

Course Syllabus

Course Information - Fall 2015

NATS 1101 Natural Sciences and Mathematics Freshman Seminar	
NATS 1101.006	NATS 1101.007
Room: SLC 1.202	SLC 1.202
Time: TTH 9:00-9:50 AM	TTH 10:00-10:50 AM
Final: None	

Professor Contact Information

Prof. Emily Hennessy
Office: n/a
Phone: contact via email
Email: ehennessy@utdallas.edu
Office Hours: After class or by appointment – by email most hours

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Corequisite: UNIV 1010

Course Description

NATS 1101 Natural Sciences and Mathematics Freshman Seminar (1 semester credit hour)
This course is designed to introduce incoming freshmen to the intellectual and cultural environment of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NS&M). Students will learn about plans of study and career paths for majors in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geosciences, and Science and Mathematics Education. Basic study, problem solving and other skills needed to succeed as an NS&M major will be covered. An overview of the connections within the disciplines of Natural Sciences and Mathematics will be presented, as well as their relationship to engineering, medicine and health, and other fields. Required for all first time in college freshmen in NS&M. Corequisite: UNIV 1010. (1-1) Y

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Upon completion of this course:

1. **Begin the development of Critical Thinking Skills needed in the Scientific process**
2. **Begin the development of Communication Skills required to explain scientific concepts**
3. **Begin the development of Empirical and Quantitative Skills needed in the Scientific process**
4. **Begin the development of Teamwork needed in the Scientific process and community**
5. **Begin the development of Social and Personal Responsibility and ethics required in the world and society at large.**
6. **Understand how to develop and plan for long-term goals.**

Required Textbooks and Materials – NONE

Notes, supporting material, other resources will be posted on eLearning

Faculty Topic	FYL Topic 2nd day of week	CLO	Notes/Comments	Tuesday Thursday
Welcome and Introductions		1	MUST TAKE CLA+ in testing center	22-Aug-16
	Intro to UTD	1		24-Aug-16
Topic 1: Learning and Thinking		1,2,4	Assign: Visit a Club activity	30-Aug-16
	Getting Involved	5		1-Sep-16
Topic 2: Learning and Thinking continued		1,2,4	Skills assessment and reflection	6-Sep-16
	Time Management and Effective Note taking	5,6		8-Sep-16
Topic 3: The sum total of science – the Library		6	The McDermott Library	13-Sep-16
	Academic Communication	2		15-Sep-16
Topic 4: The Nature of Science		3	Quiz: Learning and Thinking <i>Reminder: upcoming Career Expo</i>	20-Sep-16
	Campus Services	5		22-Sep-16
Topic 5: Successful scientific discourse Begin Project – explain project parameters and form groups		2,4		27-Sep-16
Work in Groups; Create draft proposal Project proposal presentations (elevator speech)	*****	2,4,5		29-Sep-16
Topic 6: Engaging in an intercultural campus community		4,6	Micromessaging DUE: Draft proposal via eLearning Assignments	4-Oct-16
	Midterm Madness	6		6-Oct-16
Topic 7: Analysis of major and relating majors to careers		2	Career Center	11-Oct-16
	Diversity	4,6		13-Oct-16
Topic 7: The structure of NSM at UTD; UTeach		6	Advisor	18-Oct-16

	Managing College Environment	6		20-Oct-16
Topic 8: Ethics and UTD		5	Ethical decision making activity	24-Oct-16
	Wellness/Nutrition I	1		27-Oct-16
Topic 9: Being a part of the Science Community		5	Quiz: Ethics	1-Nov-16
	Wellness/Nutrition II	5		3-Nov-16
In-class group project session		6		8-Nov-16
	Life Skills	5		10-Nov-16
Final presentations		4,5,6		15-Nov-16
	FYL: Special Topic		Assignment Due: Go to a Student Academic Organization at UTD – 1 Paragraph report due via eLearning	17-Nov-16
FALL BREAK			FALL BREAK	22-Nov-15
FALL BREAK			FALL BREAK	24-Nov-15
Final Presentations		4,5,6		29-Nov-16
	FYL: Special Topic			1-Dec-16
Final Class – Q & A			Celebration	6-Dec-16
Final Exam Days	No Exam			16-Dec-15

Assignments & Academic Calendar

(Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)

Notes About Classes:

1. You are required to attend all classes and complete all quizzes and assignments. Some quizzes and assignments will be in eLearning.
2. Semester project presentations are on Nov. 15, Nov. 29 and Dec. 1.

Grading Policy:	Attendance	--	20%
	Quizzes/Assignments	--	40 %
	Semester project:	--	40%
	Total	--	100 %

Grade ranges for NATS 1100 are: A+: 97-100; A: 93-96; 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: 63-66; D-: 60-62; F: below 60.

Note: Grading policy subject to change!

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

Exams: There are currently no formal exams in this course. Quizzes on lecture material are shown on the schedule.

Semester Project: The semester project will be assigned as shown on the schedule above. Note that the project grade is a team grade, including the presentation/demo and the final report.

Class attendance: Class attendance is taken.

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

Policies and Procedures for Students

The University of Texas at Dallas provides a number of policies and procedures designed to provide students with a safe and supportive learning environment. Brief summaries of the policies and procedures are provided for you at <http://provost.utdallas.edu/home/index.php/syllabus-policies-and-procedures-text> and include information about technical support, field trip policies, off-campus activities, student conduct and discipline, academic integrity, copyright infringement, email use, withdrawal from class, student grievance procedures, incomplete grades, access to Disability Services, and religious holy days. You may also seek further information at these websites:

- http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm
- <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>
- <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>
- <http://www.utdallas.edu/disability/documentation/index.html>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.