

Introduction to College Life

Fall, 2007

LINC 101.2 R

Time: 2:20-3:30

Location: PPHC 302

INSTRUCTOR: Connie Unger

Office Phone #: 610-625-7902

Home Phone 610-262-4176

Office: PPHAC 322

FAX #: 610-861.1696

E-Mail: ungerc@moravian.edu

STUDENT ADVISOR: Jessica Swartz

Campus Phone #: 610-703-8813

E-mail: stjls22@moravian.edu

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

Gordon, Virginia (Ed.). 2004. *Foundations: a reader for new college students*, 3rd ed. CA: Wadsworth.

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>21%</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>5%</i>
<i>Participation in a library orientation session</i>	<u><i>4%</i></u>
	<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 16 formal class meetings, one during fall orientation to discuss our common summer reading and 15 seventy-minute classes, meeting once a week through the semester.

Our class usually meets every Friday afternoon from 2:20 PM-3:30 PM (Period 6b). 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.

One or more of these community events will be designated as class community events that you all go to together. Your instructor may decide to designate an event as a required class community event that does not appear on this list. If you have a legitimate conflict with a class community event your instructor will suggest an

acceptable alternative community event for you to attend. In order to receive credit this alternative must be arranged with your instructor before the date of the class community event. Instructors will assign one of three methods of assessing your participation in a class community event. You may be asked to do a write-up as explained below, participate in a class discussion, or participate in a class discussion right before or after the event.

In addition you will be asked to choose 0, 1, or 2 other approved events to serve as individual community events, depending on how many class community events are designated. 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. **Your instructor has the right to 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.

“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!

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 qualifies. In addition, your instructor may announce other events that take place throughout the fall semester that qualify.

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 spring registration meeting on October 26th. 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 27th and Tuesday, August 28th. **You should report to the library during our section's assigned date and time on Tuesday, August 28th at 8:00 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.

LEARNING DISABILITY ACCOMODATIONS

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.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

The consequences of assignments being handed in late are spelled out in the grading procedures section of the syllabus.

Note:

Please note that it within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignments and for the course final grade.

Please note while I will try to hold to the flow of the syllabus, it is subject to change over the course of the semester.

Intended Student Outcomes

(1) Prepare for College Life at Moravian College

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will:

- 1) become familiar with college policies related to their role as students and members of the Moravian College community.
- 2) understand the expectations and responsibilities of being a college student, and a member of the Moravian College community.

(2) Introduction to Liberal Education

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) identify and understand the general goals and purposes of the liberal arts and sciences tradition for individuals and within society.
- 2) articulate the value of liberal learning for their own personal and professional success.

(3) Individual Planning for Education at Moravian College and Beyond

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) articulate their specific goals, objectives, and plans for their personal education
- 2) execute strategies and tools to help them renew and revise these plans in the future.

(4) Academic Survival Skills

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) 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.
- 2) pursue their educational goals with greater confidence and efficacy.

(5) Personal Coping Skills

STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) identify and understand aspects of themselves (learning styles, communication styles, coping styles, personal values, cultural values) that will affect personal well being and academic success.
- 2) engage in a variety of coping skills that work best for them in challenging situations.
- 3) pursue their personal goals and handle the challenges of adjustment college with greater confidence and efficacy

**Class Schedule for LINC 100.2 R
Fall 2007**

Sunday, August 26, 10:30 AM Memorial 303	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, 8:00 PM Reeves Library	Reeves Library Orientation Session (Required)
Friday, August 31, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #2: What to Expect from College
Friday, September 7, 2:20 PM Memorial 202	Class #3: Campus Information Technology Mr. Tom Mondshein (Morro's class)
Friday, September 14, 2:20 PM PPHAC 235	Class #4: Learning Services Ms. Angela Lutzi (Morro's class)
Friday, September 21, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #5: Class Discussion on <i>Foundations</i> Unit 1 and 2
Friday, September 28, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #6: Challenges and Options Interactive Participation
Friday, October 5, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #7: President Thomforde
Friday, October 12, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #8: Students' presentations and discussion
Friday, October 19, 2:20 PM PPHAC 235	Class #9: Alumni Pannel Joining Mr. Morro's class
Friday, October 26, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #10: Workshop for Registration
Friday, November 2, 2:20 PM PPHAC 235	Class # 11: Moravian Heritage Lecture Joining Mr. Morro's class
Friday, November 9, 2:20 PM PPHAC 302	Class #11: Students' presentations and discussion
Friday, November 16, 2:20 PM	Class #12:?? Historic Bethlehem (Not confirmed)

PPHAC 302

Ms. Dawn Ketterman-Benner
Professor of Physical Education

Friday, November 23

No Class-Thanksgiving Recess

Friday, November 30, 2:20 PM
PPHAC 302

Class #13: Discussion and students' presentations

Friday, December 7, 2:20 PM
PPHAC 302

Class #14: Final Wrap-up, Awards, Truth & Lies

Classes end = December 10th; Final Examinations = December 12-14, 17-19