

UNIV 100, Section H24: The Science Around You
Fall 2016 – Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30 – 1:45 pm
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

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Office Hours: MWF 9:00-11:00 am; M 2:00-5:00 pm

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Course Description: UNIV 100 has been designed to help you maximize their success in college by addressing a variety of issues that often lead to failure or withdrawal as well as providing you with information and strategies to enhance your academic success. With this class, we will systematically explore the world around us using the scientific method. We will learn to hone our observational skills and apply them to our classes, as well as our lives and future careers. We will develop the skills necessary to complete scientific research, from observation, data collection, analysis, and dissemination. The topics of the course will be tailored to the interests of the class.

The course has two parts:

1. Cajun Connection: August 18th and 19st (*all* scheduled UNIV 100 events)
2. First-Year Seminar: August 23rd – November 10th

Cajun Connection

Cajun Connection is a required component of UNIV 100. If you did not attend Cajun Connection on August 18th and 19th, you must complete the online version of Cajun Connection on Moodle. In order to enroll in the online version of Cajun Connection, you must have prior approval from the Office of the First-Year Experience. The course is broken up into small sections, so you don't have to complete all of the activities at one time. However, you must have completed all sections of the online Cajun Connection by midnight on Friday, September 2nd to receive credit for UNIV 100. If you do not complete Cajun Connection by this date, you will automatically fail UNIV 100, regardless of work you have already completed or your current grade in the seminar. As with all of your classes, failure of UNIV 100 will affect your cumulative GPA, which could impact your eligibility for Financial Aid, including TOPS, in future semesters, and your ability to compete in collegiate athletics or participate in other university sponsored programs.

Course Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of UNIV 100, students will be able to:

1. Think critically and develop solutions to issues presented in class through formulating appropriate questions, investigating various options, and evaluating these options for relevance and preference.
2. Express personal reflections and opinions through both written *and* oral media.
3. Investigate answers to questions posed in class by learning to locate information and critically assessing the relevance and value of the information.
4. Understand and utilize the scientific method.

Required Course Materials:

A bound notebook

Course Grade:

Students *must* pass both the Cajun Connection and First-Year Seminar sections of the course to earn a passing grade in UNIV 100. Your grade in the Cajun Connection part of the course is "credit/no credit" (and will be provided to me from the Office of the First-Year Experience). It is the official policy of this class that there will be no extra credit. Any attempt to give additional grading opportunities to certain individuals is unfair to the rest of the class, and rewards those who have not been successful in doing what is required of everyone else. Your grade in the seminar is based on the following:

1. Homework and Quizzes: 25%
2. Class Participation: 25%
3. Observations: 25%
4. Group Presentation: 25%

The final course grade will utilize the following grade scale:

90-100	=	A
80-89	=	B
70-79	=	C
60-69	=	D
< 60	=	F

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in class is very important and is mandatory. Attendance will be taken for every class period. Unexcused student absences in excess of the number of class meetings per week (e.g. 2 absences for a class that meets 2 times a week) will result in a one letter grade reduction from the student's final seminar grade. Unexcused absences less than or equal to the number of class meetings per week will not incur a penalty. Any absences that are to be excused must be accompanied by official documentation to be considered. Simply showing up for class does not guarantee that you will be counted as present. If you are distracted or distracting, you will be counted as absent from class. Unauthorized use of technology will result in being counted absent (see policy below). Likewise, if you show up late or leave early without permission, you will be counted as absent.

Student Interaction Expectations: Students will respect each other and the instructor. Students will be expected to engage in group work during some classes. Students are also expected to participate in class discussions and treat the instructor and classmates with respect. Repeated failure to show respect can lead to dismissal from the course. Be kind – we're all here for the same reasons!

Course Communications: I will communicate with the class via email and Moodle. Be sure to check these often. Additionally, your Peer Mentor will be available through the app GroupMe. You will be asked to download this app for quick reminders and communications.

Late Work Policy:

Assignments are to be completed as scheduled unless there are extenuating circumstances and arrangements have been made *ahead of time* and must be completed *within* one week. Otherwise, late work will not be accepted.

Technology/Cell Phone Policy: In our classroom, the only times when technology is allowed is when you are expressly instructed to use it for a specific assignment or project. If you are found using technology at any other time, or if you are found using it to work on something other than a class assignment, you will be recorded as absent that day. You should plan on taking notes the old fashioned way, by hand. Your cell phone should be kept in your book sack, purse, or pocket. Do not keep it on the desk or table.

Recording Devices: Lectures or course materials, such as quizzes, may not be recorded or disseminated in any fashion without prior approval from the instructor.

Academic Honesty Policy: The University of Louisiana at Lafayette policy on academic dishonesty is outlined in the 2016-2017 Undergraduate Catalog, which can be found on ULINK. Failure to adhere to academic honesty policies may lead to academic penalties, including at a minimum earning a zero on the assignment and up to failure of the course. If you have any questions about this policy or you aren't sure how to appropriately cite others' work (such as information you found on the internet), ask [me/your instructor] or visit The Writing Center (see below).

