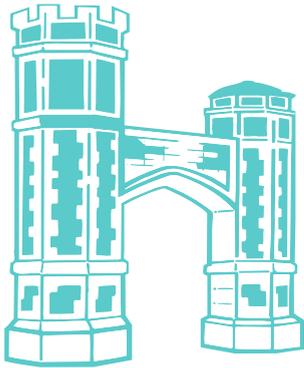
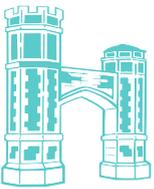


Freshman Programs



COURSES

..... FALL 2019



GATEWAY TO COLLEGE LEARNING (UCOL 1002)

Gateway to College Learning, often referred to as “Gateway” on campus, is a letter-graded, two-credit-hour elective course designed to prepare incoming freshmen for success at OU.

Each Gateway class is limited to 19-21 students and taught by an instructor who is deeply invested in student success. In addition, one Peer Teaching Assistant serves as a peer mentor and co-educator in each Gateway class. The instructors and PTAs are specifically trained to teach the Gateway curriculum and to understand the transition issues of first-year students.

Gateway classes become close communities. Students rely on their Gateway instructors to provide guidance and recommendations for scholarships, study abroad opportunities, employment, and graduate school years after their Gateway course has concluded. Their PTAs continue to serve as mentors and classmates become close friends throughout their college experience and beyond.

Gateway is an active and engaged classroom. The format of Gateway is primarily discussion and activities, rather than lecture. The course curriculum and format are designed to enhance students’ understanding of the process of learning and help them create success at OU. Gateway courses focus on achieving eight main objectives.



The transition from high school to college requires many adjustments including leaving home; meeting new people; preparing for an intensive study environment; learning to budget time effectively; understanding university procedures; and making life-changing decisions.

Gateway COURSE OBJECTIVES



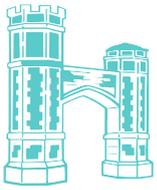
Stimulate cognitive and intellectual development



Foster positive social interaction among students



Introduce necessary skills for life-long well-being



HOW WILL GATEWAY HELP ME AS A STUDENT?

- Small class sizes help you learn about and from other classmates inside the classroom.
- Learn methods that work for college-level learning, including study skills, like; note-taking, reading for comprehension, and test preparation.
- Learn about the history, traditions, and culture unique to OU's campus and engage in campus life with your Gateway classmates.
- Develop a relationship with a dedicated instructor and PTA on whom you can rely for help with questions and problems.
- Learn about yourself as a student through activities that encourage discovery of your strengths, motivation, and purpose.
- Learn about and begin using the vast academic, social, cultural, and technological resources available at OU just for you!
- Practice and improve your ability to communicate your thoughts in ways different from those you employed in high school. In Gateway, you will explore selected topics using frequent class discussions, small group activities and reflective writing.



Promote campus engagement and connection



Support educational and professional planning



Facilitate meaningful interaction with faculty and staff



Present academic and other university policies



Encourage community responsibility and active citizenship

WHAT DO STUDENTS SAY ABOUT Gateway

.....
"This class exceeded my expectations. My instructor got to know us personally and I had great conversations with her in and outside of class. I would highly recommend this class to freshmen."
.....

"This class was very interactive and I was always able to learn new and necessary information that every college student should learn."
.....

"Had it not been for Gateway, I don't think I would have made the friendships that I now have and I don't think I would feel as confident with my ability to succeed in college."
.....

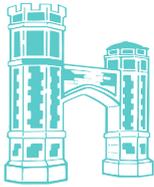
"Gateway was my favorite class this semester and will probably be my favorite class throughout all of college. My instructor and PTA were awesome and provided useful advice and got to know us individually. I learned a lot that I will actually use."
.....

"Gateway gave me a place where I felt like I wasn't such a tiny fish in a big pond. My instructor created a space where we were all free to laugh and be ourselves and talk. I don't think I would have had such a great freshman year if it had not been for Gateway my first semester."
.....

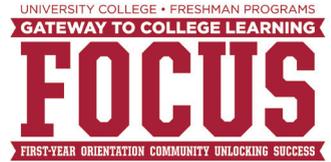
"My PTA was awesome! I loved that she gave us weekly updates on campus activities because there is so much going on."
.....

"Gateway was by far my favorite class! My instructor was the best teacher I've had and definitely cared not only about my grades, but my well-being too."
.....





What is Your FOCUS?



For Gateway to College learning, you will have an opportunity to choose from more than 30 different FOCUS themes specifically designed to help new students learn and grow at the University of Oklahoma! All Gateway courses share a common curriculum that makes up 70% of the course content. The other 30% of the content is specific to the focus of that course section.

So, what is your FOCUS?

For enrollment information, visit one.ou.edu or discuss the course with your academic advisor during New Sooner Orientation.



Academic Success

For students interested in focusing on improving essential skills needed for college-level learning, including: critical thinking, time management, note-taking, and test-taking.



Academic Success - Math

| see page 9

For students enrolled in DMAT 0113 or DMAT 0123. This FOCUS promotes success in these courses.



Academic Success - STS

For students who have been selected as a member of the Sooner Traditions Scholarship Program. This FOCUS is designed to establish foundations for becoming successful and effective college students.



AFAM Community Engagement

| see page 9

For students who are interested in exploring Community Engagement within the African American Community. This FOCUS supports students taking AFAM 2003 and allows first-year students to learn more about AFAM studies through a small learning community.



