

FLAGLER COLLEGE — FALL 2023
FIRST YEAR SEMINAR 152 B F

Name: Dr. Rena Goldstein RGoldstein@flagler.edu pronouns: she/her/hers Office #207B 20 Valencia St St. Augustine, FL 32084 Credit Hours: 3	Class time: MWF 10:00 AM -10:50 AM Class location Office Hours: MWs 12:00-2:00 pm Syllabus Version: March 27, 2024* *Syllabus is subject to revision at any point during the semester
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Course overview: The First Year Seminar is both an introduction to the Flagler Core Academic Experience and a writing-intensive class that uses both classical and contemporary readings as well as current events to introduce students to Flagler College and to the academic standards that characterize high-quality college-level work. By the end of FYS students will know the basics of constructing an evidence-based argument, what it means to choose a major, and where various offices and services are located around campus. Taught by faculty from a wide range of disciplines, this course will help students understand how to read deeply, think broadly, write clearly, and communicate soundly.

FYS is also a course aimed to expose students to the foundational values of Flagler College. You will be provided opportunities for *transformative learning*, tools for *thoughtful stewardship*, knowledge for practicing *citizenship with integrity*, and skills for engaging in a *respectful and inclusive community*. Together students and faculty will begin a journey of exploration and thoughtful reflection. Each section is taught from the unique perspective of the individual faculty member who has volunteered to teach the course. Each instructor brings their own passions and expertise into the classroom. From these individual perspectives all sections will engage in the college's values as they apply to the common read, critical works of history, philosophy, literature, or film; politics, the environment, or local, national, and global current events. As you acquire the key navigational skills for getting around campus, critical time management, and learn how the library works, you will also be a part of a deep and meaningful conversation.

Materials

- *The Flagler College FYS Reader* (available at the Flagler College Bookstore)
- *Sitting Pretty* by Rebekah Taussig (FYS Common Read for 2023-24)
- *The City of St. Augustine*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ★ Configure your phone to receive your @flagler.edu email. Use this link for directions: <http://www.flagler.edu/offices/business-services/technology-services/email--calendar/email-app-setup/>
- ★ Download the Canvas app for students: Search “Canvas Student” in your App Store
- ★ Set your notification settings for Canvas: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10624-4212710344> Be sure they are set so you are receiving regular notifications.
- ★ For more help with Canvas: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>

Course Format

This course will be in-person for the whole semester unless the weather prevents us from meeting. In case of extreme weather, I will send out an email with instructions for meeting asynchronously. Other aspects of the course, including assignment instructions, quizzes, and deadlines will be available on Canvas. All the deadlines for this course are for the US east coast, that is Eastern Standard Time.

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing FYS 152, successful students should be able to do the following:

- Students will demonstrate skills essential for academic success at Flagler College including preparing for class, time management, note taking, utilization of campus resources, academic and career planning, and co/extra-curricular engagement.
- Students will recognize, evaluate, and articulate arguments through close reading, writing, group discussion, and reflection.
- Students will develop a holistic understanding of the values of Flagler College and the importance of the St. Augustine communities, including their culture, history, and resources.
- Students will explore the concept of identity and begin to understand their own identity.

Student Learning Outcomes for Academic Writing:

- Students will use writing as a tool for learning and effective communication.
- Students will take their writing through recursive stages including invention, drafting, revision, and editing.
- Students will be able to read critically and respond to the arguments of others by effectively identifying, interpreting, and evaluating authors’ conclusions and positions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Lincolnvile Museum Visit: All FYS students are required to go with their class to visit this amazing museum located at 102 MLK Avenue, a 15-minute walk from Flagler College. You will need to register for the tour by logging in with your Saints Connect account credentials

to this website: https://saintsconnect.flagler.edu/events_list. We will leave from the Student Center porch. **Class will be canceled this day.**

The Learning Resource Center: Part of your academic growth includes the use of college resources dedicated to helping you excel in your coursework. One such resource is tutoring in the Learning Resource Center (LRC), on the first floor of Proctor Library. One-on-one help is available in math, economics, business, accounting, writing, reading, study skills, biology, chemistry, physics, French, and Spanish. A requirement of the first-year seminar is that students must visit the LRC at least once this term within the first seven weeks of the semester. It can be any lab for any reason. To make an appointment with a tutor, navigate to <http://www.flagler.edu/LRC>. Once logged in, be sure to choose FYS 152 as the course you're seeking help with, even if what you've brought to work on is not FYS-related (for example, an essay or math problems). Selecting FYS 152 ensures that your instructor will receive a record of your visit. If you encounter difficulty making the appointment online, you can also email learning@flagler.edu to secure a spot or simply drop by the front desk of the LRC where one of the staff will help you sign up for a particular day and time to meet with a tutor. Research has repeatedly demonstrated that students who make use of support services like tutoring get better grades, stay in college, and graduate on time.

Assignments: When you click on the "Assignments" tab on our Canvas site, you will see a list of assignments that you are required to submit over the course of the semester. When you click on a particular assignment, you will find details as to what you are expected to do, along with the due date.