Withdrawing from a course: If you wish to withdraw from a course, you must do so by the last official day to withdraw, Wednesday, Oct. 5. After that time you will receive the grade assigned by the instructor.

UNIV 100 Showcase: One group presentation will be chosen to be highlighted in the showcase, from November 16 – December 7. This presentation will be chosen from the class votes.

The Big Event: The Big Event is scheduled for Saturday, October 22nd, from 7:30am-1:00pm). More info to come.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Office of Disability Services: For information about ODS and SEP services, contact Kim A. Warren, MSW, PH.D., LCSW, Supported Education Advisor, by phone at 482-5252, by email at kimawarren@louisiana.edu, or by visiting the Office of Disability Services in the Conference Center, Room 126. Eligibility requirements are described at the ODS website (<http://disability.louisiana.edu/>).

Counseling & Testing Center: Free counseling services are available at the Counseling and Testing Center (<http://counselingandtesting.louisiana.edu/>) which is located in the Saucier Wellness Center in O.K. Allen Hall. Reasons for going to counseling include anxiety, depression, relationship difficulties, substance abuse, and more. You can contact the center by calling (337) 482-6480 or sending an email to counseling@louisiana.edu.

The Learning Center: Services offered by The Learning Center include FREE individual (one-on-one) tutoring, study group tutoring, supplemental instruction (SI), computer lab assistance, and a wide variety of on-line resources, most of which are offered in coordination with various academic and administrative departments on campus. Tutors are available at The Learning Center for almost all 100- and 200-level math and science courses as well as for ACCT, BSAT, ECON, EECE, ENGR, ESOL, FREN, PSYC, SPAN, and STAT. The center is located on the second floor of Lee Hall and can be contacted at 337-482-6583 or tlc@louisiana.edu for information or assistance.

The Writing Center: The Writing Center exists to help you improve your research and writing skills. Services offered in The Writing Center include tutoring on all aspects of writing (from creating a draft to proofreading your paper) and workshops on topics ranging from how to do research to how to give presentations. The Writing Center is in HL Griffin 107. You can find more information here: <http://english.louisiana.edu/about-us/writing-center/index.shtml>.

Technical Support: Students can access technical assistance by contacting the IT Help Desk (<http://helpdesk.louisiana.edu/>) at 337.482.4357 or email at ithelp@louisiana.edu. The IT Help Desk is located in room 201 of Stephens Hall.

Safety Information: University police, faculty and staff are the first responders for all emergencies on campus. To report an emergency, please dial 911 to connect to the campus police. Report any suspicious activity to campus police or faculty and staff. Make use of the emergency towers on campus and if you SEE something, SAY something!! Also, sign up for the emergency notification system on ULINK.

UNIV 100 – H24

Thursday, August 18, and Friday, August 19 – Cajun Connection

Tuesday	Class Activities	Thursday	Class Activities
Aug. 23	Introduction to the Scientific Method	Aug. 25	Scientific Method in a Box HW1: Develop Curiosity Question
Aug. 30	Plate Tectonics and Group Work: Curiosity Questions	Sept. 1	Observation & Hypothesis Building
Sept. 6	No Class – Labor Day Holiday	Sept. 8	How to Read (and Write!) Scientific Papers: Pengauno HW2: Read Scientific Paper
Sept. 13	Homework Discussion Group Work: Build an Outline	Sept. 15	Field Trip! Library
Sept. 20	Scientific Proposals	Sept. 22	Group Work: Scientific Proposals
Sept. 27	Proposal Presentations	Sept. 29	Knowing Your Audience Scientific vs. Popular Writing
Oct. 4	Hypothesis Testing: Are you Faster than a <i>T. rex</i> ?	Oct. 6	No Class – Fall Break
Oct. 11	Evolution: Fact or Fiction? HW 3: Reading & Summary	Oct. 13	Reading Discussion
Oct. 18		Oct. 20	
Saturday Oct. 22 – THE BIG EVENT			
Oct. 25		Oct. 27	
Nov. 1		Nov. 3	
Nov. 8	Group presentations	Nov. 10	Group presentations

UNIV 100 Showcase: November 16 – December 7

UL Academic Dates and Deadlines

Last Day for Adding Classes – Friday, August 26th

Last Day to Drop with Grade of W – Wednesday, October 5

Advising Session for Spring 2017 – Monday October 17 – Friday October 28

Last Day to Resign from the University – Thursday, November 3

Special Note: No Exam during the Final Exam Period: Near the end of the semester, you may receive an automatic e-mail from the university informing you of your final exam schedule based on the courses you are enrolled in. That e-mail **does not** apply to UNIV 100. The last class meeting will be Thursday, November 10th because of our early start date with Cajun Connection.