

**University 101 (UNIV 101) First Year College Transitions**  
Fall 2011  
Tuesday/Thursday 9:15am – 10:30am , Keiser 103/104

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## REQUIRED TEXTS

**POWER Learning: Strategies for Success at Boise State University and Beyond.** Robert S. Feldman. 5e.  
ISBN 9780077873202

All students will be required to purchase Connect+ from McGraw-Hill which includes the electronic assignments and an electronic copy of the text (approximately \$40.00). Or you may purchase the book from the Bookstore for approximately \$75.00 which also includes access to Connect+.

Connect+ is required to earn credit for this class. Some students may find that they learn more easily with a hard copy in their hands and not an electronic copy alone. You may purchase a hard copy of the text, but this is not required.

**ADDITIONAL READINGS (required) will be assigned throughout the semester:**  
“Becoming a Learner,” Matthew Sanders

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

UNIV 101 FIRST YEAR COLLEGE TRANSITIONS (Variable 1-2)(F,S,SU). Focuses on the development of academic skills, life skills, attitudes and behaviors necessary for success in college through exploration of skills, campus resources and involvement opportunities. Designed to familiarize the student with the campus, resources, services, activities and experiences that will enhance the college experience.

**STUDENT SUCCESS CLASSES** - A variety of student success classes are offered to all students at Boise State. These courses are developed to provide students with information and experiences promoting academic success. Nationwide, students who participate in such courses have a higher graduation rate than those who do not. Following is a list of student success classes at Boise State University. For more information contact [Advising and Academic Enhancement](mailto:Advising and Academic Enhancement), (208) 426-4049.  
<http://academicsupport.boisestate.edu/univcourses.shtml#courses>

**FIRST YEAR FOCUS** - First Year Focus is a Living-Learning Community that uses Univ 101 to anchor you and your community within two other courses: Hist 121 and Kin-Act 163. Your Univ. 101 course consists of people living on your floor and the floor above you. You and your roommate should be enrolled for at least three of the same classes. The purpose for this is to anchor you in a community that is familiar and provides easy access to other classmates to study together and to learn from each other. Studying with your roommate or another person on the floor in the community is a great way to motivate and support each other in achieving your goals.

There are two communities that comprise the First Year Focus: Towers and Chaffee.

### *Towers Hall*

You and your three other suitemates are enrolled in these classes and share one common floor with 24 other students/classmates in Towers Hall.

### *Chaffee Hall*

You and your roommate will be enrolled in these classes and all students participating will live in A-wing on the first, second, and third floors of Chaffee Hall. This community is a little more spread out, but you have a roommate and neighbors throughout the hall that share your classes.

## **CLASS GOALS/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### **GENERAL OUTCOMES:**

This course will help you recognize and resolve many of the issues that face new college students everywhere. The curriculum and the textbook both focus on your success at a research university. Every lesson, assignment, or activity is designed to achieve these general learning outcomes.

- Develop Academic & Life Skills
- Explore Campus Resources
- Become Involved at Boise State

### **CLASS FORMAT and RELATIONSHIP TO YOUR OTHER CLASSES**

This class functions in a seminar format where all students must participate in discussions, activities, and assignments. I will assign information from your on line book each week and expect you to read and complete the on-line reflections, quizzes, and “Try Its” in each section. Class time will be an opportunity to discuss and reflect on the readings and assignments, but we will not just “go over” the same information you read. In order to be successful and get the most out of the class, I expect you to complete the assignments and readings in a timely way and be ready to engage in discussions and activities that relate to the information. You will utilize the readings and activities as a foundation for more questions and self-reflection. It is OK to collaborate and study with your community members. The quiz questions are randomized so students will not receive the same quiz. There are enough questions where quizzes are somewhat unique per student. So, it’s OK to study together and exchange ideas. The idea is to learn!

### **Relationship with History 121 and Kin-Act 121**

You can expect that I will communicate regularly with Dr. Shelton Woods (Hist 121) and Cala Sielaff (Kin-Act 163) to check on your progress. This is somewhat unique to this learning community, but I care about your well-being in this course as well as your other courses. I will also communicate with your RA and RD in efforts to support you in your overall transition to college.

### **Learning Outcomes for Kin-Act 163**

- Students will become knowledgeable on the multiple resources available to them through University Health and Recreation Services to maintain an active lifestyle.
- Students will increase motivation for active and healthy living through accessing multiple mediums.
- Students will decrease stress by maintaining an active lifestyle.

