Introduction to College Life

Fall 2008 LinC 100.2 D

Instructor name: Cecilia M. Fox Instructor office: Collier 304

Office phone: x1426 Instructor email: <u>cfox@moravian.edu</u>

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 8:50am-10:00am

Classroom assignment: Collier Hall of Science, Room 303 Office hours: Mon. and Wed. 10am-12pm

Thurs. 11:30am-12:30pm and by appt.

Student advisor name: Jaclyn Blazier Student advisor email: stjeb08

Student advisor phone: 570-242-6884

Welcome! As your academic advisor until you declare a major, I look forward to working with you. The class will meet once a week usually on Tuesdays from 8:50am until 10am. I have scheduled a few "outside classroom" events that are detailed in the course schedule. As this course centers on the collective experience of college life, please note that attendance is mandatory. If you are unable to attend, you must contact me by email or office phone <u>before</u> the scheduled class meeting. Please know that I am here to help you with your questions as you begin your studies at Moravian College. I typically respond to emails at my earliest convenience.

Message from your Student Advisor:

As your student advisor, I am here to assist you all in adapting to the college environment. I am available to help with all sorts of problems and/or concerns you might have from academics and extracurricular activities, to campus life in general. Entering my senior year, it's fair to say I know a lot about Moravian, and though I might not always have the answer, I can probably point you in the right direction. College is an exciting new experience, but it can be tough at times and having someone to turn to is always helpful. So, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns that come up during your time at Moravian. -Jackie

Course description:

Introduction to College Life (ICL) is a half-unit (0.5) 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. The goals and student learning outcomes for this course are listed below.

Goal: 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 roles as students and members of the Moravian College community.
- 2) understand the expectations and responsibilities of being college students, and members of the Moravian College community.

Goal: 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.

Goal: 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.

Goal: 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, & goal setting.
- 2) pursue their educational goals with greater confidence and efficacy.

Goal: 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 to college with confidence and efficacy.

Blackboard:

I have set up a Blackboard site for this course. Please enroll yourself as soon as possible (blackboard.moravian.edu). I will provide an access code during our class session. There you will find contact information, the syllabus, assignments, community event plans, etc.

Required Texts:

Moravian College Catalog, 2008-2010

Moravian College Student Handbook, 2008-2009.

Fadiman, Anne. The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down.

Pausch, Randy. The Last Lecture

Albom, Mitch. The Five People You Meet in Heaven

Course Policies and Grading:

Grading policies and workload expectations are standardized across ICL sections in order to ensure fairness. Although we recognize that you are taking this course on top of four other full-unit classes, it is important that you take your coursework here seriously. By college policy, students may not withdraw from ICL unless they are withdrawing from all classes in the term; thus, students who choose not to withdraw from

Moravian College entirely can earn an F in this course. Introduction to College Life should easily be "passable," but it is not possible to pass the class simply by showing up. You must attend all classes and other required events, and be an ACTIVE participant

Each student is responsible for tracking his/her grade points for the class. There will be no extra credit or extensions for deadlines.

Seven components comprise the grade for the class:

Personal Reflection Papers	30%
Attendance and active participation in class	21%
Attendance and write-ups of community events	20%
Letter from your "future self"	10%
Participation in a speaking assignment	10%
Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting with advisor	5%
Participation in the library orientation session	4%

Faculty members may choose mandatory community events OR a class-wide service-learning project, for which the students will provide reflection papers.

Students are required to read the values statement in the Catalog and student handbook.

Community events/Service-learning Project and Reflection papers:

Part of being in college is being a part of the campus community. Learning takes place both in and outside of the classroom. Therefore, as part of the requirements of this course, you are required attend at least <u>4</u> community events. Community events may not include more than 1 athletic event. Students are encouraged to substitute another non-credit-bearing co-curricular experience for a community event, from among the following list: participation in a production of the MCTC; writing at least one article for *The Comenian*; participation in C³; participation in S.A.M., active participation in the Environmental Coalition; election to USG. You may ask the instructor to consider other substitutions for attending a community event. In this class, you will be required to participate in a Habitat for Humanity project to be discussed in more detail as the course progresses.

The reflection papers on community events (or service-learning project) must include a reference to one or more of the institution's "Shared Values," reflecting on how the community event reflects/promotes/enhances that value for both the institution and the student.

Attendance and Participation:

- a) Plain and simple, <u>attendance is mandatory</u>. You can't pass classes at Moravian College without being there. <u>Please be aware that absences are not divided into excused and unexcused.</u> Regardless of the reason, an absence from class is counted as an absence.
- b) College professors will not be satisfied with students behaving lazily and taking notes without appearing to be fully engaged in the class. You are expected to actually respond in class, to ask questions, to volunteer opinions, and to be thoughtful about your responses: "I agree with him" or "what he said" is not considered a thoughtful response.

DISABILITY ACCOMODATIONS

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

You are required to read the entire Academic Honesty Policy, found in the Student Handbook. In short, you need to know that 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 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 Academic Affairs Office. You may meet with Dean Carol Traupman-Carr to discuss the charge and the procedures for appealing, but she alone does not make a decision on whether or not to uphold the charge or the penalty.

Notes:

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 also note: this syllabus may be subject to change as the course progresses.

Class Schedule

<u>Date</u> <u>Planned Event or Topic</u>

August 24 Common Summer Reading Discussion and

Community Event: The Spirit Catches You and You Fall

Down

Class Session: 10:30am *Room PPHAC 301* Community Event: 1:30pm *Foy Hall*

August 25 Library Information Session

(8:00pm Reeves Library)

August 26 Introduction to ICL and Course Expectations

How to Survive at Moravian College ~ *Jaclyn*

September 2 No class – week of Labor Day

Last Day for drop/adds

Possible CE: Organizing the Student

5:42pm UBC and Air Products Room (HUB)

September 9 CIT Orientation Class – (bring user ID and password)

September 16 Time Management Skills

September 23 Sexual Responsibility/STD Awareness

September 24 Possible CE: Nancy Redd, "Body Drama"

8pm Foy Hall

September 27 Family Day

September 30 Book Discussion: *The Last Lecture*

October 7 No Class - Fall Break

October 11 Community Service Event: Habitat for Humanity

(Saturday Event) (Details to be provided in class)

October 14 Walking Tour of South Campus with

Dawn Ketterman-Benner at <u>6:00pm</u>

October 21 International Studies/Study Abroad

Class will meet at <u>6:00pm in Doghouse</u>

October 28 Setting Life Goals

Continuation of Book Discussion: The Last Lecture

November 4 Book Discussion: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

Possible CE: Communication & Networking Skills

5:42 pm UBC Room

November 7 Last Day for "W"

November 11 Alumni Connection – *UBC Room, HUB*

November 18 Book Discussion: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

November 25 How well do you know Moravian College?????

November 26-30 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2 Academic Integrity – Human Barometer ~ Jaclyn

December 9 Speaking Exercise: "Any Old Bag Will Do"

Holiday Party!!