Identity Chart: This is a required assignment for all FYS students and can be found on our Canvas page.

Reading Assignments: You are expected to come to class with the assigned reading completed and ready to discuss your reactions to the texts and your questions and thoughts on the readings. I do not expect you to have mastered the text, but you should read the assignment closely, noting your reactions, questions, and ideas for discussion. We will discuss methods to assist you with close reading of text for class preparation and will read some portions of text together in class.

Four-Sentence Essay Plans: These are part of the core writing elements of the FYS course and will help you build essential skills for academic writing. You will be asked to write four four-sentence essay plans. These essay plans have a very specific structure that is laid out on the Canvas pages associated with the assignments. The four-sentence essay plan is an effective way to demonstrate comprehension of another's argument or for the expression of a single idea created and developed by you, prompted by class readings and discussion. This component of the course will be counted as credit as part of daily assignment grades.

In-Class Writing: We will begin many of our classes by logging into Canvas (you'll need to bring your laptops or other devices with you to class) and taking the first ten minutes to respond to a prompt relating to the reading assignment for that day. For example, some days I will ask you to write about the ideas in the reading that most stood out for you and why. Other days I will ask you to choose a short passage (1-3 sentences) from the reading that stood out for you and explain why you choose that particular passage. On other days I will ask you to respond to particular questions relating to the reading. These are not quizzes, and I expect you to have access to the readings while you write. The primary purpose of these writings is to engage you with the readings before our class discussion begins.

College and Life: There will be several small assignments of different sorts (worksheets, online quizzes) that encourage understanding of how Flagler College works or teach life skills. For example, we'll practice income taxes and design a 4-year plan for your college career.

Polished Reflections: Our course is divided into four main sections: 1) Transformative Learning, 2) Thoughtful Stewardship, 3) Inclusive and Respectful Community, and 4) Citizenship with Integrity. For each section, you will compose a 400-word (or more) reflection in which you write about what you learned as we studied the value pathway and how what you learned affected you/changed or challenged your way of thinking/broadened your horizons, etc.

Final Evaluative Essay: This will be the final assignment for our course and will be due on Wednesday of Final Exam Week. You will write about your first semester of college—what you thought it would be like and what it was actually like, the negative and positive aspects of the semester, and what you learned from your experiences. The essay should be a minimum of 800 words.

COURSE GRADE WEIGHTING

Daily Assignments Including In-Class Activities Relating to Assigned Readings, 4-Sentence Essay, and Completion of the Identity Chart Module	33%
College and Life Including Income Tax assignment and the 4-year plan	28%
Four Polished Reflections at the Conclusion of Each Value Pathway Section (400 words each)	24%
Final Polished Evaluative Essay (minimum of 800 words)	15%
Total:	100%

***Polished writing** is writing taken through recursive stages of invention, drafting and revision. In other words, you first think about what you want to communicate, then begin composing, then review what you have written, and then make revisions. The writing you do for these assignments should represent your writing at its best.

Grading Scale:

A 93 - 100

A- 90 - 92

B+ 87-89

B 83 - 86

B- 80 - 82

C+ 77- 79

C 73-76

C- 70- 72

D+ 67- 69

D 60- 66

F 0-59

COURSE POLICIES

Late Work Policy: You are expected to submit all assignments to Canvas by the date and time they are due. In the case of emergency situations, contact Dr. Deb and explain your situation before the assignment is due.

Attendance Policy: Students are in danger of failing if they miss more than two weeks of class. This means that in our course that meets two times a week, a student who misses more than four classes, no matter the reason, is in danger of failing. I reserve the right to deduct 5% points from the final course grade for each absence over the allowed four. So, if you miss six classes (two over the allowed four) then, if your grade for the course would have been an 85 B, it will be lowered to 75 C.

Additionally, it is important to arrive in class on time (i.e., before I have finished calling roll) and to stay until I dismiss you. Every tardy or early departure will count as an absence unless discussed with me prior to class.

Policy on Technology: Bring a laptop or cell phone to class. I require that you silence and put away all technology before the start of class, including laptops, tablets, phones, and smart watches, unless I request that you bring and utilize your laptops for class. Technology is great, but it detracts from, rather than supplements or enhances, the classroom experience. It distracts the user and others; it scatters the focus of you, me, and the class. If you require any type of technology for an accommodation due to disability or encounter extenuating circumstances that require you to have access to a phone during a class period, please let me know.

LATE PENALTIES

For all assessed work, for each day (or part of the day) that the assessment is late I will deduct 1/3 letter grade. For example, a one-day late penalty means that A+ goes down to A, B- goes down C+, and so on). If you have a good excuse for being late—and please note that a good excuse doesn't mean 'I forgot about the deadline', or 'I left it to the very last minute and my computer broke down', and so on—then it is important that you get in touch with me ASAP to explain the situation.

CLASSROOM VALUES

Respect: This class involves significant online discussion of topics on which you and your classmates may have differences of opinion. You may also have opinions that differ from those of the instructors. Please always respect classmates and the professor.

