

# LINC 100 2 H: Introduction to College Life

## “Develop Your Greyhound Niche”

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Welcome! As your instructor, advisor and student advisor for ICL, we look forward to working with you this year. I will be your academic advisor until you declare a major, and Hazar Bitar will be your first year student advisor. The Introduction to College Life class will meet once a week on Thursday 8:55 - 10:05am in PPHAC room 117. As this course centers on the collective experience of college life attendance is mandatory. We expect you to work with and share your experience during your first semester with peers. Please know that we are here to help you with your questions as you begin your studies at Moravian College. We will respond to emails as soon as possible and are available to meet with you outside of class. I am available to you for scheduled appointments at any time during the week (and some weekends) by contacting my office in Johnston Hall. Please note, however, that we may not be able to meet with you immediately and it may occasionally take up to 24 hours on weekdays or we may not be able to respond to requests over the weekends. We are excited about having you begin your college life with us and hope you will come to us with any issues and/or concerns you might have in 2009-10.

Hello Little Hounds,

I am very excited to see you all again and to meet the others that I did not get a chance to see. I know all of you are probably nervous, anxious and very excited to get away from your parents, have freedom and start your freshman year. But I just wanted to let all of you know that whatever you guys need; I am here for you, whether it be advice for classes, advice about roommates, or you just need someone to talk to. You can email me, IM me, call me or even text me and I will try my best to help you :)

~Hazar

### **Required Texts:**

Moravian College Catalog, 2008-2010  
Moravian College Student Handbook, 2008-2009.  
Weisman Alan. *The World Without Us*.  
Hewitt, Les & Luc d'Abadie. *The Power of Focus for College Students*

### **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 specific goals and student learning outcomes for this course are listed below.

### **Blackboard:**

I have set up a Blackboard site for this course. Please enroll yourself as soon as possible ([blackboard.moravian.edu](http://blackboard.moravian.edu)). There you can find contact information, the syllabus, announcements, and assignments.

### Goals for Introduction to College Life:

#### 1) Prepare for College Life at Moravian College

- a. The students will become familiar with college policies related to their roles as students and members of the Moravian College community.
- b. The students will understand the expectations and responsibilities of being college students, and members of the Moravian College community.

#### 2) Introduction to Liberal Education

- a. The students will identify and understand the general goals and purposes of the liberal arts and sciences tradition for individuals and within society.
- b. The students will articulate the value of liberal learning for their own personal and professional success.

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

- a. The students will articulate their specific goals, objectives, and plans for their personal education
- b. The students will execute strategies and tools to help them renew and revise these plans in the future.

#### 4) Academic Survival Skills

- a. The students will 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.
- b. The students will pursue their educational goals with greater confidence and efficacy.

#### 5) Personal Coping Skills

- a. The students will 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.
- b. The students will engage in a variety of coping skills that work best for them in challenging situations.
- c. The students will pursue their personal goals and handle the challenges of adjustment to college with confidence and efficacy.

### Course Policies and Grading:

Grading policies and workload expectations are similar across ICL sections. Although we recognize that you are taking this course on top of four other full-unit classes, it is important that you take your ICL coursework 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 is an ACTIVE participant to earn a satisfactory grade. The following seven components that will comprise the grade for the class include:

*Personal Reflection Papers*

*Attendance and participation in all scheduled classes*

*Attendance of community events*

*Greyhound Niche Passport Project*

*Personal Education Plan*

*Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting with advisor*

*Participation in the library orientation session*

**GRADING:** Grading will be done on a point system. Each student is responsible for tracking his/her grade points for the class. There will be no extra credit or extensions for deadlines.

Points will be awarded based on performance in the seven component areas:

Personal Reflection Papers	30%	300
Attendance and active participation in class	21%	210
Attendance and write-ups of community events	15%	100
Greyhound Niche VISA Project	20%	200
Personal Education Plan	5%	50
Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting with advisor	5%	50
Participation in the library orientation session	4%	40

### **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-  
Less than 600 = F

### **Personal Reflection Papers**

Each of you will have six opportunities over the course of the semester to generate personal reflection papers (minimum of 250 words). Some of these will be related to the reading assignments. Each of these assignments can earn up to 50 points. Late personal reflection papers can only earn 30 points. Topics are on the class schedule with due dates given accordingly.

