

**Instructor Information****Course Description**

The College of Humanities and Sciences (H&S) freshman seminar is designed to provide first year students with the tools that they need not only to succeed, but also to make the most out of their education and time at the University of Montana. Although the H&S seminar differs in scope and content with other Freshman Seminars at UM, the main goal of all seminars is to provide students with fundamental academic skills and an overview of student support services.

The H&S seminar consists of three main topics: (1) learning strategies and study techniques, (2) overview of campus resources, and (3) academic and discipline-specific information. The first year is a critical time for most University students; this course is designed to help *you* succeed. Here is a sampling of questions we will explore:

- How can I better manage my time?
- What kind of learner am I – and how to I use this knowledge to better study?
- UM is a Liberal Arts Institution, what does that mean and why is it important?
- What can I do with my degree?
- Why is diversity important?

**Course Meeting Times**

The H&S Freshman Seminar will meet once a week throughout the entire semester.

**Learning Objectives**

1. Develop written and oral communication skills.
2. Apply critical thinking and problem solving to course materials and personal decision making.
3. Expand the habits of mind for studying.
4. Examine and discuss sustainable lifestyles.
5. Understand one's rights and responsibilities as a student member of the community at UM
6. Develop a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values.
7. Value and acquire sensitivities to different cultures and respect diversity within the global context.
8. Find and utilize university resources, services, and activities/events.
9. Instigate career exploration and survey major/minor area.

**Required Textbook and Materials**

All assignments are available on Moodle.

**Attendance and Participation**

Students are expected to attend *every* class. The majority of the grade of the seminar is determined by in-class discussions and assignments; thus, attendance and participation are critical and essential aspects of this course. Excused absences will be determined the discretion of the instructor.

## **UM Connect/Student Email**

All University of Montana students are provided with an official university email account, referred to as UM Connect. This is the University's primary method of communication with students, thus, it will be extremely important to check this account frequently.

## **Assignments**

Assignments will be turned in at the start of class, completed during class or submitted electronically via Moodle. All assignments are due by the start of class each week. Late assignments will be determined at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Academic Honesty and Integrity**

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the university. All students must be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

## **Disability Accommodations**

This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the [Disability Services](#) website.

## **Respect Policy**

This course is designed to incorporate discussion, the sharing of ideas, opinions, and experiences, and to educate you on the skills necessary to succeed in college. Thus, it is expected that all students will maintain a high level of respect for others, including students and guest speakers. The use of any electronics in class for non-class related activities will result in a deduction of daily participation points.

## **Grading and Assignments**

Attendance	50 %
Participation	50 %

## **Total Grade Calculations**

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	F

**Schedule of Topics**

	<b>Week of</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Category</b>
1	Aug. 27	Intro	Introduction, Overview	Intro
2	Sep. 3	Academic	Why Anthropology	Subject
3	Sep. 10	No Class	Go study!	No Class
4	Sep. 17	Study Skills	Taking Notes & Reading Techniques, Preparing for exams, Memory	Study Skills
5	Sep. 24	Study Skills	Mindset, Social Style, Stereotype Threat	Study Skills
6	Oct. 1	Study Skills	Time Management, Procrastination, Productive Failure	Study Skills
7	Oct. 8	Resources*	Registration Process, Gen Ed Requirements, Liberal Arts Education	Resources*
8	Oct. 15	Resources*	Resilience & Engagement, SARC	Resources*
9	Oct. 22	Resources*	Stress Management, Counseling	Resources*
10	Oct. 29	Study Skills	Diversity, Implicit Bias, White Privilege	Study Skills
11	Nov. 5	Academic	Tour of Department and Labs	Subject
12	Nov. 12	Academic	How to prepare for your future goals in anthropology	Subject
13	Nov. 19	Resources*	Financial Literacy, Scholarships, and/or Career Resources	Subject
14	Nov. 26	No Class	Thanksgiving Break	No Class
15	Dec. 3	Wrap-up	Class activity	FUN

\* Guest speaker