Respect for Diversity: It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. I intend to present materials and activities respectful of diversity including gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated, and I hope we will engage in civil and productive discussions on challenging, but important, issues. In addition, if any of our class meetings conflict with your religious or cultural events, please let me know so that we can decide for you. PPPs-Preferred personal pronouns and your preferred name or nickname will be used and honored in this class.

Academic Honesty: Cheating, plagiarism, violation of test conditions, complicity in dishonest behavior, or other falsification of academic work is a serious breach of Flagler College's expectations and is subject to immediate disciplinary action. Violations will result in a failing grade on the assignment and withdrawal from the course.

Plagiarism is not tolerated in this, or any, course of study. If you'd like a primer on plagiarism, click on this link [Understanding Plagiarism \(Links to an external site.\)](#). Plagiarism is a broad concept defined by actions like 1) a student submitting a paper that takes words, sentences, and paragraphs from another text, computer program, AI, or otherwise where the student did not write and does not cite as a source; 2) a student having another person do the research and/or writing of any portion of the assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write essays; 3) a student submitting the same work for more than one class without asking the instructors. Students who commit ethical violations like these will find themselves subjected to disciplinary action, which may result in the failure of an assignment or the course itself.

If you are unsure that you are citing material correctly, or whether parts of your paper could be labeled as plagiarism, you should contact your professor immediately. If you are found in violation of this code of Academic Honesty, you will fail the assignment, and may face additional penalties (including failing the course or expulsion) from Flagler College.

Campus Safety: We will briefly cover evacuation and safety procedures for the assigned classroom on the first day. Should there be a campus emergency, information will be pushed out on the Live Safe app, which you can download in your phone's app store. You can also view safety and emergency information at emergency.flagler.edu.

Disability: Reasonable accommodations for students eligible for disability services. Contact the [Disability Resource Center](#) to make the appropriate arrangement.

SCHEDULE

Specific assignments for the course are on our Canvas site under “Assignments.”

Date	Topic	Readings	In-Class Assignments
Week 1 1/17 & 1/19	Orientation to Flagler College and the City of St. Augustine	Syllabus	Fill out and submit Field Trip Authorization Form Register for LMCC and LRC
Week 2 1/22, 1/24, & 1/26	Liberal Education	Dr. Woelfel’s “Introduction to the FYS reader	How to Email a professor HW: Identity Chart
Week 3 1/29, 1/31, & 2/2	Liberal Education Transformative Learning	Plato’s Apology cont.	HW: Watch First Gen College Vid In-class: Majors and Minors
Week 4 2/5, 2/7, & 2/9	Transformative Learning	Plato’s Apology cont. CORE with Doug Keaton	
Week 5 2/12, 2/14, & 2/16	Transformative Learning	Financial Planning by Sara UpChurch “Confessions of St. Augustine” cont.	Taxes Practice/HW
Week 6 2/19, 2/21, & 2/23	Transformative Learning	“Confessions of St. Augustine” cont.	Crisp-Ellert Art Museum 10am 4-sentence Essay Intro
Week 7 2/26, 2/28, & 3/1 *Must bring a computer to class 3/1	Thoughtful Stewardship	Civil Rights Movement Sites	2/28: Visit to ACCORD Civil Rights Museum & Freedom Trail — 79 Bridge Street. We will meet at the Museum 3/1 CACE Academic Workshop
Week 8 3/4, 3/6, & 3/8 3/7 or 4/11: Attend lecture on AI	Thoughtful Stewardship	“Why Preservation Matters” by Max Page p. 133-142, cont.	3/8 FYS FlagSHIP Presentation/Office of Global Studies Dr. Howell
Spring Break – Classes Cancelled			
Week 10 3/18, 3/20, & 3/22	Respectful & Inclusive Community	“Sitting Pretty”: Intro and Chapter 1	400 Thoughtful Stewardship Reflection Essay Due Four-year plan for college

			3/22: Center for Advising and Core Experience (CACE) visit to instruct students regarding spring registration
Week 11 3/25, 3/27, & 3/29	Respectful & Inclusive Community	Sitting Pretty": Chapter 2	
Week 12 4/1, 4/3, & 4/5	Respectful & Inclusive Community	"Escape the Echo Chamber" C Thi Nguyen	400 Respectful & Inclusive Community Reflection Essay 4-sentence Meme 4/1: FlagSHIP fair
Week 13 4/8, 4/10, & 4/12 [Class cancelled on 4/8 in lieu of AI lectures]	Citizenship with Integrity	Compassionate Listening	
Week 14 4/15, 4/17, & 4/19	Citizenship with Integrity	"The Crito" Plato	4-sentence Essay Final Thurs walk to Castillo de San Marcos & Scavenger hunt
Week 15 4/22, 4/24, & 4/26	Citizenship with Integrity		400 Citizenship with Integrity Reflection Essay
Finals Week 4/28-5/1 Final Evaluative Essay			

Discussing Dates: ***Lincolnvillle Museum Visit** Meet me at the Student Center porch at 2:45pm. You will need to register for the tour by logging in with your Saints Connect account credentials to this website