

BBSU 1100.010 BBS First Year Experience

Fall 2023

Instructor: Corey Pierce, M.S.E.

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Class Location/Day/Time

FN 2.214 Monday 10:00-10:50

First Year Leaders:

Theresa Dabaghi, Sindhu Kavuru, Julia Santos, Alina Dam

FYL Section Location/Day/Time

Section 319 Wednesday FO 3.616 10:00-10:50

Section 320 Wednesday GR 3.302 10:00-10:50

Course Description and Goals

Welcome to BBSU 1100. This course will introduce incoming first-year students to the intellectual and cultural environment of the university and to the various majors, faculty, and research opportunities available in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS). Students will learn about plans of study and career paths for majors in Psychology, Neuroscience, Speech Language Pathology and Audiology, Child Learning and Development, and Cognitive Science. This course incorporates presentations, discussions, and in-class activities and students will complete assignments to become familiar with BBS and UT Dallas. This course will also help prepare you for the transition into college and your future in the career path you pursue after graduation.

The "lab" portion of this class will be complemented by weekly discussion groups led by student peers known as First Year Leaders (FYLs). These sections have the same course number but with section 319 and 320 and are scheduled on Wednesdays from 10:00-10:50. These groups will focus on learning about university-wide resources and information.

This course is a graduation requirement for all first year students. If you drop or fail the course, you must retake it the following fall semester.

- This class is required for all incoming freshmen as this type of course is effective in raising GPAs, improving retention from freshman to sophomore year, and enhancing overall student satisfaction and success.
- UTD is a selective admissions institution with one of the highest average freshman class SAT scores in the state, therefore performance and participation in the BBSU 1100 class is expected to reflect the caliber of students and academic standards of the university as a whole.
- The course objectives for BBSU 1100 represent goals which are fundamental to student success both inside and outside the college classroom.

Required Materials

I may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved AccessAbility Resource Center accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

- UTD student email account
- Access to course eLearning section
- Access to eLearning BBS Information Center
- Access to computer or tablet
- Internet access

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Motivate freshmen to develop connection with UTD
- Enable students to engage in self-reflection and enhance self-knowledge
- Provide students with the knowledge, motivation, and skills that foster academic success
- Provide student with information about their major, school, UTD, and potential careers

UNIV 1010 Course Requirements

Complete Comets to the Core group project (Constitutes grade for UNIV 1010):

- Comets to the Core (CttC) is a required project for all incoming first-time in college freshmen that is completed during the UNIV 1010/2020 course sequence. CttC challenges students to work in interdisciplinary teams of 4 to propose a solution to a complex world problem and encourages students to work with local partners to affect positive change in the community. Completed CttC projects are used to measure students' communication, critical thinking, teamwork, and other skills. The results are used to improve UTD's core curriculum and other co-curricular opportunities for students.
- Students will receive a complete list of project requirements and group assignments by September 9th. All projects will be due on November 1st, 2021.
- Please visit <http://www.utdallas.edu/core> or email core@utdallas.edu for additional information.
- **Failure to complete “Comets to the Core” group project will result in a grade of NC (No credit) for UNIV 1010 and an Incomplete in BBSU 1100. Removal of the Incomplete and the repeat of UNIV 1010 must be accomplished within the first 8 weeks of the following spring semester or the Incomplete automatically becomes and F (see UTD catalog).**

Grading Policy

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A+ = 100-97%	A = 96-94%	A- = 93-90%	
B+ = 89-87%	B = 86-84%	B- = 83-80%	
C+ = 79-77%	C = 76-74%	C- = 73-70%	
D+ = 69-67%	D = 66-64%	D- = 63-60%	F < 60

The requirements that will contribute to your grade for this class are as follows:





Grade Component	Points
Participation/In-Class Activities (class and FYL section)	40
Career Center/Resume Assignment	5
Plagiarism Assignment	5
Campus Event 1&2 Submission	5 each
Getting Involved in BBS Assignment	5
Reflection	5

Letter to the Next Class of Freshmen	5
Library Module	5
Why UTD/BBS?	5
Comets to the Core	10
Syllabus Quiz	5
Total	100

Academic Calendar

- Mandatory assigned readings and videos will be posted on eLearning and announced throughout the semester.
- Your eLearning section will be used throughout the semester for grades, announcements, providing supplemental readings and handouts, and submitting assignments. Make sure you have access to eLearning for this class!
- Assignments must be submitted through eLearning by 11:59 pm on the date they are due. See below and eLearning calendar for due dates.
- The workshop portion of class will be determined by your FYL and you will be given more information during class.