### **Learning Objectives for linking Kin-Act and LLC program**

- Students will build connections across communities and increase their resource and friendship base
- Students will decrease stress by maintaining an active lifestyle
- Students report on the impact of incorporating activity in the overall success of their first semester (success will be measured through self-report and a pre and post test).

### **Activity Themes and Assignments**

Each month, students will complete the activity punch cards as outlined in their Kin-Act 163 course syllabus. At the end of each month (the last Tuesday LLC class meeting of each month), students will turn in the punch card to the LLC faculty member. Faculty will review the punch card to see that students have fulfilled the community expectations as outlined below. Faculty will then give the punch cards to the Kin-Act 163 instructor for tracking and grading.

	Kin-Act 163	First Year Focus
September	Create your routine: students will be encourage to engage in activities from the prescribed list on the syllabus that supports their interests and routine	During the month, students must complete at least 2 activities in the month with another member of their own community.
October	Try something new: students will be required to try some new things at the Rec or in their activities.	Meet someone new from another community: students will be required to meet and engage in at least 2 activities in the month with someone from the Towers community in FYF
November	Self-Assessment and Evaluation: students will reflect on the knowledge gained (What have you put into your routine? What have you discovered about yourself in the process of being active regularly? Is there something for which you have gained a passion? What might you do to pursue this activity long-term?	Self-Assessment and Evaluation: students will reflect on how these activities have impacted their sense of community and friendships
December	Students will write a final reflection on how the course has impacted their knowledge or resources, motivation and stress reduction	Students will write a final reflection on the impact of the course on community building, stress relief, and overall feelings of success.  ** students will take a post-test of the survey

### CLASS EXPECTATIONS

**Attendance:** Your attendance to this class is always a result of the choices you make.

To get the most from any experience you must show up! You can only learn from classroom experiences *if you are present*, therefore you cannot earn participation points for *any absence*, excused or unexcused. ([See University Attendance Policy](#))

**Absences:** This class relies heavily on your participation. Each week there may be a chance to earn participation and/or quiz points in either lecture or lab/discussion. Your decision to miss class *no matter the reason* means you will not earn those participation/quiz points for the day. Extended absences due to illness or other extenuating circumstances need to be discussed with your instructors.

**Preparation:** Be prepared for class; complete assigned readings in a reflective and meaningful manner. Including readings complete any other assignment made by the instructor and be ready for that day's work. In order to fully participate, you must give serious and critical consideration to readings and other assignments

**Late work:** I will not accept late quizzes or journal entries; these always need to be completed on time. All other major assignments that are not turned in on the due date will receive an automatic 10% deduction of points. I will not take assignments that are more than 1 week late. The Connect+ site is set close assignments on the due date and time.

**You are responsible for checking email and Blackboard on a daily basis for any announcements.** I will only use your BroncoWeb email addresses.

**Presence:** Be on time for class and be mentally present to engage in discussion. Put cell phones on vibrate and try to avoid interrupting each other if there is an emergency call.

**Initiative/Responsibility:** I expect that you are taking the initiative and taking responsibility for fulfilling the expectations of the course. If you are having difficulty or struggling, I expect that you will seek out assistance and not wait until it's too late.

**Class Community:** I expect that you will get to know each other and take the initiative to learn about each other. *In order to pass the class, you must know every student's name by the end of the course. You will be quizzed periodically.*

**Statement of Shared Values:** We will govern class according to our Boise State Statement of Shared Values: <http://www.boisestate.edu/osrr/sosv/info.html>

**Your Rights and Responsibilities:** Boise State University challenges its students to reach their highest levels of performance, encourages them to excel in academics and sports, and invites them to participate in the many cultural and social activities available at the university. At the same time, Boise State University expects students to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the university's function as an institution of higher learning ([2011-2012 Undergraduate Catalog](#)). Therefore, I trust you to conduct yourself in a manner consistent with our course goals. I have also outlined some of my expectations below. You may want to refer to the [student code of conduct](#) for additional information.

**Plagiarism & Cheating:** Refer to Boise State's [Student Code of Conduct](#) for definitions of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty as well as policies and procedures for handling such cases.

No judgmental, discriminatory, sexist comments or humor will be tolerated!

