

Fall 2010 - Introduction to College Life
LinC 100.2H - Friday 10:20 am-11:30 am – PPHAC 302

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Course Description:

Introduction to College Life (ICL) is a half unit (.50) course requirement whose primary goals are to introduce first year college 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 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 Lifelong

Learning Student Outcomes: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate their specific goals, objectives, and plans for their persona 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 effective study skills, time management, and 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.

Message from Your Faculty Advisor:

Welcome! As your academic advisor until you declare a major, I look forward to working with you. The class will meet once a week on Friday at 10:20 AM. Please note that attendance is mandatory. If you are unable to attend class please contact me via email, office phone, or text message to my cell phone **BEFORE** the scheduled class time.

As your academic advisor, I am always here to help you with whatever questions you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blackboard:

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

Required Texts:

Moravian College Catalog, 2008-2010

Moravian College Student Handbook, 2009-2010

Summer Reading: Colors of the Mountain, by: Da Chen

The Naked Roommate, by: Harlan Cohen (3rd Edition)

Grading:

Colors of the Mountain Paper / Class Discussion:	10%
Personal Reflection Papers:	30%
Attendance and Participation:	25%
Attendance and write ups of community events:	15%
Personal Education Plan:	15%
Individual Advising Session:	5%

Community Events / Service Learning Project and Reflection Papers:

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. Students are encouraged to substitute another non-credit bearing co-curricular experience for a community event, from among the following list: participation of the MCTC; writing at least one article for The Comenian; participate in C3; participate in S.A.M., active participation in the Environmental Coalition; election to USG. You may ask me to consider other substitutions for attending a community event. Your student advisor Armando will largely be in charge of overseeing this requirement. If you have any questions about community events and whether they count, please contact Armando.

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:

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 reading. Please refrain from the use of Ipods or text messaging during class times.

Learning Services Accommodations:

Students who have any learning disabilities or specific accommodations that need to be made are advised to consult with Learning Services (Ext. 1510). Students are also encouraged, yet not required, to inform course faculty of those situations that affect academic performance.

Academic Honesty Policy:

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 instances such 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 the assignment in question BEFORE it is due in a 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 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.

Personal Expressive / Reflective Papers:

All papers must be submitted by 11:30 am on the day the assignment is due. It is recommended that all required papers be sent as an attachment to the course instructor advisor BEFORE the scheduled class time. Failure to submit the paper on the assigned date will result in a lower grade. Each day late is equal to one full letter grade. For example, if you hand a paper in one day late, and the paper is of "A" quality, the student will receive a "B."

The instructor has the right to award partial credit for work that does not meet the standards of the assignment. The instructor reserves the right to return an unsatisfactory paper and require revision and resubmission.

Speaking Assignment:

The Learning in Common Curriculum encourages a speaking across the curriculum component for every student. The instructor will attempt to create an environment that is conducive to open discussion and promotes dialogue among all. You will be required to participate in at least one activity (more are encouraged) that requires speaking in front of the class. The syllabus indicates the class meetings and topics that are opportunities for public speaking.

Scheduling, Preparing, and Attending Advisement Meeting:

The student is responsible for scheduling an individual advising meeting prior to registration for the Spring semester. The dates for registration vary for Add Venture Students, Comenius scholars, and all other students. Student must assume accountability for the following steps:

- Review the LinC curriculum and prepare for the meeting.

- Review the college catalogue for specific course requirements related to your anticipated major.
- Select 5-6 courses that you would like to register for (most students will only enroll in four full unit courses; however, the course you select may “close” and it is ideal to have a “back-up” plan ready.
- Design a schedule in which there are no conflicts in class times. Athletes should not schedule 6th period classes.
- Complete the preregistration form prior to your meeting with your advisor.