### **Attendance and Active Participation**

Plain and simple, attendance is mandatory. You can't get participation points or pass classes at Moravian College without being there; being there is not enough. College professors will not be satisfied with students having lazily taking notes without being fully engaged in the class. You are expected to participate fully, to actually respond in class, to ask questions, to participate in groups, to volunteer opinions, and to be thoughtful about your responses: "I agree with him" or "what he said" is not considered a thoughtful response. Attending all classes earns you 210 points, the equivalent of a 100 on a test that counts for more than 20% of your final grade.

### **Community Events/Speaking Across the Curriculum /Greyhound Niche VISA project**

~ "Be the change you wish to see in the world" ~ Gandhi

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 to develop your Greyhound Niche Visa. Also as part of our Learning in Common Curriculum the college has mandated a Speaking across the Curriculum component that every student should experience.

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 it is weighted more heavily (100 points)

This project incorporates visual, written and spoken representation of your vision, interest, skills and ambitions (VISA) in the development of your Greyhound niche. In developing your niche, sometime you need to step out of your comfort zone and find challenges which will stimulate your growth. This project incorporates 4 community challenges. This project must include a reference to one or more of the institution's "Shared Values," reflecting on how the community event reflects, promotes, and/or enhances that value for both the institution and the student.

"The privilege of being a student at Moravian College, Moravian Theological Seminary, and the Comenius Center (collectively referred to as the institution) carries with it the responsibility of following standards of conduct appropriate to our institutional vision and shared values, as articulated during development of the 2008-2015 Strategic Plan.

Our vision calls for the institution to excel as

- A **community of the great embrace**, welcoming men and women from all walks of life, locally, nationally, and globally.
- A **community of liberal learning**, where scholarship, intellectual curiosity, and creative expression invigorate all facets of our lives.
- A **community of service**, which equips and empowers men and women to serve others with professional skill, grace, and integrity, including those who live out their lives on the periphery of society.
- A **community of wise stewards**, who care for and enhance our treasures of heritage, people, and place for generations to come."

(See handbook for additional information on the college's mission)

**The 4 Community Challenges-** Community events may not include more than one theatre, choir or athletic event

- 1.1 Community event- ie speaker, art/theater events, sporting events, IMPACT events, study aboard fair, any of the multicultural events
2. Involvement in an community event ie, participation in C3, being a active participant in an campus club, work study, athletic team, writing or publishing at least an article for the *The Comenian*, election to USG
3. Improve the Moravian Community Environment- helping a professor, active participation in Environmental Coalition, participant in the Recyclable Art Contest and Art Auction, participant in the Hunger Banquet, going to the Sustainability Expo
4. Converse with a professor about what he or she enjoys about Moravian.

### **Visual, Written, and Presentation Requirement:**

You will have a VISA card which will need to be signed in order to get full credit.

Your visual representation incorporates a collage of your development in your niche this semester and can be drawn, photographed, or identified by a significant object. This part of the project is worth 50 points

You will have to write a reflection paper about how these 4 events have developed your Greyhound niche. This paper needs to be at least 300 words and is due on the day of your presentation. This part of the project is worth 75 points.

You will need to be able to present your project to the class. You need to be able to present for 10 minutes. This part of the project is worth 75 points

### **Personal Education Plan (PEP)**

The Personal Education Plan is designed to help you develop direction for, and commitment to your educational pursuits. The plan is developed into four topics areas (Academic Life, Student Life, Career Exploration, and Others). This plan will be worth 50 points.

### **Scheduling, Preparing for, and Attending Individual Meeting**

Just prior to registration for next semester we will take time in class to have a registration day. If you would like to meet with me before hand then you need to schedule an appointment with Professor Radcliff to review your course

selections and discuss the requirements of your educational plan. As long as you are prepared, schedule and attend your advising meeting on time you will earn 50 points for these items.

### **Participation in the library orientation**

Participation in the library orientation session during the first week of classes will earn you 40 points toward your final point total.