**Electronics:** Cell phones are a great way to stay connected to the rest of world, even during class. Please put your cell phone in silent or vibrate mode while in class. Also, leave the room if you must have a cell phone conversation (emergencies only, okay?) [You should be part of the campus safety "opt-in" program.](#) This service notifies cell phone users of any campus safety issues immediately.

Please do not "text" during class. Policies will vary from class to class regarding the use of electronics during class. My personal experience is that use of these devices is distracting to both the speaker and the student.

**Disabilities Statement:** Any student who feels s/he may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability may contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. You will also need to contact the

[Disability Resource Center](#) at 208-426-1583 located in the Administration Building, room 114 to meet with a specialist and coordinate reasonable accommodations for any documented disability.

For more information contact the BSU Disability Resource Center (DRC). To schedule an appointment, contact the DRC at (208) 426-1583 or send your email request to [ElyseTaylor@boisestate.edu](mailto:ElyseTaylor@boisestate.edu).

**Electronic Access:** This class requires regular and skillful access to a computer with a reliable internet connection. You should have a basic understanding of your operating system, saving and attaching files, word processing software, and internet navigation. Electronic submission of assignments requires that you be able to save documents in .doc or .docx format (Microsoft Word 97-2003 or Microsoft Word 2007). Note: Boise State computer labs all have this software installed. Only documents saved in .doc or .docx format will be accepted.

You will be asked to access [Blackboard](#) & [Connect+](#) regularly. Email is required and encouraged for communication with your instructor and classmates. Only your [BroncoMail](#) address will be used for electronic communication in this class.

You are responsible for the timely and professional handling of your assignments. This means that your computer cannot be an excuse for a late assignment. Complete, back-up, print and submit important assignments early! If you have questions or concerns about your computer skills, don't wait until it's too late to ask for help! The [Help Desk](#) can answer most of your questions.

**To Succeed in This Class You Will Need to:**

- Attend class everyday
- Bring your textbook or notes or computer to class to access your on line text
- Complete all quizzes and journal entries on time - these are not accepted late!
- Other major assignments lose 10% for each day they are late!
- Be ready to participate in group activities and discussions
- Have regular access to a computer with Internet access or be willing to find and use a campus computer lab
- Regardless of your grade, you must complete all POWER Profile assignments, the Resource Recon group project, and at least three Student Success Activities in order to pass the class

**Assessment, Evaluation and Grading:**

Your grade is earned in this class. You will earn a single grade for your combined effort in both the lecture section and the lab/discussion. All of your grades will be available to you on the blackboard site for this class. It is your responsibility to track your progress.

Assignments	Points		Due Dates
15 Journal Entries (Approximate)	100	10 points each 10 Highest Scores	Due Date Final
15 Weekly Quizzes (Approximate)	100	10 points each 10 Highest Scores	Due Date Final
Participation	150	10 points per week	<a href="#">Must be Present!</a>
Welcome Week Activity	50		<10%> per day late
Get Involved! #1	50		<10%> per day late
Academic Assignment TBA	50		<10%> per day late
Assignment TBA	50		<10%> per day late
Assignment TBA	50		<10%> per day late
Assignment TBA	50		<10%> per day late
Resource Recon*	100		<10%> per day late Essential
Financial Literacy*	50		<10%> per day late Essential
POWER Profile #1*	100	50 Profile 50 Plan	<10%> per day late Essential
POWER Profile #2*	100	50 Profile 50 Paper	<10%> per day late Essential
Total	1000		

Due dates are listed on the Connect Course site. Quizzes and Journal entries are submitted “as is” on the due date. You cannot submit Quizzes or Journals late.

Other assignments *may* be submitted late but there is a 10% deduction for each day late.

Assignments marked “Essential” must be submitted or you will fail the course regardless of your grades.

**GRADE SCALE (Standard +/- System)**

Grade	Percentage	Points
A+	97	≥970

A	94	≥940
A-	90	≥900
B+	87	≥870
B	84	≥840
B-	80	≥800
C+	77	≥770
C	74	≥740
C-	70	≥700
D+	67	≥670
D	64	≥640
D-	60	≥600
F	Below 60	<600
**Earn above this for each grade		

Incomplete Grade: Instructors can only enter a grade of I – for *incomplete* – only if both of the following conditions are present.

- Your work has been satisfactory up to the last three weeks of the semester.
- Extenuating circumstances make it impossible for you to complete the course before the end of the semester.

Other important details regarding an *incomplete* grade can be found in [Chapter 5 of the Undergraduate Catalog](#).