

Course Syllabus

Course Information - Fall 2015

NATS 1101 Natural Sciences and Mathematics Freshman Seminar

NATS 1101.**004**

NATS 1101.**005**

Room: SLC 1.202

SLC 1.202

Time: MW 12:00-12:50 PM

MW 1:00-1:50 PM

Final: None

Professor Contact Information

Prof. Stephanie Taylor (Dr. Taylor)

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Office Hours: – 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	Monday Wednesday
Welcome and Introductions		1	MUST TAKE CLA+ in testing center	22-Aug-16
	Intro to UTD			24-Aug-16
GOALS Learning, Thinking		1, 6	Assign: Visit a Club activity	29-Aug-16
	Getting Involved			31-Aug-16
LABOR DAY: NO CLASS				5-Sep-16
	Time Management and Effective Note taking		Intro Debate	7-Sep-16
The sum total of science – the Library		3	The McDermott Library	12-Sep-16
	Academic Communication			14-Sep-16
Accessing Science: Primary Literature & Peer Review Jigsaw		1, 3		19-Sep-16
	Campus Services	5		21-Sep-16
Debate Day 1		2,5		26-Sep-16
	FYL Topic			28-Sep-16
Debate Day 2		2,5	DUE: So What's in a Figure?	3-Oct-16
	Midterm Madness	6		5-Oct-16
Analysis of major and relating majors to careers Career Center		2, 6	DUE: Team Reflection	10-Oct-16
	Diversity	4,6	Intro Big Project	12-Oct-16
Team Challenge		2, 4		17-Oct-16
	Managing College Environment	6		19-Oct-16
Project Work Day		5	Assignment Due: Visit a Club	24-Oct-16
	Wellness/Nutrition I	1		26-Oct-16

How the University works & elevator speeches		5	Project Proposal DUE	31-Oct-16
	Wellness/Nutrition II	5		2-Nov-16
	FYL: Special Topic			7-Nov-16
	Life Skills	5		9-Nov-16
Project Presentations		2,3,4,5,6		14-Nov-16
Project Presentations		2,3,4,5,6		16-Nov-16
FALL BREAK			FALL BREAK	21-Nov-15
FALL BREAK			FALL BREAK	23-Nov-15
Critical Thinking & Assumptions		1,3		28-Nov-16
	FYL: Special Topic			30-Nov-16
Final Class – Q & A			Celebration	5-Dec-16
	FYL: Special Topic			7-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	--	20%
	Check Ins	--	15%
	Debate	--	15%
	Semester project:	--	30%
	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 will be announced at least one week in advance.

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 BOTH on Monday AND Wednesday

FYL Topics: These are subject to change based on input from students and instructor. While major assignments will not be moved, topics by day are subject to change.

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.