more familiar with Internet resources.

Required textbooks, supplies, and materials:

Downing, Skip. *On Course*, 5th ed, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008. (This text is packaged with a learning assessment tool, MBTI (Myers Briggs Testing Instrument). **It can only be purchased at the Blinn's Bookstore**).

One Flash drive

Three Scantrons (Form 886-E, Mini Essay Book)

1 pack of ruled 3 X 5 index cards

One, 1" Three-ring binder/Dividers

Tentative Semester Schedule: A detailed calendar of assignments is attached at the end of this handout.

Course Requirements:

1. Major Exams

You will have 4 exams (including the final). The exams will be multiple choice, matching, true/false, short answer, essay format. The exams will test your recall and comprehension from the assigned readings, class lectures and activities (in class and online). It is important to read all of the assigned selections and do all of the assigned journal writings. Please plan to take the final exam at the designated time as no early or makeup exams will be given.

2. Quizzes/Participation

One of the most important factors of success in any class is consistent and active participation. If you have read the assignment and completed your journal entry before class, or completed your homework, you will have no trouble of earning the maximum number of points for this section. No quiz may be made up.

This class requires you to be here. You will only benefit if you are here. Come prepared to contribute your ideas and experience. We want you to be willing to try new concepts and strategies in learning. There is a strong correlation between class attendance and college success. Your class involvement enables you to learn more actively and effectively; **therefore class attendance is essential.**

3. Success Journals

Your SUCCESS JOURNALS provides you with an opportunity to explore your thoughts and feelings as you experiment with the success strategies presented in our text, **On Course**. You will have journal questions to allow you to reflect on the major themes of our course. You will critically analyze your thoughts and feelings related to your skills, behaviors, and attitudes as a college student as well as on the course content. Reflecting on course content is a vital step in the learning process. **The journal entries will be submitted via e-campus. We will do the first journal in class.** Type each journal question (single-space). Double-space your response and use a standard font size (10-12). College professors require about 200-250 words per typewritten page. Each question will require a full page of written work to answer completely. I am looking for your ability to critically reflect on each question. You are free to express yourself. I realize that journal writing is more informal; however, I do expect correct grammar and spelling. At the end of the semester you will have several journals that I hope will become one of your prized possessions. I will use the rubric below in grading your journals.

Grading Rubric for Entry Journals:

Off Course--	Taking a side road—	On Course—
Journal Entry did not fully address question or statement...too short...too many fragments...	Journal Entry is complete, but lack clarity and depth...sentences are unclear...	Journal Entry question or statement is answered completely with paragraph unity and clarity...
0-12 points	13-16 points	17-20 points

4. Success Project

All students will have an opportunity to design a project based on research and theory to reflect their understanding of the strategies learned this semester. All projects will be presented to the class (see assignment schedule). Information and guidelines for the “Success Project” will be handed out to each student after the second week of school.

Grading Criteria:

Your grade is based on 1,000 Points. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F” for the course.

A = 900-1000 C = 700-799 B = 800-899
D = 600-699 F= below 600

<u>Course Evaluation Measures:</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
Major Exams (includes Post Test)	400
Quizzes/Participation	200
Success Journals	200
Success Project	200
Total Points	1,000



I do not drop test or quiz grades. However, you will have an opportunity to earn up to 50 bonus points by writing “Your Success Story”. Bonus information will be handed out after the second week of class.

Major Testing Dates	
Test No.	MW 4:15pm Class
1	September 28th
2	October 19th
3	November 11th
Final Exam*	Monday, December 14, 2009 @ 12:45pm-2:45pm

***Please plan to take the final exam as shown. No early or late exams will be given.**

BLINN COLLEGE POLICIES

Attendance Policy: The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students place themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student's name appears on the roster, through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of unexcused absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail (every student now has a Blinn College email address to which these notices will be sent) by the College requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. If the student accumulates a total of two weeks' worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class. **Religious Holy Days:** In accordance with House Bill 256, passed by the 78th legislature in 2003, Blinn College shall excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this section of Texas Education Code Section 51.911 (b) may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. The effective date of this policy was September 1, 2003. Documentation is required.