Course Grade Analysis:

A	= 93 – 100
A-	= 90 - 92
B+	= 87 – 89
B	= 83 – 86
B-	= 80 – 82
C+	= 77 – 79
C	= 73 – 76
C-	= 70 – 72
D+	= 67 – 69
D	= 63 – 66
D-	= 60 – 62
F	= <60

Course Outline

- September 3rd –
 - Review Syllabus
 - Discuss Da Chen Community Event
 - **Due:** Nothing.
 - **Writing Assignment:** Write 2 page reflection paper on Colors of the Mountain –Topic will be discussed in class.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 1 of The Naked Roommate, please read sections: 3, 5, 6, 7. (Campus Life Issues)
- September 10th –
 - Discuss Adjusting to Campus Life
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Colors of the Mountain
 - **Due:** Colors of the Mountain Reflection Paper
 - **Writing Assignment:** Write 1 page reflection paper on your first week at Moravian College.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 3 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 14, 15, 19, 22, 23. (Roommate Issues)
- September 17th –

- International Studies / Study Abroad Presentation by Kerry Sethi, Director of International Studies
 - **Due:** 1 page reflection paper on first week of college.
 - **Writing Assignment:** None
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 7 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 39, 40, 41, 42, 43. (Academic Issues)
- September 23rd –
 - You are encouraged to attend the Fall Convocation and write a one page reflection paper if it does not interfere with your schedule. This will count as a community event.
- September 24th –
 - Discuss Academic Life in College – Strategies and Techniques
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Toughest thing about college so far.
 - **Due:** Nothing
 - **Writing Assignment:** 2 page reflection paper on academic challenges you have faced either in high school or in college. How do you expect to overcome those challenges.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 7 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 44, 45, 46, 47, 48. (Academic Issues)
- October 1st –
 - Learning Services Presentation by Laurie Roth, Director of Learning Services
 - **Due:** 2 page reflection paper on academic challenges.
 - **Writing Assignment:** 1 page reflection paper about why learning services is important on a college campus.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 6 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 35, 36, 37, 38. (Greek Life)
- October 8th –
 - Discuss Greek life in college
 - Mini student panel of Greek, Athletic student(s) – Managing your Time
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Greek life, Athletics, Managing your time.
 - **Due:** 1 page reflection paper on learning services.
 - **Writing Assignment:** Write 1-2 page rough draft of a personal education plan for your prospective major or academic interest including: number of courses needed, electives available that interest you, internships available, job opportunities, graduate school opportunities, salary opportunities, etc.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 7 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 49, 50, 51, 52, 53. (Academic Issues)
- October 15th –
 - Discuss Personal Education Plans
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Personal Education Plans

- **Due:** Rough draft of personal education plan.
 - **Writing Assignment:** Complete a final copy of your personal education plan to be submitted next week.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 8 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 64. (Dating and Relationships)
- October 22nd –
 - Discuss Dating and Relationships in College
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Dating and Relationships
 - **Due:** Final Copy of Personal Education Plan
 - **Writing Assignment:** None
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 10 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 73, 74, 75, 79, 80, 82. (Alcohol in College)
- October 29th –
 - Career Services Presentation – Please bring your personal education plans with you.
 - **Due:** Nothing.
 - **Writing Assignment:** Please develop a plan for courses for your spring semester to discuss during individual advising next week.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 12 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 88, 89, 90, 91, 92. (Monetary Concerns)
- November 5th –
 - No Class – Advising Days this week by appointment.
 - **Due:** Spring Course Schedule Plan for Advising Days.
 - **Writing Assignment:** None.
 - **Reading Assignment:** None.
- November 12th –
 - Director of Institutional Diversity Presentation
 - **Due:** Nothing.
 - **Writing Assignment:** 1 page reflection paper on diversity speaker.
 - **Reading Assignment:** From Chapter 13 of the Naked Roommate, please read sections: 97, 98, 99, 100, 101. (Depression Issues)
- November 19th –
 - Discuss Financial Aid, Credit, and Money for College Students.
 - Discuss Alcohol in College.
 - Three Students Public Speaking Opportunity – Drinking on campus or Depression / Body Image.
 - **Due:** 1 Page paper on Diversity speaker.
 - **Writing Assignment:** None.
 - **Reading Assignment:** None.
- November 26th –
 - No Class, College Closed for Thanksgiving
- December 3rd –
 - Final Wrap up / Class Evaluation – Please be sure that your community events have been completed and 1 page reflection papers have been turned in.