



ADVANCING YOUR ACADEMIC SUCCESS: SIENA, EUGENE, AND BEYOND

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Kate Mondloch

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

UO CREDITS: 1

CONTACT HOURS: 10

SIENA, ITALY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Siena and welcome to college! This course is designed to support you as you develop skills and perspectives that will assure your success in college-level classes. It will enable you to get the most out of your experience in Siena and to make a smooth transition to the University of Oregon in September. Along the way, you will identify your educational goals, personal strengths, and areas for development; become familiar with college resources and services; explore strategies for academic success such as time management, study skills, and holistic wellbeing; and make enduring connections with other students, GEO staff, and professors.

In some ways, enrolling in college is like visiting a foreign country. That's because the culture of higher education is different from other cultures you have known, even that of high school. This course builds on what you're learning in your Siena cultural and educational experiences and offers practical advice for your future college-level success. We're all here to learn these new cultures—Siena and college—together. If you hear words and terms you don't understand, be sure to ask what they mean. It won't be long before you'll be feeling like a pro.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To provide students with ongoing support for their Siena experience as a steppingstone to entering the University of Oregon.
- To assess students' current expectations, motivation, strengths, and areas for improvement.

- To assist students in setting effective academic, personal, and career goals.
- To ensure students are familiar with college support services and resources.
- To increase students' skills in self-management for successful outcomes.
- To introduce essential learning and study skills for college-level work.
- To support students as they consider the role of self-awareness, self-responsibility, and self-advocacy in the learning process.
- To practice and adopt a variety of reading, writing, and study skill strategies for college.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

How is college different from high school?

Will I be able to make any friends at a big university?

What should I call my instructors?

How will I discover what I am passionate about, and what if I change my mind?

How will studying abroad help me become a better student?

Do these concerns sound familiar? You're not alone! Most new students ask themselves these questions. This course aims to provide concrete tools for answering each one. Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Have a sense of their own strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to college success.
- Know strategies, resources, and services that can help them maximize their strengths and build on their weaknesses.
- Demonstrate improved academic performance in content courses.
- Create academic goals based on their personal interests, values, and abilities.
- Improve self-management relating to the college learning process.
- Learn how to interact with their instructors and fellow students in ways which support their goals and the values of the UO community.
- Learn to view themselves as responsible for and capable of adopting strategies to increase their academic successes.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

Each of our eight class sessions will include discussions, activities, and guided journaling in which we engage in dialogue with one another as a way to actively explore issues and topics. We will also incorporate asynchronous learning modules for academic success that you can complete outside of class at your own pace. The course will be supportive of your overall development and aims to reduce your anxieties as you bridge the transition from high school student to college student.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

In order to ensure that this class is a source of support rather than a source of stress, this class may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis only. In order to pass, you must do all of the following:

- Participate in class - This doesn't just mean speaking. It also means active listening, peer review of others' work, and so on.
- Complete experiential assignments - This course will take an active approach to learning about college-level expectations, and assignments will include experiences such as a visit to office hours, guided journaling, self-assessments, UO website resource scavenger hunts, and similar activities designed to help you actively manage your own college success.
- Complete asynchronous learning modules assignments - To be completed at your own pace outside of class time. See details on Canvas.

COURSE OUTLINE

Because this course will be responsive to individual students' needs and goals, and because of the potential scheduling challenges associated with the pandemic, the schedule is subject to modification as the course proceeds. All class sessions will have ample time for spontaneous Q&A and response to student requests.

You should refer to our course Canvas site as your main point of reference for assignments, resources, Zoom links, etc. However, our four weeks together will follow this general outline:

DATES + TIMES	MODULE	TOPICS COVERED
Week 1	Building Community and Defining Success	Defining Siena goals, intro to success in learning, Canvas skills, values assessment
Week 2	Mapping the Terrain	Finding your way around campus, group online research, time management, understanding expectations, taking notes
Week 3	College 101	Study skills, unpacking office hours, thinking through majors
Week 4	Research Futures and Holistic U	Research skills, health and wellness, self-advocacy, future plans

Academic Misconduct

[The University Student Conduct Code](#) defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. By way of example, students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive)

unauthorized help on assignments or examinations without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the students' obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before attempting an act. Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at researchguides.uoregon.edu/citing-plagiarism.

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Reporting

Any student who has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender-based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment may seek resources and help at [Help for Victims and Survivors](#). To get help by phone, a student can also call either the UO's 24-hour confidential hotline at 541-346-7233 [SAFE], or the non-confidential Title IX Coordinator at 541-346-2204. From the SAFE website, students may also connect to [Callisto](#), a confidential, third-party reporting site that is not a part of the university.

Students experiencing any other form of prohibited discrimination or harassment can find information at [How to Get Support](#). You can contact [Investigations and Civil Rights Compliance](#) through this link and at 541-346-3123, or the [Dean of Students Office](#) at 541-346-3216 for help. As UO policy has different reporting requirements based on the nature of the reported harassment or discrimination, additional information about reporting requirements for discrimination or harassment unrelated to sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment is available at [Discrimination & Harassment](#).

The instructor of this class, as a Student Directed Employee, will direct students who disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to resources that can help and will only report the information shared to the university administration when the student requests that the information be reported (unless someone is in imminent risk of serious harm or a minor). The instructor of this class is required to report all other forms of prohibited discrimination or harassment to the university administration. Specific details about confidentiality of information and reporting obligations of employees can be found at [Employee Reporting Responsibilities](#).

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse

UO employees, including faculty, staff, and GEs, are mandatory reporters of child abuse. This statement is to advise you that your disclosure of information about child abuse to a UO employee may trigger the UO employee's duty to report that information to the designated authorities. Please refer to the following links for detailed information about mandatory reporting: [Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect](#).