

UNIV 1050: Success Strategies  
**SYLLABUS | Fall 2020**  
Tuesday | 11:00am-11:50am | Aubie Hall 137

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**COURSE INFORMATION:**

Instructor: Amanda Decker  
Peer Instructor: Grace Robinson  
Office: RBD Library Business Desk  
Office Hours: *Thursday 11:00-11:50 or by appointment/Zoom upon request*  
Phone: 334-844-1576  
Email: amanda.decker@auburn.edu

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**REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:**

- Gore, P. A., Leuwerke, W., & Metz, A. J. (2019). *Connections: Empowering your success at Auburn* (2nd ed.). Plymouth, MI: Macmillan. (\*\*DO NOT PURCHASE THIS BOOK. An e-Book will be provided to you via Canvas, and the charge will appear on your e-Bill on or after the 16th class day.\*\*)
  - *2020-2021 Auburn University Bulletin* ([www.auburn.edu/bulletin](http://www.auburn.edu/bulletin))
  - Planner/Calendar
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Success Strategies is offered as an elective course to help first-year students make a successful transition to college life. This course provides opportunities to explore strategies for academic success relevant to first-year students through discussion, activities, reading, writing, teamwork, and community service. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of academic skills, career options, time management, test taking, note-taking, reading for content, computer skills, personal development, and relevant social issues. The Success Strategies course also provides a general orientation to the functions, support services, and resources of the University as a whole.

**COVID-19 ALTERNATIVE OPERATIONS:**

If normal class activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, or crisis situation (such as a COVID-19 outbreak), the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Will examine common transitional issues and assess their impact on daily life.
- Will demonstrate critical thinking skills through a variety of assignments involving reading, writing, and speaking.
- Will demonstrate understanding of the learning process and the role it plays throughout the lifespan.
- Will examine issues that influence the learning process such as goal setting, motivation, and personal attitude.
- Will actively explore major and career interests.
- Will investigate selected curriculum and identify opportunities for academic and professional enrichment with the assistance of an academic advisor.
- Will demonstrate knowledge of student services and academic resources.
- Will demonstrate application of academic and study strategies discussed in class.
- Will demonstrate knowledge of academic policies and procedures.
- Will examine cultural differences and diversity among people.
- Will develop personal competencies with regard to living independently.
- Will demonstrate understanding of basic wellness principles.
- Will demonstrate awareness of the effects of decisions on personal and academic success.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Readings as assigned            | • FOCUS Career Inventory and Reflection Assignment   |
| • e-Journals (Canvas)             | • Career Center Presentation Attendance              |
| • Personal Success Plans          | • Next Steps Career Assignment                       |
| • Discussion Facilitation         | • Academic Advisor Session and Reflection Assignment |
| • VARK Learning Styles Assessment | • Class participation                                |
| • ACES Initial & Progress Reports |  |
| • Learning Curve Quizzes          |  |

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class period. The student is expected to attend all classes, except in the case of a University-approved excused absence (see the Student Policy eHandbook: [www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)). In the case of an expected absence, advance notice should be provided to the instructor as soon as such absence is known. Except in the case of a University-excused absence, it is the instructor's prerogative to deem an absence excused or unexcused. In the case of a University-excused absence, all assignments will be due at the beginning of the next class attended. **ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL BE ALLOWED. EACH ADDITIONAL ABSENCE MAY RESULT IN A LETTER GRADE REDUCTION (from the final grade) PER ABSENCE. Each instance of tardiness may count as one-half of an unexcused absence.**

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

Auburn University expects students to pursue their academic work with honesty and integrity. The Academic Honesty Code is available in the Student Policy eHandbook ([www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)) and contains a list of those actions that are considered cheating and the possible consequences they carry. Violations of the Academic Honesty Code will NOT be tolerated in this course.

**GRADING POLICY:**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points Each</u>	<u>% of Final Grade</u>
e-Journal	3 entries @ 40 pts. ea.	12
3 Personal Success Plan	3 PSP @ 40 pts. ea.	12
VARK Learning Styles Assessment	50 pts.	5
Success Playlist	90 pts.	9
ACES Initial & Progress Reports	2 reports @ 20 pts. ea.	4
FOCUS Career Inventory/Reflection	80 pts.	8
Career Center Presentation Attend.	40 pts.	4
Next Steps Career Assignment	80 pts.	8
Acad. Advisor Session/Reflection	100 pts.	10
Learning Curve Quiz	14 quizzes @ 20 pts. ea.	28

**Final Grade (of 1000 possible points)**

A	900+ points
B	800-899 points
C	700-799 points
D	600-699 points
F	599 or fewer points

**E-JOURNAL POLICIES:**

You will complete three (3) e-Journal entries. **Each entry must be submitted BEFORE 11:59 pm on the Sunday before class.** E-Journal submissions are to be posted online in Canvas, and are electronically time-stamped upon receipt. No late submissions will be accepted.