Excused Absences: The only excused absences are those relating to an activity sponsored by Blinn College, observance of religious holy days, and military service. Absences for religious reasons must be revealed before the planned absence with documentation. Please refer to page 70 in your Blinn College Catalog for further explanation of excused absences. For students receiving Title IV Financial Aid, attendance in class is mandatory. Students who are found not attending may have the aid removed.

Disability accommodations: Students with documented disabilities may seek support from Blinn College's Office of Disability Services (209-7251). Accommodations are not retroactive. Students are encouraged to contact this office as early as possible to initiate services. The student must then discuss requested accommodations with the instructor, and agreement must be reached between student and instructor.

Scholastic Integrity Policy: Blinn instructors are responsible for maintaining scholastic integrity by refusing to tolerate any form of scholastic dishonesty. According to the *Blinn College Student Handbook*, violations of the Scholastic Integrity Policy "shall include, but not be limited to,

cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.” This handbook defines “plagiarism” as “the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work.” Blinn College stipulates that “collusion” is the “unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements.” Violations of the scholastic integrity policy may result in a “penalty ranging from a grade of zero on the assignment/examination up to and including the imposition on a F for the entire course.”

Civility in the classroom: Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff, and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others. If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for this conference.

Personal Electronic Devices: All the functions of all **personal electronic devices** designed for communication and/or entertainment (cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, and similar devices) **must be turned off and kept out of sight** in all Blinn College classrooms and associated laboratories. Any noncompliance with this policy will be addressed in accordance with the Blinn College civility policy (Administrative Policy). Additionally, any communication understood by the instructor to be in the nature of cheating will have consequences in accordance with the Blinn College policy section regarding academic dishonesty. Students exempted from this policy include active members of firefighting organizations, emergency medical services organizations, commissioned police officers, on-call employees of any political subdivision of the state of Texas, or agencies of the federal government. Exempted students are expected to set the emergency-use devices on silent or vibrate mode only. Any student violating this policy shall be subject to discipline, including suspension, in accordance with *Student Handbook*.

W/WF/WP Grades: Students who drop, or withdraw from, a course prior to the official drop deadline receive a grade of W. If they drop after this deadline, they automatically get a grade of WF. If their work is passing on the day they drop, the instructor may change this WF to a WP by submitting a grade change form to the Division Chair.

Incomplete policy: A grade of “I” may be given only in emergencies, such as the serious illness of the student or a close family member. This grade is not for students who fall behind in their work. To receive a grade of incomplete the student must have satisfactorily completed all but one or two of the final requirements of the course. The instructor and student must agree on this

grade before it can be assigned, then a course completion contract must be signed by student, instructor and division chair. All work must be made up within 90 days of signing the course completion contract, or zeroes will be assigned for the uncompleted work.

Student e-mail accounts: Every Blinn College student is assigned an email account to facilitate official College correspondence. Students must activate their accounts initially through the Student E-mail Accounts link at the Blinn home page. Students need to check their Blinn accounts regularly for important communications, including excessive absence reports.

HUMANITIES DIVISION POLICIES

Mid-term grades: Although not required by Blinn College, this Division requires that all instructors inform their students in writing of their standing at mid-term of each semester, including summer semesters. Accordingly, you will be notified at mid-term of your grades, and if appropriate, advised how to improve your performance.

20 % Rule: Students who miss over 20 percent of the coursework due to absences, excused or unexcused, will not be allowed to make up the work. They miss out on too much of the material/skills taught to successfully make up missed work. Even though students may keep up on the assigned reading, there is no way to make up missed lectures, class discussions, group work, etc., all very important and necessary methods of learning the skills required for this course.

Papers: Formal papers are to be submitted on time in two ways: in hard copy and electronically. Papers not submitted in class will be considered late, and paper grade will be docked ten points per day, including weekends. To submit papers electronically, send them to turnitin.com PRIOR TO the start of class on the day each paper is due. Major essays are not considered turned in until they are submitted to turnitin.com before class AND submitted in hard copy at the beginning of class on the due date.

The Writing Center: The Writing Center is located in A-119 offers tutoring in writing for all students enrolled in Humanities Division classes. The mission of the Writing Center is to make better writers. This is accomplished in a comfortable environment through one-on-one consultations with experienced writing tutors. Tutors help students identify and address writing concerns. Student writers themselves direct each session as tutors guide them through any stage of the writing process, from understanding an assignment to documentation of sources. To set up an appointment, call (979) 209-7591 or visit www.blinn.edu/brazos/humanities/writingcenter.

