



# FIRST YEAR STUDIES 101: The UT Experience

## University of Tennessee, Knoxville

CRN: 49080

**Course Day/Time/Location:**

M, 12:20-1:10p.m., HSS 114

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### ► Course Description and Goals

First-Year Studies 101 is a one-hour course designed to ease the transition to college by providing skills and strategies for successful degree completion in a supportive environment. As part of First-Year Studies 101, you will gain knowledge and skills to improve academic performance, progress toward major and career goals, and advance your development as a lifelong learner.

### Learning Outcomes

*First-Year Studies 101 addresses the academic, social, and professional needs of first year students at the University of Tennessee. Upon successful completion of the course, you will...*

- ✓ create connections amongst peers, with peer mentors, and your 101 instructor.
- ✓ identify resources and strategies that facilitate success in college and beyond, including effective time management skills and engaging with activities that support learning.
- ✓ develop effective strategies for major, career, and life planning, including reflection, research, and utilizing academic, social, and personal campus resources.

### ► Textbook (Required)

- **VolSource** – [fys.utk.edu/volsource](http://fys.utk.edu/volsource)
  - Online First-Year Resource

### ► Attendance Policy

Each FYS 101 class covers important information. In order to fully realize the Learning Outcomes listed above, it is important you attend every class. You will be allowed a maximum of two (2) absences for sickness, doctor visits, visits to the health center, court appearances, personal business, etc., during the semester without penalty. **Beginning with the third absence, the final grade will be lowered by a step on the grading scale above.** If you must miss class, I highly recommend you send an email to me and that you bring documentation to show me upon your return.

## ► Special Absence Exemption

I will completely excuse students for extended absences for sickness, death in the family, etc., if the need for the absence can be verified to my satisfaction. Students who must miss class for a prolonged time and for a serious reason must show written proof (e.g., doctor's note on office letterhead with telephone number) to have the absences excused. The same applies to absences due to official university business (e.g. band trips, athletic events). Let me know at the beginning of the semester when you will not be able to attend class and be prepared to provide an official written note.

If you must leave the university suddenly for a family emergency, inform me immediately or have another student do so for you. Do not just disappear - keep me informed!

2014 COURSE SCHEDULE			Location
Class #	Topic	Assignments / For Next Class	
8/25/14	<b>Welcome / Course Introduction (Class Twitter Intro)</b>	<b>Semester Long Assignment:</b> <i>Begin pics Campus Involvement (Scavenger Hunt)</i> <b>Semester Long Assignment:</b> <i>Begin Tweeting on Class</i> <b>Assignment:</b> <i>Time Management</i>	HSS 114
9/1/14	<i>NO Class – Labor Day, University CLOSED</i>		
9/8/14	Time Management Activity <b>Journey to Graduation Activity</b> (in class)	<b>Due: Time Management assignment</b>	<b>Humanities 201</b>
9/15/14	Learning Strategies - Study Skills		<b>Humanities 201</b>
9/22/14	Campus Involvement - Campus Resources and Culture (and OIT training info)	<i>Work on Scavenger Hunt</i>	HSS 114
9/29/14	Learning Strategies – Test Taking	<i>Assignment: Career Exploration Pre-Visit</i>	<b>Humanities 201</b>
10/6/14	The STEP Model of Career Decision Making (Career Services visit) Assignment due: 5 points Attending class on Oct. 6: 15 points	<b>Due: Career Exploration Pre-Visit assignment</b>	<b>Dunford 100 – Career Services DO NOT MISS THIS CLASS.</b>
10/13/14	Academic Advising	<b>Career Exploration Pre-Visit assignment</b>	<b>HSS 201</b>
10/20/14	Health and Wellness – Guest Speaker: Libby Hicks SPEAKologist Training		<b>HSS 201</b>
10/27/14	Exploration – Goal Setting		<b>Humanities 201</b>
11/3/14	Communication		<b>Humanities 201</b>
11/10/14	Diversity		<b>HSS 114 Vote on location: Tickle 403 or HSS 114</b>
11/17/14	Academic Integrity		<b>HSS 201</b>
11/24/14	Resumes and Social Media	<b>Due: at least 10 meaningful Tweets</b> over semester on several class topics. Email Rachael@utk.edu with list of Tweets and date/time sent	<b>Humanities 201</b>
12/1/14	Scavenger Hunt Campus Resources and Culture Presentations	<b>Due: Presentation of Scavenger Hunt</b>	<b>Humanities 201</b>

## ► Assignments – Learning Outcomes

A *Learning Outcome* expresses what you should be able to know and/or do as a result of an activity or assignment. Below are Learning Outcomes related to several assignments for this course:

As a result of the **Time Management Assignment**, you will...