### **Disability Accommodations**

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

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### Class Schedule

Class Date	Assignment
Sunday, August 30, 2009	<p>Common Summer Reading Discussion &amp; Community Event with Author Alan Weisman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Writing Assignment - Community Event Reflection Paper is due on Sept 3</p> <p> Read Focus Strategy #1</p>
Monday, August 31, 2009	<p>Exploring Reeves Library – Meet the librarians and learn about the resources available to you.</p> <p> Please report directly to Reeves Library by 7:00 pm, and remember to sign in!</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday September 1	<i>Study Abroad Fair</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Beyond the Wall Poster Sales@ the 1742 Plaque. 9am to 5 pm</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Job Fair, Synder Room, HUB</i>
Thursday, September 3, 2009	<p>Welcome to Class – Introductions</p> <p>Preparing for your Niche</p> <p> Speaker: Sean Tallarico Director of Campus Safety &amp; Chief of Police</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment Due:</b> Turn in Alan Weisman Community Event paper</p> <p> Read Focus Strategy #2&amp;3 for Sept 17</p> <p><i>“The greatest quest in life is to reach one’s potential” -Michael Wynn</i></p>
Tuesday September 8, 2009	<i>Last Day for Course Changes</i>
Thursday, September 10, 2009	<p> Speaker: CIT Resource: Steve McKinney</p> <p><b><u>*Meet in Memorial Hall 202*</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment: Reflection Paper #1</b> Subject: How do you see yourself contributing to your Greyhound Niche? Due Sept 17 by 9 pm</p> <p><i>“Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.” Thomas J. Watson</i></p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday September 15, 2009	<p><b>Campus Organizational Fair 11:00am to 1:00 pm</b></p> <p>- Get involved: Check out Clubs and Organizations</p>
Thursday, September 17, 2009	<p>Topic: Focusing Strategy #2 &amp; 3</p> <p>Building a Foundation</p> <p><i>“The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire”- Ferinand Foch</i></p>
Thursday, September 24, 2009	<p> Speaker: Laurie Roth</p> <p>Topic: <i>Focus Strategy #4</i></p> <p>Surviving in Your Niche: Developing Successful Habits</p> <p>Read: Focusing Strategy #5/6</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment: Reflection Paper #2</b> Subject: Define your successful habit formula to enhance your survival in your Greyhound niche? Due Oct 1 by 9pm
Thursday, Oct 1, 2009	<b>Hazar Day- Student Panel</b> <b>Mid Terms are coming....Are you ready?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> October 6 <sup>th</sup>	Matt Glowacki
Thursday, October 8, 2009	Focusing Strategy #5/6 <i>Fail to Plan, Plan to Fail; Grab The Wheel and Hit The Gas</i> Topic: Greyhound Niche Roadblocks  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment: Reflection Paper #3</b> Describe a current roadblock you are faced with that is preventing you from getting what you want? What method will work best to help you get around the roadblock? Date Due: Oct 15 <sup>th</sup> by 9 pm.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>October 10-13 – NO CLASSES (Fall recess) Classes Resume on the 14th</b>	
Thursday, October 15, 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Speaker: Kerry Sethi- Study Abroad</b> Homework: Make sure that you are prepared for Registration Day!
Thursday, October 22, 2009	<b>Registration Day</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Homework Assignment:</b> Career Service questionnaire
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>October 24 – Family Day and Homecoming</b>	
Thursday, October 29, 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Speaker: Amy Saul Career Center</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment:</b> Reflection Paper #4 What would you be willing to fight for and work toward even if you didn't get paid for it? Due: Nov 5 by 9pm
Thursday, November 5, 2009	Focusing Strategy #7 - Social Networking  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment Reflection Paper #5</b> Have you ever tried to speak with someone who would not stop talking long enough to actively listen to what you had to say? If so what was it like? Have you ever been the speaker in such a conversation  <i>“The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people” Theodore Roosevelt</i>
Thursday, November 12, 2009	Presentations

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>November 9, 2008 – LAST DAY FOR “W”</i>	
Thursday, November 19, 2008	Presentations  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing Assignment: Reflection Paper #6</b> Have you had many defining moments where you caught a glimpse of your purpose or dream? Have you experienced a convenient coincidence where something amazingly helpful happened randomly? <b>Date Due Dec 3 by 9 pm</b>
Tuesday November 24, 2009 @ 10:00pm Classes Resume November 30th	Thanksgiving Break
<input type="checkbox"/> December 1	<i>Recyclable Art Contest and Art Auction</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> December 4-6 and 11-13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Vespers</i>
Dec 3	Presentations Focusing Strategy #9 Summiting The Mountain
December 9, 2009	Pizza Party <b>CLASSES END</b>
December 11 <sup>th</sup> , 14th -18th	<b>FINAL EXAMS</b>

Please note the schedule it is subject to change over the course of the semester.