

## International Student Orientation

Spring 2016

### Instructors:

- English and writing skills
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- Quantitative skills
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  - Caitlin Fenning, Student Assistant  
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- Study skills
  - Rubie Ghazal, Ph.D., Coordinator of Global Inclusion  
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  - Boris Kirov, M.A., International Student Support Specialist  
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### **Orientation Description:**

This orientation is designed for international students to acquire the skills necessary to be successful academically. All the sessions integrate critical thinking and reading skills crucial in an American higher education context. Mathematical skills as well as skills such as inferencing, synthesizing, note taking, and test taking are all integrated to prepare students for their academic careers in the United States. In addition, you can receive 0.5 unit (2 credits) if you fulfill all the requirements and attend **ALL** sessions.

### **Orientation Goals and Objectives:**

**English:** This course will focus on the development of academic English through inclusive activities that focus on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This class will utilize frequent reading and writing exercises as well as a collaborative workshop setting. You will develop and practice public speaking and presentation skills. Throughout this orientation, you will hone communicative skills in the English language.

**Math:** When presented with a problem, you will methodically experiment in order to develop testable conjectures in order to identify underlying patterns. You will use appropriate mathematical tools (graphs, equations, etc.) to model and solve a given problem. You will demonstrate positive problem-solving strategies, including creativity, logical thinking, and making connections to related problems. You will demonstrate a professional work ethic, including both independent work and effective cooperation in team-based activities.

**Study Skills:** You will learn about the American higher education culture in general and Moravian College culture in specific. Over the span of the nine days, you will meet and socialize with Moravian College staff and students, learn about the different offices on campus, identify the resources available for you, and create a study plan for the whole semester. You will be expected to demonstrate your knowledge through daily reflective assignments and you will also be expected to demonstrate socially acceptable behavior during the various activities and events.

## **Expectations:**

### **Classroom Behavior:**

The instructors encourage a classroom environment of participation, collaboration, and respect. Moravian College students are expected to enrich the learning environment by completing assigned work, sharing experiences, and respecting the views of others. Respectful classroom behavior includes arriving on time and not leaving early, not using cell phones or computers in activities unrelated to class work, and not using any type of harassing, intimidating language or action.

By enrolling in this orientation, each student makes the tacit commitment to participate which involves more than mere physical presence. Students are expected to be actively involved in the class. Students are encouraged to ask relevant questions and contribute to the overall learning environment of this course.

### **Attendance and participation:**

Students are required to attend each and every class session. Tardiness is unprofessional and students are expected to be in class on time. If you miss four or more sessions, you will receive no credit for the orientation experience. Further, if you miss two math sessions, two English sessions, or two study skills sessions, then you will receive no credit for the orientation experience. Two tardies will be considered the same as an absence.

### **Cell phones & Technology:**

Students should silence cell phones during class. In case of emergency, students will inform the instructor prior to class. In these situations, students who receive calls should immediately leave the classroom and respond to the call in the hallway. However, under no circumstances should cell phones or other electronic devices be used during quiz, exam, or other assessment activities. Texting, use of headphones and computers and other digital devices unrelated to course material, is prohibited.

## **Grading Criteria**

To get credit for this experience, you have to:

- Attend at all sessions
- Appropriately participate
- Appropriately complete activities/papers/assignments (see individual section schedule of activities/assignments)

To receive credit, a student **must “pass” ALL 3 sessions** (math, english, study skills). If any one of the session instructors determine that the student deserves a “no-credit”, then the student gets no credit for the entire experience.

### **Academic Integrity:**

The highest level of integrity is expected from every student. Each student enrolled in this course is expected to make an honest effort in this class and to be scrupulous in maintaining academic honor and integrity. Actions of academic dishonesty, including, cheating, plagiarism, falsification, multiple submission or any other form will not be tolerated. The complete policy is available on the Moravian College Handbook 2015–2016  
<http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic/academic2.html>

## **Statement on Rights and Responsibilities of Students**

The role of students in the educational community of the institution involves a balance of rights and responsibilities. The freedom to learn depends upon appropriate opportunities and conditions in the classroom, on campus, and in the Bethlehem community. Students are

required to exercise their freedoms with appropriate responsibility. The responsibility to secure and to respect general conditions conducive to the freedom to learn is shared by all members of the community. Please visit Moravian College Handbook 2015-2016 for more information <http://www.moravian.edu/StudentLife/handbook/rights/regulations.html>

**Safety:**

The College wants all students to feel safe on campus. Be alert and exercise reasonable caution. Become familiar with campus safety services. Departments may have particular procedures for operating equipment and for working in campus spaces outside of class meeting times. It is at the discretion of course instructors to determine if students are capable of operating equipment safely. For campus emergencies, contact Campus Police at 610-861-1421 or dial 911 from any campus phone.

**Special Needs:**

Moravian College is committed to provide necessary and reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities or special needs. Students who wish to request accommodations for a disability should contact their instructor or Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401).

Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic & Disability Support office.