Printing: All students have \$15 in their printing account as part of registration.

No food or drink allowed in Blinn College classrooms

MRS. CHILDERS' COURSE POLICIES

- **Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes. I will take attendance from the first day of class until the final exam. It is the student's responsibility to officially drop a class he or she is no longer attending. A student who acquires more than the equivalent of two weeks of absences (excused or unexcused) in a developmental course(s) will be administratively withdrawn from the class. There is recourse to appeal this drop. The student may request a form from the Division Chairman, Dr. Nancy Wright in A264.
 - 4 absences in a MW or TR class
 - 6 absences in a MWF class
 - Missing lab=1/2 absence
- **Tardies:** Three tardies equal one absence. A student is tardy if he/she enters class after roll has been checked. Tardy students are responsible for checking with the instructor (after class) to assure the attendance is noted and to discuss the reason for the tardy entrance. You will be counted tardy if you arrive ten minutes late.
- **Late Enrollees:** Students who enter the course after the "beginning date" of the course are subject to the same guidelines and due dates stated in the Course Syllabi and on the Course Schedule.
- **Emergencies:** Most emergencies can be verified by documentation (doctor's note, hospital receipt, accident report, etc.). Students have twenty-four hours to inform me by email or phone message of an emergency to qualify for discussion of possible make up. Documentation is also required and must be submitted the first class meeting after an emergency or before. Regular checkup appointments are NOT emergencies and will be counted as unexcused absences. Any appointment that can be scheduled and is scheduled during class time will be considered **unexcused**. (The instructor reserves the right not to accept an excuse.)

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to attend class for the entire period, to be attentive, to participate in class activities, and to be respectful of others. Habitual violations (3) of these policies will be considered a violation of Blinn's civility policy and will be dealt with accordingly. Please review Blinn's Civility Policy stated above. Offenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Leaving class without an instructor's formal dismissal. Students should be prepared to stay in class during its entirety unless an emergency occurs. Attend to restroom needs before or after class. Remember you are in a college environment.
- Using cell phones, ear phones, or other electronic devices without permission. Students are to avoid texting in class, checking messages or receiving phone calls.
- Talking while the instructor is talking, sleeping, doing homework for other classes or other students. Comments in class must be professional and academic. Profanity is not permitted.
- Coming to class inappropriately dressed. Undergarments must be covered by outer garments at all times.
- Bringing children, visitors, or pets to class without permission.
- Having combs, picks, or other objects projecting from the hair to distract from the teaching process.
- Wearing sunglasses in class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MAKEUP WORK

- Excused absences cover **emergency** situations (medical emergency, death in the immediate family). Students must provide a written explanation and adequate proof of the emergency in order to make up a major exam.
- **Extra Credit:** Students will be given opportunities for extra credit during the semester through the completion of Vocabulary Units (see Course Schedule). Completing the Vocabulary Units will help students to enrich their college vocabulary and improve their comprehension. Each opportunity carries a due date. Once the due date has passed, that extra credit opportunity is gone. Students will receive time in lab to work on the Vocabulary Units. NO extra credit is offered at the end of the semester.
- Students are given a daily plan of all assignments for the semester (see assignment calendar). Therefore, **all students** are responsible for **all assignments** whether they attend class or not. I do not accept incomplete assignments.
- To encourage students to develop academic behaviors for college success, **I reserve the right to accept or offer makeup work after evaluating documentation for an absence.**
- Pop quizzes, group work, or other work done in class is NOT eligible for makeup.

CONTRACT FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Please **e-mail** the statement below “Contract for Academic Success” to Mrs. Childers **from your Blinn e-mail account** after reading your syllabus. Be sure to type the information shown below in the subject area.

Subject: Your First and Last Name, EDUC1300 MW

Contract for Academic Success

My name is _____. I am enrolled in EDUC1300, Fall 2009 Semester. “I” understand that “I” create the grade. “I” am responsible for exhibiting successful behaviors in class and showing respect to others. “I” understand that in order to achieve success, “I” must be in attendance, participate in class, study and make wise choices. “I” also understand that if “I” am having any questions or concerns, “I” must contact the instructor immediately to seek help.

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