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
Week One: 8/21	Introduction & Exploring BBS Majors	8/27 Syllabus Quiz
Week Two: 8/28	Life Skills	9/3 Why BBS/Why UTD?
Week Three: 9/4	Campus Resources	
Week Four: 9/11	Mental Health & Transition into College	9/17 Campus Event 1
Week Five: 9/18	Sex, Substance Use, & Safety w/ Catherine Boynton	9/24 Comets to the Core Video
Week Six: 9/25	Values & Goals	10/1 Reflection

Week Seven: 10/2	Ethics in College & the Workplace	10/8 Plagiarism Assignment
Week Eight: 10/9	Healthy Relationships, Communication, & Conflict Resolution	
Week Nine: 10/16	BBS Advising Workshop	10/22 Campus Event 2 Submission
Week Ten: 10/23	Community	
Week Eleven: 10/30 	Self Esteem & Building Confidence	11/5 Library Module
Week Twelve: 11/6	Career Skills	11/12 Career Center/Resume Assignment
Week Thirteen: 11/13	Work-Life Balance & Boundaries	11/19 Getting Involved in BBS Assignment (No class next week!) 
Week Fourteen: 11/27	Failure & When Things Don't Go According to Plan	12/3 Letter to the Next Class of Freshmen Attendance Make Up Assignments
	Enjoy Winter Break!	

Course and Instructor Policies

Assignments:

- **No late work will be accepted.** Assignments that are to be uploaded to eLearning have a day and time deadline (refer to your calendar within this syllabus for specific dates). eLearning will not accept submissions after this deadline. I understand that there may be extenuating circumstances that will result in a due date extension. Forgetting is not an extenuating circumstance. Please get in touch with me as soon as you are able if you think an extension is warranted.
- Assignments will not be accepted via email or hardcopy except in extenuating circumstances.
- **All assignments should be submitted as a PDF.** My work computer does not support Pages. You can download Microsoft Office 365 for free from the UTD Office of Information and Technology website.

Participation (40% course grade): The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes. Faculty have the discretion to set an attendance policy for their in-person meetings, but the absences due to COVID-19 cannot be counted against a quarantined student.

You are allowed 2 unexcused absences throughout the semester. You do not need to communicate with me or provide documentation for these absences.

Illness, family emergencies, university travel, and other extenuating circumstances are considered excused absences and will not count towards your absence limit.

You can make up any unexcused absence, with the exception of The BBS Advising Workshop, by submitting a one-page written assignment via the "Make Ups" tab in eLearning. All makeup assignments due by 12/3/23 at 11:59 PM. Please email these to me with the date of the class you missed.

.A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Participation points will be deducted for talking while myself and others are talking, using your computer/tablet/phone for non-class related activities, and engaging in behavior that create an environment that is detrimental to myself or your classmates.

In addition, your FYL-led section participation is also mandatory and participation for that class will be factored into your final grade.

Email: The best way to reach me is via direct email. Please put the course name and section number in your subject line. **Always email from your UTD email address.** Instructors and staff only answer emails sent from students' UTD email address to another UTD email address. Please do NOT email through eLearning. Emails received in the evening and on weekends will be responded to during work hours M-F.

Note about UNIV 1010/2020:

Though students must register for UNIV 1010 & UNIV 2020, these are not actual classes. The only requirement for UNIV 1010 is completion of the "Comets to the Core" group project. Students take UNIV 1010 upon entering UTD and then register for UNIV 2020 when they finish their TX Core curriculum courses.

Students will receive no semester credit hours but will have a marking of "credit" or "no credit" on their transcript. These are graduation requirements for the 2022 undergraduate catalog, and they must be completed in order for the student to graduate.

Technical Support:

- If you experience problems with your UTD email account, you may send an email to assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911
- If you need help with eLearning, contact the eLearning Helpdesk at 866-588-3192

Academic Support Resources

- The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students.
- Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures: The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class. Please go to <https://coursebook.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for this information.

The descriptions and timelines in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.