

**Moravian College**  
***Introduction to College Life***  
***LinC 100.2 R***  
**Fall, 2009**

*Period: F4b – Fridays, 11:45-12:55 Room: PPHAC 235*

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Office Hours: Mondays: 2 - 4  
Wednesdays: 10 – 12  
Fridays: 1 – 2  
Additional hours available by appt.

*“Live with intention.  
Walk to the edge.  
Listen hard.  
Practice wellness.  
Play with abandon.  
Laugh.  
Choose with no regrets.  
Continue to learn.  
Appreciate your friends.  
Do what you love.  
Live as if this is all there is”  
-Mary Anne Radmacher*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This is a half unit (.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.

**FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Pamela Adamshick, Nursing Faculty**

Welcome! As you know, I am your LinC 100 instructor and your freshman academic advisor. I'm here to help you. I will remain your academic advisor until you identify and declare your major field of interest, at which time you will be assigned an advisor in the department of your major.

Kasara, your student advisor, and I are looking forward to helping you with not only your academic concerns, but also with your social integration and general engagement with the college milieu. We want you to really enjoy your college experience and challenge yourselves to grow personally and professionally during your years as a member of the college community. These truly are some of the best days of your life, so we hope to guide you in making them meaningful and successful. One of our goals is to build strong group camaraderie in the class so that you always feel like you have a home base to come to with your concerns, questions, etc. We value your ideas and input, so let us know how the course is going and share with us what you'd like or need from us as we move along. We want you to enjoy the journey! ~ Dr. Adamshick

**STUDENT ADVISOR COMMENT: Kasara McLaughlin**

Welcome to Moravian! I look forward to helping you throughout your freshman year, and hopefully beyond it. I am here not only as your student advisor, but a guide and someone to talk with. I expect to be called and e-mailed all semester, so do not be afraid to do so! Freshman year is tough, so any and all questions can be answered by either Dr. Adamshick or myself. I look forward to working with each and every one of you this year, and I can't wait to watch you all grow as students and adults. ~ Kasara

**Course Objectives/Intended Student Learning 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 to college with greater confidence and efficacy.

### **BLACKBOARD:**

I have set up a Blackboard site for this course (LINC 100\_2R.FA09). You are enrolled in the course and you can access the site at [www.blackboard.moravian.edu](http://www.blackboard.moravian.edu). You will find announcements, contact information, the syllabus, and assignments. You should plan to check the course Blackboard site every couple of days to stay informed regarding class assignments and announcements.

### **REQUIRED READINGS:**

Weisman, A. (2007). *The world without us*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Cohen, H. (2009). *The naked roommate: And 107 other issues you might run into in college*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.) Naperville, Illinois: Sourcebooks, Inc.

Moravian College Student Handbook

Moravian College Catalog

Additional Readings may be distributed in class or posted on the Blackboard site.

### **COURSE POLICIES and GRADING PROCEDURES:**

The course is graded and is weighted as a half unit course. The final grade is primarily determined by your willingness to become actively involved in this course that is aimed at enhancing your college experience. Please make sure that you understand what you have to do in order to earn a superior grade in the course. As long as you commit to becoming involved and meet the expectations for the course, you can guarantee yourself a superior grade in at least this one course in your first semester at college.

In order to successfully complete Introduction to College Life, the student must meet all learning outcomes for the course. 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 requires active engagement and full participation in order to facilitate a successful transition to life at Moravian College.

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, each of which is explained below.

<i>Completion of 6 outside of class short personal reflection papers</i>	<i>30% (300 points)</i>
<i>Attendance and participation in scheduled classes</i>	<i>15% (150 points)</i>
<i>Attendance and discussion or write-ups of 5 community events</i>	<i>25% (250 points)</i>
<i>Development of a personal education plan or substitute assignment</i>	<i>10% (100 points)</i>
<i>Participation in summer reading presentation and class discussion</i>	<i>10% (100 points)</i>
<i>Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting</i>	<i>5% (50 points)</i>
<i>Participation in the library orientation session</i>	<i>5% (50 points)</i>
<b>TOTAL POINTS: 1000</b>	

**Late assignments will automatically lose half of the possible points for the assignment. An assignment submitted 5 days or more after the due date will not be accepted. Failure to turn in a written assignment will result in a grade of zero points for the assignment; an additional loss of 50 points for each omitted written assignment will be factored into your final grade.**

**All written assignments must be submitted as a hard copy to your professor or your student advisor at the start of class on the due date.**

**Personal Reflection Papers** 30% (300 points)

Each of you will have six opportunities over the course of the semester to generate personal reflection papers (minimum of 300 words). Some of these will be related to the reading assignments and your instructor will design some. Each of these assignments can earn up to 50 points. 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. Your instructor also has the right to turn back a submission as unacceptable and require you to resubmit a revision if your work doesn't clearly convey that you have tried to do a good job on the write-up. If this occurs multiple times, your instructor may decide to award only partial credit for resubmissions or not offer this option to you. Late personal reflection papers can only earn 25 points. Your instructor will make the specific assignments and let you know of their due dates in class.

**Attendance and participation in scheduled classes** 15% (150 points)

In order to be an active learner, class participation and attendance is a requirement. The richness of discussion that occurs among classmates and faculty cannot be replicated. Students are expected to come to class prepared to participate in discussion based on course assignments or readings. In other words, *simply showing up is not enough effort to earn full credit.* Your instructor may choose to award partial credit rather than all

points if you do not meet this expectation. Please note that if you miss a class, the points for that class cannot be earned.

### **Community events**

25% (250 points)

Part of being in college is being 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 attend at least 4 community events, in addition to the session with the author of our summer reading. 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 C<sup>3</sup>; participation in S.A.M., active participation in the Environmental Coalition; election to USG.

The first community event is attendance at the session with the author of our common summer reading. You are required to write a community event paper on this experience. A directive for writing up a community event paper is posted on the Blackboard site.

Two community events will center on the development of a class community service project. You will receive additional information about this project during the course. The remaining two community events may be designated as class community events that you all go to together, or may be individual.

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. Your professor 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. A written reaction paper (write-up) is always required for each individual community event that you attend.

Each write-up (300 word minimum) is due within one week of the date of the event. **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 or participation/discussion can earn up to 50 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.

### **The Personal education plan (PEP)**

10% (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 ensure 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. Your instructor will provide you with the details of this plan that you will be completing for this course. As long as it is handed in on time and your instructor deems it of acceptable quality, you will earn 100 points for completing this component of the course. A PEP that is turned in late can only earn 50 points.

**Scheduling, preparing for, and attending individual meeting** 5% (50 points)

Your instructor will ask you to arrange for an individual meeting with her/him 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 general program. As part of this process, it is critical that you both understand the LinC curriculum and thoughtfully prepare for this meeting with your academic advisor. 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 with your advisor. You will also write down an explanation for why you chose each of these courses as possibilities. Your instructor 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. This planning is so crucial to your college success that you earn 50 points for scheduling, preparing, and attending these individual meetings.

**Library Orientation Session** 5% (50 points)

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 cannot make it to the session that is scheduled for our ICL class, please make sure that you attend one of the other seven sessions. Attendance will be taken and students will only earn the full 50 points if they are there for the full session. There are also prizes being awarded via a raffle system, so don't miss out on this opportunity to learn about one of the most valuable resources on campus!

**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

### **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.

### **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.

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