

LinC 100.2 O: Introduction to College Life

Class: 305 Comenius Hall

Time: R 2:20-3:30

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Heikki Lempa

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A Word from Faculty Advisor

Introduction to College Life is an invitation. It is an invitation to step out your high school, close the door, and open a new door. This door will take you into a new world that has its own, unique rules and customs. In high school you crammed and memorized, goofed off, were obedient or disobedient, were not supposed to talk back, answered all the questions. In college, you don't cram and memorize but go to the foundations of knowledge. In college, you don't blindly obey or disobey but find out yourself the rationality of all rules that govern our lives. In college, you don't sit silent but talk back and always ask questions until there are no other questions to ask. In college, you are not answering the questions but learning to ask the questions.

Asking questions 'til you drop dead is an exciting experience but it can be and is a frightening experience, too. This class is about the excitement, fears, and anxieties of asking questions, the very foundation of liberal arts education. How to cope with this newly gained independence? How to deal with myself? How to embrace this community so that it doesn't suffocate me?

Coming to a small private liberal arts college is not only a segment of your life. It is your whole life. You live here—four years. It is exciting. But the beginning is full of problems. This class is about the ways of dealing with these problems. And yes, this class is also about sharing all the joys and adventures of navigating your first semester at college. Welcome!

A Word from Student Advisor

I am a senior, third year advisor, and extremely excited to be a part of your first year experience. My purpose is to help guide your first semester and be here to answer any questions along the way. I will be at every class and will be available outside of class if you ever need me. The Introduction to College Life Class is meant to help the adjustment from high school to college, and as Emerging Leaders, help you develop and understand that part of you. It will be a great first semester!

Objectives of this Course

Prepare for College Life at Moravian College

Upon completion of the course, you will become familiar with college policies related to your role as students and members of the Moravian College community. You will also understand the expectations and responsibilities of being a college student, and a member of the Moravian College community.

Introduction to Liberal Education

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to identify and understand the general goals and purposes of the liberal arts and sciences tradition for individuals and within society. You can articulate the value of liberal learning for your own personal and professional success.

Individual Planning for Education at Moravian College and Beyond

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to articulate your specific goals, objectives, and plans for your personal education and execute strategies and tools to help them renew and revise these plans in the future.

Academic Survival Skills

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to demonstrate intellectual skills which should result in greater personal, professional, and academic success; including, but not confined to: effective study skills, time management, and goal setting. You will pursue your educational goals with greater confidence and efficacy.

Personal Coping Skills

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to identify and understand aspects of yourselves (learning styles, communication styles, coping styles, personal values, cultural values) that will affect personal well being and academic success. You will engage in a variety of coping skills that work best for you in challenging situations and pursue your personal goals and handle the challenges of adjustment to college with greater confidence and efficacy.

Attendance Policy. You are not allowed to be absent. Each individual absence will lower your overall grade by 1/4 of a letter grade unless you have a doctor's note or a written explanation from an athletics coach.

Grading		Point Value Conversion Chart		
Autobiography	40%	930+	=	A
Reflection papers (3)	20%	900 – 929	=	A-
Community Events, Write-Ups (5)	20%	870 – 899	=	B+
Speaking assignment	10%	830 – 869	=	B
Individual Meeting with Advisor	5%	800 – 829	=	B-
Library Orientation	5%	770 – 799	=	C+
		730 – 769	=	C
		700 – 729	=	C-
		670 – 699	=	D+
		630 – 669	=	D
		600 – 629	=	D-
		less than 600	=	F

Autobiography

Write an autobiography about your intellectual life until you entered Moravian College. Tell about the ideas and thoughts that influenced you and your formative intellectual experiences. Do not forget the wider world, your family, your community, your neighborhood, and the country you live in. I will not grade this work and I will not share your story with a third person without your permission. This an

account for yourself about your intellectual self. But I do care that you write the required length of 10 pages.

Reflection Papers

Each of you will have three opportunities over the course of the semester to generate personal reflection papers (minimum of 300 words). Two of them will be related to the reading assignments. I can either turn back a submission as unacceptable or award fewer points than the maximum if the author does not use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation or does not clearly demonstrate acceptable college level work. The third one is report on your meetings with Professors. See at least two professors. Schedule an appointment with them. Ask about their research and what they are teaching.

Community Events and Write-Ups

A. Required of All Freshmen

1. Dr. Jennifer Boylan: She's not there. Sunday August 27, 1:30 pm Foy Hall.

B. Required of Students of this ICL Group

2. How Would You Run the World? A Global Simulation. Saturday, September 23, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Leadership Center.
3. Dr. James Burke, "Staying Ahead: Innovation for the Day after Tomorrow." Cohen Lecture. Tuesday, October 3, 8:00 pm. Johnston Hall.

C. A Community Event of Your Individual Choice. Follow the guidelines below.

The first and only community event required of the whole freshman class is attendance at the presentation by the author of our common summer reading. In recognition of the significance of this particular community event (60 points) it is weighted more heavily than the other four (35 points each). Here is your first chance to communicate using the written word with a college professor. Make your submission something that you are proud of. It is also the first opportunity for your instructor, who is also your academic advisor, to get a feel for your writing ability and for your ability as a college student. Two or more of these community events will be designated as class community events that you all go to together. If you have a legitimate conflict with a class community event I will suggest an acceptable alternative community event for you to attend.

