

**Introduction to College Life**  
**LINC 100.2 I**  
**Fall 2007**

Instructors:	Dr. Frank T. Kuserk	Jacquie Baker
	Office: 305 Collier	Phone: 267-984-1747
	Office Phone: 610-861-1429	e-mail: <a href="mailto:stjmb13@moravian.edu">stjmb13@moravian.edu</a>
	Home Phone: 215-368-2593	Campus Mail: Box 39
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kuserk@moravian.edu">kuserk@moravian.edu</a>	

Course Description

This is a half unit (0.50) course requirement whose primary goals are to introduce first-year students to the intellectual life of Moravian College, to promote a smooth transition to college life, and to help students develop a coherent plan for their education. Specific topics include: becoming familiar with college policies related to your role as a student and member of the Moravian College community; assisting your transition to becoming a successful college student; exploring the purpose of a liberal arts education at Moravian College and its relation to life after college; developing specific goals, objectives, and plans for your education; and assisting your engagement in college life.

Required Texts

Albom, Mitch. 2003. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, Hyperion, NY.

*Moravian College Catalog 2006-2008*

*Moravian College Student Handbook 2007*

Walls, Jeannette. 2005. *The Glass Castle*, Scribner, NY.

Course Policies and Grading Procedures

To insure fairness across different ICL sections the course grading principles and workload expectations are standardized for all sections. The course is graded (A-F) and is weighted as a half unit course. The final grade is totally determined by your willingness to become actively involved in this course. Please make sure that you understand what you have to do in order to earn a superior grade. As long as you commit to becoming involved and meet the expectations of the course, you can guarantee yourself a superior grade in at least this one course in your first semester at college. This also means that my energy will be primarily going to trying to help you get the most out of this course and in helping you to get off to a good start in college. This should allow you to develop a good open working relationship with me, your new academic advisor. Final grades will be calculated by summing up the points at the end of the semester and comparing them to the various point values for each grade.

The workload for this course has been carefully designed to take into account that you are probably also enrolled in four other courses as well as possibly taking Fitness and Wellness this semester. It is composed of seven different components:

<i>Attendance and participation in scheduled classes</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Completion of six outside of class short personal reflection papers</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>Attendance at and write-ups of five campus community events</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Development of a personal education plan</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Participation in a speaking assignment</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual advising meeting</i>	<i>6%</i>
<i>Participation in a library orientation session</i>	<i><u>4%</u></i>
	<i>100%</i>

Point Value Conversion Chart

930+	=	A
900-929	=	A-
870-899	=	B+
830-869	=	B
800-829	=	B-
770-799	=	C+
730-769	=	C
700-729	=	C-
670-699	=	D+
630-669	=	D
600-629	=	D-
Below 600	=	F

Attendance and Participation in Scheduled Classes (200 points)

This reflects our hope that much of your learning experience comes about by active participation in the classes. Some classes will involve group activities, while others will have guest speakers and/or panels sharing information and important insights about college. Unfortunately, if you miss a particular class you have missed that particular learning experience. We will have 14 formal class meetings, one during fall orientation to discuss our common summer reading and 13 seventy-minute classes, meeting once a week through the semester.

Our class usually meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2:20 PM-3:30 PM (Period 6b). We will not have a formal class on Wednesday, October 31 since each of you will be scheduling an individual meeting with me during this week in order to register for Spring 2008 classes. On Tuesday evening November 27 we will participate in a special session with some other ICL sections in which Moravian alumni return to campus. This is a great opportunity for you to meet and ask them questions about their experiences while a student at

Moravian and after they graduated. As a result we will not meet during our regularly scheduled time on Wednesday, November 28.

You will earn 15 points for each class **up to a maximum of 200 points**. The operational definition of “attending” is coming to class prepared, on time or early, participating, and staying to the end of class. In other words, showing up late, unprepared, or leaving early is not enough to earn full credit. I reserve the right to award no or partial credit than all 15 points if you do not meet this expectation. Attending all classes earns you 200 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 20% of your final grade!

#### Personal Reflection Papers (300 points)

Each of you will have six opportunities over the course of the semester to write personal reflection papers (minimum 350 words each). Each of these assignments, if deemed acceptable and handed in on time, will earn you 50 points. Late personal reflection papers can only earn up to 25 points. I reserve the right to turn back a submission as unacceptable and require you to submit a revision if your work doesn't clearly convey that you have done a good job. I will make the specific assignments and let you know their due dates in class. Handing in six acceptable personal reflection papers on time will earn you 300 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 30% of your final grade!

#### Community Events (200 points)

College offers students many opportunities for additional learning that occur outside the classroom. Many students, however, are not used to taking advantage of these opportunities. To help you develop the habit of exposing yourself to new learning experiences this course requires you to attend five campus community events over the course of the semester. **Within one week** after attending an event you must write-up and submit your own short (250 word minimum) reaction to the event. While these write-ups are not graded per se, I hope that you will make them high quality submissions, typical of what one could expect from a successful college student.

The first and only community event required of the entire freshman class is attendance at the presentation by Jeannette Walls, the author of *The Glass Castle*, our common summer reading. In recognition of the significance of this particular community event it is weighted more heavily (60 points) 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 me to get a feeling for your writing ability and your potential as a Moravian College student.