- evaluate their ability to manage time, especially with regard to the increased academic and social demands of college, and
- demonstrate effective time management through the use of day planners and to-do lists.

As a result of the **Career Exploration Pre-visit Assignment**, you will...

- utilize and navigate resources on at least three UT major/career planning websites, and
- select at least one major or career they would like to further explore.

As a result of the **Journey to Graduation** activity, you will...

- recognize and reflect on the differences between college and the high school environment,
- identify habits of successful students as well as potential pitfalls to graduation, and
- synthesize this information through classroom discussion with peers.

## ► Course Evaluation and Grading

You will receive a letter grade of A-C (+/-) or NC for this course and are strongly encouraged to monitor your own progress throughout the semester.

<b>Grade / Point Value</b>	<b>Grading Guideline</b>
A 92% or above	Superior performance. Exemplifies highest quality.
A- 90-91%	Intermediate Grade
B+ 88-89%	Very Good
B 82-87%	Good
B- 80-81%	Intermediate Grade
C+ 78-79%	Fair
C 72-77%	Satisfactory performance
NC Below 72%	Minimal learning and/or substandard performance

The following assignments are to be turned in according to the course schedule in this syllabus. Each assignment is/will be posted on Blackboard and will be discussed as the class progresses:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Class Attendance	15
Time Management	15
Scavenger Hunt	20
Career Exploration	20
Journey to Graduation	15
Tweets/Class Participation	10
In Class Presentation	5
Total:	100

**Note:** a total of 70 points of your grade is determined by being present in class.  
 -Attendance  
 -Career Exploration  
 -Working on Scavenger Hunt  
 -Tweets/Class Participation  
 -In Class Presentation

Up to 7 points extra credit is available on the Scavenger Hunt and Presentation projects

## ► University Withdrawal Policy

It is important to familiarize yourself with the University's Withdrawal and Drop Policies. These rules apply to all of your courses at the University of Tennessee:

### Withdrawing from Full-term Courses:

- No W on transcript: **August 29<sup>th</sup>** is the last day you may drop full-term courses without a W on your transcript.
- W on transcript: **November 11<sup>th</sup>** is the last day you may drop full-term courses and receive a "W" on your transcript that is not computed in your GPA.
- Classes end – December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The following additional regulations relate to dropping classes after the "No W" drop deadline:

- Students are allowed four drops during their academic career (until a bachelor's degree is earned).
- Students holding a bachelor's degree who return to pursue a second bachelor's degree are allowed four additional drops.
- Students pursuing more than one major or degree simultaneously are not allowed additional drops.
- The W grade is not computed in the grade point average.
- After the 84th day, no drops are permitted.

**Courses may be dropped on the web (<https://myutk.utk.edu/>). Failure to attend a course is not an official withdrawal and will result in the assignment of an NC grade.**

## ► Disability Accommodations

If you have a documented disability, the Office of Disability Services (ODS) can assist you by first determining your eligibility and then working collaboratively to determine reasonable accommodations and services to give you equal access to the University. *In the college setting, it is your responsibility to request disability services.* You must self-register with ODS before any accommodations can be provided. Visit [ods.utk.edu](https://ods.utk.edu) for more information or call 974-6087.

## ► University's Honor Statement

(From the *Undergraduate Catalog*) *"An essential feature of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the university, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity." See [catalog.utk.edu](https://catalog.utk.edu) for more information.*

## ► Plagiarism

(From the *Hilltopics* student handbook): "Students are also responsible for any acts of plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the intellectual property of someone else without giving proper credit. The undocumented use of someone else's words or ideas in any medium of communication (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge) is a serious offense, subject to disciplinary action that may include failure in a course and/or dismissal from the university. Specific examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying without proper documentation (quotation marks and a citation) written or spoken words, phrases, or sentences from any source;
- Summarizing without proper documentation (usually a citation) ideas from another source (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge);
- Borrowing facts, statistics, graphs, pictorial representations, or phrases without acknowledging the source (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge);
- Collaborating on a graded assignment without the instructor's approval;
- Submitting work, either in whole or in part created by a professional service and used without attribution (e.g., paper, speech, bibliography, or photograph)."

For more information on the expectations of academic integrity shared by all members of UT's academic community, see the *Hilltopics* student handbook ([hilltopics.utk.edu](https://hilltopics.utk.edu)).