Course: Freshman Seminar  
Section: 92602  
Instructor: Prof. Katherine C. Aguirre  
Office: Peconic, Room 221  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
Phone: (631) 548-2635  
E-mail: aguirrk@sunysuffolk.edu  
Meeting Times and Locations: TR 08:00 a.m. - 09:15 a.m.  
Orient Room 135 - September 1st – October 22nd

Course Goal  
To assist students in the development and improvement of skills essential to acquiring academic achievement and personal growth.

Learning Objectives  
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Examine the purposes of higher education and understand their place in a higher education setting.  
2. Explore personal and societal issues faced by first year students (i.e. alcohol and other drug use and abuse, sexuality, cultural diversity, etc.).  
3. Define short-term, as well as, long-term goals within the professional and educational spheres.  
4. Expand their knowledge of the resources and services provided by Suffolk County Community College.  
5. Understand basic time management and active learning techniques to establish productive study and work habits.  
6. Understand the value and personalize the experience of working with the college community.  
7. Acquire valuable academic survival skills.  
8. Become proficient in using electronic communications skills in an academic setting.  
9. Develop skills for successful note taking and test taking in a college setting.  
10. Acquire problem solving skills through analysis and critical thinking.  
11. Develop interpersonal skills through interaction in group activities.  
12. Possess personalized knowledge of the career development process.  
13. Become familiar with and learn to use SCCC’s Library.  
14. Practice and refine formal and informal writing skills.  
15. Be able to recognize change and maturity as a result of the first year experience.  
16. Possess the ability to synthesize what has been learned and develop a plan for using the knowledge gained through their continued college experience.
**Textbooks**

*Suffolk County Community College Catalog*

Journal

**Attendance Policy**
Students are expected to complete all assigned work on time, to attend class regularly and to participate in class discussions and activities. Excessive absence is defined by the college as more than two class meetings. Lateness is equivalent to ½ an absence. Excessive absences or lateness, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a grade penalty and/or removal from the class roster. Please keep the instructor informed of any anticipated absences. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING UP ALL MISSED ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASSWORK.

**Class Policy**
COL101 is an academic course taught as a seminar where students are expected to share responsibility with the instructor for both the teaching and learning in the course. Our community of learners will be a respectful environment personifying the principles of Suffolk County Community College. As such, it is expected that all will:
1. Practice personal academic integrity
2. Respect the dignity of all persons
3. Respect the rights and property of other’s opinions
4. Demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their needs for conditions which support their work and development

**Plagiarism**
The strength of the college depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work or ideas as if they were your own. Three reasons to avoid it:

- Detriment to your intellectual and moral development: you won’t learn anything, and your ethics will be corrupted.

- Unfairness to your peers, who complete their own work.

- Academic dishonesty will be severely punished. This may include failure of the assignment, course, suspension, or expulsion from the college. Please be sure to review your Student Handbook for further information.

**Written Assignments**
Paper Guidelines: All papers must be Arial/Times New Roman 10-12 font, double-spaced, and stapled. Failure to comply will result in a 5 point deduction for each. Papers handed in the next class will receive a 10 point deduction. If expecting to be absent, e-mail paper by due date.

- **Learning Journal**: Students will be required to keep a daily journal of newly learned information, both in and outside the classroom, as well as reflections on personal and academic growth. Time will be given after most classes for journal reflection.

- **Campus Activity Report**: The Campus Activity Report is a one page typed report of a scheduled campus event.

- **Campus Resource Project**: Students are required to use the Student Handbook or College Catalog, as well as, speak to faculty and staff to complete this project.

- **Library Research Paper**: Students will use the SCCC Library web site to locate books sources to be integrated with a class project.

- **Major/Career Paper**: This assignment will ask students to explore the various job opportunities available through their major. This includes an interview with a faculty member or advisor as well as utilizing other resources.

- **Autobiography**: Explore and evaluate aspects of your personal “journey”. This assignment will give you a structured outlet to report, discuss and reflect on the topics discovered in this course. It will also allow you to include college goals and career aspirations.

**Required Workshops**
* One campus activity event of the student’s choice
* Library Orientation
* Career Workshop
* Computer Center Orientation

**Grading Policy**
In-Class Assignments, Participation*-10%
Computer Literacy- 10%
Campus Activity-15%
Autobiography -15%
Learning Journal-15%
Library Research Project-5%
Major/Career Paper-20%
Final Exam – 10%

Extra Credit: 5 points will be applied to the final grade for participation in a college or community service project.

*Participation may include attendance, lateness, and involvement in class discussion
### Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments Due**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/1</td>
<td>Introduction; Syllabus Review-Chp. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/3</td>
<td>Diversity-Chp. 5</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9/8</td>
<td>Values/Setting Goals-Chp. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/10</td>
<td>Campus/Catalog/English/Computer Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 9/15</strong></td>
<td><strong>All College Day – NO CLASS 😊</strong></td>
<td><strong>ENJOY A DAY OFF!</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/17</td>
<td>Reading/Note-Taking/Research-Chp. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/22</td>
<td>Library Assignment (Location TBA)</td>
<td><strong>Computer Literacy Report</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 9/24</td>
<td>Memory &amp; Test Preparation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Prof. Cosentino Chp. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/29</td>
<td>Time/Money Management – Chp. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/1</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td><strong>Campus Activity Report</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10/6</td>
<td>Career/Transfer/Resume</td>
<td><strong>Autobiography Paper</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 10/8</td>
<td>Academic Plan</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10/13</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>Thursday 10/15</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10/20</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td><strong>Major &amp; Career Paper</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/23</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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*Topics and assignments are subject to change at discretion of professor.*

**All reading assignments are from “The Community College Experience”*