**Each submission must be no shorter than 400 words in length** and must fully address the assigned topic and/or question(s). There are no specific formatting requirements for the e-Journal submissions. Quoting or borrowing from other sources is *strongly* discouraged; if you do, however, do so sparingly and cite the source appropriately. DO NOT include extraneous information (e.g. name, course, date, assignment, reputation of prompt(s), etc.), as they will not be included for the purposes of word count. Submissions will receive full credit provided that they meet the criteria above. Failure to meet any one or more of the above criteria will result in a grade of 0 (zero) for the assignment.

You are encouraged to be candid in your e-Journal entries, but it is requested that you refrain from the use of inappropriate or offensive content or language in your submissions. A warning will be issued for the first offense, and subsequent offenses will result in a grade of 0 (zero) for each offending submission.

**PERSONAL SUCCESS PLAN**

You will complete 2 Personal Success Plans (and 1 PSP Outcome report), a tool that helps you establish SMART goals, build action plans, evaluate your outcomes, and revise your plans as needed. Your PSP's will be submitted online via Canvas. More details will be provided in class.

**CAREER CENTER PRESENTATION:**

Students must attend a session facilitated by the University Career Center. This session will help students utilize information gleaned from the FOCUS Career Inventory and introduce them to University Career Center resources. More information about the specific dates and times for these sessions will be provided in class.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION POLICIES:**

Learning cannot take place if the learner is not present. Therefore, the student must come to class on time and be prepared to contribute to the classroom learning experience. It is important to recognize that one should share his/her thoughts and ideas in a thoughtful and respectful way. In order for this to be a positive learning experience for everyone, it is imperative that everyone arrives with an open mind and prepared to engage in classroom discussions and group activities.

Reading assignments will be made from the course textbook or other ancillary media. When such an assignment is made, it is expected that the student will be prepared to discuss the reading assignment in class.

**LEARNING CURVE QUIZZES:**

Fourteen (14) Learning Curve Quizzes will be given in this class and will be administered on Canvas. The quizzes focus on readings from *Connections: Empowering Your Success at Auburn*. It is to your great advantage to make sure that all assigned readings have been completed, as the quizzes are adaptive and can be completed in a shorter timeframe if the student has adequately prepared.

**POLICIES FOR LATE AND MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS:**

Late work will be evaluated according to the policies established in this syllabus for the particular assignment. Arrangements for make-up assignments must be made in advance unless due to emergency and will be subject to the policies as outlined in the Student Policy eHandbook ([www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)) and this syllabus. No make-up work will be accepted for unexcused absences.

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

One opportunity for extra credit exists in this course: It is an election year and voting is a privilege and your civic duty. Provide proof of your registration to vote to receive 10 points (1% of final grade).

**SCHEDULE**

Tuesday | 11:00 am - 11:50am | Aubie Hall 137  
Revised 10/19/21

Week	Date	Class Topic(s)	Due Sunday 11:59pm
1	August 18 Online	Welcome & Syllabus	ACES Initial Report
2	August 25 Online	CH 1 - Building a Foundation for Success, ACES	Learning Curve CH 1, e-Journal 1
3	September 1 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 2 - Thinking Critically and Setting Goals	PSP 1
4	September 8 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 3 - Motivation, Decision Making, and Personal Responsibility	Preparing for Advisor Visit Survey
5	September 15 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 13 - Academic and Career Planning	FOCUS Inventory & Reflection
6	September 22 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 4 - Organization and Time Management	e-Journal 2 Timetable
7	September 29 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 5 - Understanding Learning	VARK Learning Styles Assessment
8	October 6 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 6 - Reading for College Success	
9	October 13 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 7 - Taking Effective Notes	PSP 1 Outcome
10	October 20 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 8 - Memory and Studying	e-Journal 3
11	October 27 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 9 - Performing Well on Exams	Next Steps Career Assignment
12	November 3 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 10 - Information Literacy and Communication	PSP 2 – Next semester
13	November 10 Group A - Classroom Group B - Online	CH 11 - Connecting with Others	VOTE! Acad. Advisor Visit & Reflection

Week	Date	Class Topic(s)	Due Sunday 11:59pm
14	November 17 Group A - Online Group B - Classroom	CH 12 - Personal and Financial Health	Success Playlist
15	November 24 Everyone in classroom if safe Online if not	CH 14 - Celebrating Your Success and Connecting to Your Future	ACES Progress Report
16	December 1		
<i>The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule at any time during the course of the semester. If a change is made, appropriate notice will be given.</i>			