A written reaction paper (write-up) is required for each individual community event that you attend. Each write-up (250 word minimum) is due within one week of the date of the event. While these write-ups are not graded per se it is hoped that you will make them high quality submissions, typical of what one could expect from a successful college student. I can either turn back a submission as unacceptable or award fewer points than the maximum if the author does not use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation or does not clearly demonstrate acceptable college level work. Each community write-up can earn up to 35 points. If the write-up of the event is handed in late the maximum point value that can be earned is 20 points. Attending five community events and handing in a write-up on each on time earns you up to 200 points.

What qualifies as a community event that an individual can attend? Any program that is sponsored or co-sponsored by the M.C. Arts and Lectures Committee as well as the Cohen lecture automatically qualify. In addition, your instructor may announce other events that take place throughout the fall semester that qualify.

Speaking assignment

As part of our Learning in Common Curriculum the college has mandated a Speaking Across the Curriculum component that every student should experience. In our ICL course you will have the opportunity to do this.

Scheduling, Preparing For, and Attending an Individual Meeting with Your Advisor

It is critical that you both understand the LinC curriculum and thoughtfully prepare for this meeting with me. This means, for example, that you check the college catalog for specific requirements for any fields that you are considering majoring in. You also need to identify six courses as possibilities to discuss. You will also write down an explanation for why you chose each of these courses as possibilities. I will provide you with a form to help you to do this. It is your responsibility to thoughtfully fill this out and bring it to this meeting. The reason for requiring you to choose six courses even though most students will only enroll in four full unit courses (Some may also be taking Fitness and Wellness) is to ensure that you still select an optimal schedule for yourself even if one or two of the courses that you have selected are closed when it comes time for you to actually register.

Library Orientation Session

The reference librarians have designed a valuable orientation session for you. The schedule of dates and times is in your fall orientation booklet. If you have a conflict and can not make it to the session that is scheduled for our ICL class please make sure that you attend one of the other seven sessions.

Required Readings

Boylan, Jennifer Finney. (2003). *She's Not There*. New York: Broadway Books
College Student Handbook
College Catalog

Additional Readings handed out in class

Schedule

Date	Theme	Notes
Aug 27	Dr. Boylan: <i>She's not there</i> .	PPHAC 103 at 10:30
Aug 29	Dr. Dorothy Glew. Library Orientation Session.	Reeves Library at 8 p.m.
Aug 31	Nicole Spengler. <i>True Colors</i> .	
Sept 7	Intellectual Autobiography: "Anna Hasse, née Chase, 1743-1786" in Katherine Faull, ed., <i>Moravian Women's Memoirs. Their Related Lives, 1750-1820</i> . Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1997, pp. 45-57.	Due: A reflection paper

Sept 14	What is Liberal Arts Education? Friedrich Schleiermacher, <i>Occasional Thoughts on Universities in the German Sense</i> . Lewiston: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1991, 11-29.	Due: A reflection paper
Sept 21	Nicole Spengler. Speaking.	
Sept 23	How Would You Run the World? A Global Simulation. This one of your required community meetings. Submit the write-up by following Thursday.	Saturday, September 23, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Leadership Center.
Sept 28	TBA	Due: Intellectual Autobiography, 10 pages
Oct 3	Dr. James Burke, “Staying Ahead: Innovation for the Day after Tomorrow.” Cohen Lecture. This is one of your required community meetings. Submit the write-up by following Thursday.	Johnston Hall at 8:00 pm
Oct 5	Dr. Paul Peucker: Who are the Moravians?	Moravian Archives, 41 West Locust Street
Oct 12	Dr. Jennifer Creamer. Study Abroad	
Oct 19	Report on Meetings with Professors	Due: A reflection paper
Oct 26/27/30	Individual Meetings	
Nov 2	TBA/ Warren Hilton	
Nov 9	Academic Honesty Session with Dr. Dorothy Glew. Reeves Library	
Nov 14	Mike Piersa. Tour of Bethlehem Steel.	
Nov 30	Alumni Panel	
Dec 7	Individual Meetings	

Emerging Leaders. You have been selected to participate in the Emerging Leaders Program offered by the Leadership Center at Moravian College. This years we have an exciting program designed as a Learning Community. Learning Community is an arrangement in which you link two or more designated courses as part of your LinC program. We have also five additional meetings in which we, faculty partners and you, will discuss a variety of topics that relate to Desire and Happiness. On a separate syllabus, Dr. Michelle Schmidt gives you more detailed information about this program. Other faculty partners in this program are Dr. Kelly Denton-Borhaug, Dr. Fran Ryan, Dr. Sean Mulholland, and me. Although the Learning Community Program is not mandatory for you, I strongly encourage

you to join. You will get a 1/4 credit for a course that helps you discover intellectual excitement that others can only dream of.

Academic Honesty

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of someone else's work as your own. This includes such instances as quoting directly from a published work without giving the author credit (i.e. proper citation), inserting the author's words as your own, using or "borrowing" another student's work, buying a paper from a professional service, etc. It is your responsibility to be familiar with what constitutes plagiarism and, in the event of uncertainty, to ask in a constructive manner about a writing in question before it is due in a final version. You are also required to keep all note cards and rough drafts on papers and assignments until given a final grade for that course. Evidence of plagiarism and cheating will be dealt with in accordance with the college policy on academic honesty found in the Student Handbook. In the event of a suspected infraction—in fairness to your peers and the standards of the college – it is my job to send the materials in question to the Dean's Office at which time you are given the chance to provide your perspective on the matter.

Learning Disability Accommodations

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for support of learning disabilities and/or ADHD, should contact Mrs. Laurie Roth, Director of Learning Services, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Students who wish to request accommodations for support of other disabilities, should contact Dr. Ron Kline, Director of the Counseling Center, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the appropriate disability support provider on campus.