“Community events” covers a broad range of activities---lectures, concerts, plays, seminars, workshops, dance, recitals, and sporting events. Try to attend a mix of events and especially try to attend events that you might not ordinarily attend if left to your own desires. **My only restriction is that you may attend and submit a write-up for only one sporting event that you attend as a spectator. You may not count a sporting event that you participate**

**in as a player. Check with me if you have a question as to whether something meets the requirement of an acceptable “community event.”**

Each write-up is due within one week of the date of the event. If the write-up is handed in late the maximum point value that can be earned is 20 points. I reserve the right to turn back a submission as unacceptable and require you to submit a revision if your work doesn't clearly convey that you have done a good job. Attending five campus community events and handing in a write-up for each on time earns you 200 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 20% of your final grade!

#### Personal Education Plan (100 points)

We want your college experience to be positive. We also want you to be aware of all the different educational, personal, and social opportunities that Moravian College offers its students. One way to insure that this happens is to ask each of you to take personal responsibility for your educational plan and to have you spend some time during your first semester in college thinking about your future. That is what this assignment is intended to do. I will provide you with the details of this plan at a later time. It is due when we have our individual meeting for spring registration in late October/early November. As long as it is handed in on time and I deem it of acceptable quality, you will earn 100 points for completing plan, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 10% of your final grade! A PEP that is turned in late can only earn 50 points.

#### Speaking Assignment (100 points)

As part of our Learning in Common (LinC) Curriculum the college has mandated a “Speaking Across the Curriculum” component that every student should experience. In this course you will have the opportunity to do this. I will provide you with the details of this assignment at a later date. The total point value that can be earned for this component of the course is 100 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 10% of your final grade!

#### Scheduling, Preparing for, and Attending Individual Advising Meeting (60 points)

I will ask you to arrange for an individual meeting with me preceding registration for the spring semester. The dates of these individual meetings may vary depending on whether you are an Add-Venture student, a Comenius Scholar, or in the regular general education program. As part of this process it is important that you understand the LinC Curriculum (or in the case of Add-Venture students, their specific curriculum) and thoughtfully prepare for this meeting. This means, for example, that you check the *Moravian College Catalog* for specific requirements for any fields that you are considering majoring in and become aware of LinC course requirements that you still need to complete. This meeting will earn you 60 points. This is the equivalent to earning a 100 on a test that counts 6% of your final grade!

### Library Orientation Session (40 points)

Meet the librarians and learn about Reeves Library by participating in a team competition! Members of winning teams will be eligible to win gift certificates for dinner in downtown Bethlehem, iTunes gift cards, and gift certificates to the College Bookstore. A party complete with music, refreshments, games, etc will follow the orientation session. These sessions will be offered three times each on Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**You should report to the library during our section's assigned date and time on Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.** If you are unable to participate in this orientation session you may attend any of the other sessions (scheduled for 6:00 PM, 7:00 PM & 8:00 PM on each night). The total point value that can be earned for this component of the course is 40 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts 4% of your final grade!

### 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 an assignment in question before it is due in final version. **You are also required to keep all note cards and rough drafts of papers and assignments until given a final grade for that course.**

Evidence of plagiarism and cheating will be dealt with in accordance with college policy on academic honesty found in the *Moravian College 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 Academic Dean's Office at which time you will be given the chance to provide your perspective on the matter.

**Class Schedule**  
**Fall 2007**

Sunday, August 26, 10:30 AM Comenius 5	Class #1: Group Discussion of <i>The Glass Castle</i>
Sunday, August 26, 1:30 PM Foy Hall, Hurd Campus	Community Event (Required): Jeannette Walls, author of <i>The Glass Castle</i>
Tuesday, August 28, 6:00 PM Reeves Library	Reeves Library Orientation Session (Required)
Wednesday, August 29, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #2: What to Expect from College
Wednesday, September 5, 2:20 PM Memorial 202	Class #3: Campus Information Technology Mr. Tom Mondshein
Wednesday, September 12, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #4: Learning Services Ms. Angela Lutzi
Wednesday, September 19, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #5: Career Development Ms. Christine Rander
Wednesday, September 26, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #6: Liberal Education Dr. James Skalnik Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
Wednesday, October 3, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #7: Preparing for Spring Course Registration
Wednesday, October 10, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #8: Counseling Center
Wednesday, October 17, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #9: Historic Bethlehem Ms. Dawn Ketterman-Benner Professor of Physical Education
Wednesday, October 24, 2:20 PM PPHAC 330	Class #10: Study Abroad Ms. Jennifer Creamer Director, International Programs
Monday-Friday, Oct. 29-Nov. 2 Collier 305	Individual Meetings for Spring Registration

Wednesday, November 7, 2:20 PM  
PPHAC 330

Class #11: Student Presentations

Wednesday, November 14, 2:20 PM  
PPHAC 330

Class #12: Student Presentations

Wednesday, November 21

No Class-Thanksgiving Recess

Tuesday, November 28, 6:30 PM  
Dana Lecture Hall, Collier

Class #13: Alumni Panel Discussion

Wednesday, December 5, 2:20 PM  
PPHAC 330

Class #14: Student Presentations & Final  
Wrap-up