Business



see page 9

For students who are interested in business majors. This FOCUS is part of the Business Interest Group (BIG) Program, a collaboration with the Price College of Business for first-year business majors to learn in a small learning community and to become aware of the special programs offered by the Price College of Business. This course supports students taking BAD 1000, BAD 1001 and Math 1643 or Econ 1113.



CAS - Humanities

For students interested in one of the College of Arts & Sciences humanities based majors that focus on the aspects of human culture. This FOCUS provides a unique opportunity to create understanding and community within your degree granting college. Specifically, students will gain access to all of the major options offered within the humanities field of study, discover research being conducted by current humanities faculty, and become connected with key members of the Arts & Sciences community.



CAS - Natural Sciences

For students interested in one of the College of Arts & Sciences natural science majors that focus on the description, prediction, and understanding of natural phenomena through observation and empirical evidence. This FOCUS provides a unique opportunity to create understanding and community within your degree granting college. Specifically, students will gain access to all of the major options offered within the natural science field of study, discover research being conducted by current natural science faculty, and become connected with key members of the Arts & Sciences community.



CAS - Social Sciences

For students interested in one of the College of Arts & Sciences social science majors that focus on society and the relationships among individuals. This FOCUS provides a unique opportunity to create understanding and community within your degree granting college. Specifically, students will gain access to all of the major options offered within the social science field of study, discover research being conducted by current social science faculty, and become connected with key members of the Arts & Sciences community.



Chemistry



see page 9

For students enrolled in General Chemistry. This FOCUS supports students in CHEM 1315 within a small learning community.





Community Engagement

For students interested in community involvement, service, and civic engagement. This FOCUS will address the role of the student as a citizen of his or her campus, local community, nation, and world.



Fine Arts

For Fine Arts Majors. This FOCUS is designed to support Fine Arts majors as they navigate through the demands of majoring in the Arts. A collaboration with The Weitzenhoeffer Family College of Fine Arts, allowing first year students who are Fine Arts majors to explore their new home of Art, Dance, Drama, Music, and Musical Theatre.



First Generation

For students whose parents who have not attended or have not graduated from a four year college or university. For students whose parents have not graduated from a four year college or university. This section is designed to address questions and support the distinctive needs of students who are in the first generation of their family to attend college.



Going Global

For students interested in majors in the College of International Studies and or students interested in study abroad opportunities, preparations for world travel, working abroad, world cultures, and global issues.



Health and Wellness

For students interested in personal health and wellness as it relates to mental health, exercise, stress management, and nutrition while in college.



International Student

For the international student. This FOCUS is designed to meet the distinctive social, cultural, and academic needs of incoming international students.

“I made some of my best friends in Gateway and loved my instructor and PTA [Peer Teaching Assistant]! We could always go to them for help with anything or to ask any question!” – Gateway Student



Intro to Biology



| see page 9

For students in Introduction to Biology. This FOCUS supports students in BIOL 1124 within a small learning community.



Intro to Biology for Pre-Health



| see page 9

For students who are Pre-Health majors and taking BIOL 1124. This FOCUS section supports success in BIOL 1124 in addition to providing information about Pre-Health op.



Journalism



| see page 9

For students interested in majors in The Gaylord College Journalism and Mass Communication. This FOCUS supports students in JMC 1013 within a small learning community providing opportunity to gain knowledge about the resources available for journalism majors including preparation for the Language Skills Test required for successful admittance into The Gaylord Family College of Journalism and Mass Communication.



Leadership

For students interested in learning the fundamentals of leadership and student involvement on campus and beyond.



Major and Career Exploration

For undecided majors and students interested in exploring majors and careers.





Nursing

For students interested in the field of nursing. This FOCUS will explore pre-nursing opportunities at OU.



Personality and Self

For students interested in learning more about personality, personal values, and strengths as they relate to self and others.



Pre-Health



see page 9

For students interested in careers in health care. This FOCUS supports Pre-Health majors within a small learning community. Some sections with the Pre-Health FOCUS are also part of First-Year Learning Communities and thus support students in Math 1643 or Chem 1315.



Psychology



see page 9

For students enrolled in Elements of Psychology. This FOCUS supports students in PSY 1113 within a small learning community.



Small Town Sooners

For students from towns with a population less than 20,000. This FOCUS section meets the needs of these students as they acclimate to the University of Oklahoma and the Norman community, and helps them connect with one another in a small class environment.



Social Justice

For students interested in social justice issues. This FOCUS section will explore being an OU Citizen through the lens of social justice responsibility.

“I didn’t think I needed Gateway. I have always done well in school. But I ended up loving the class and learning a lot.” – Gateway Student



Join a LEARNING COMMUNITY

Many Gateway courses are part of a **First Year Learning Community (FYLC)**. Students who enroll in an FYLC have the opportunity to explore the content of various courses more deeply with a small cohort of classmates and instructors. FYLCs integrate content and faculty interaction across course disciplines resulting in meaningful community and learning. FYLCs offer a powerful channel for community development and academic success as students attend classes, study, and participate in various campus activities and events with their

FYLC cohort. There are various FYLC themes offered, including: “What’s Your Story?” for students in JMC 1013 to explore how storytelling influences our world and “Creating Bonds” to support students taking Chemistry 1315. For a complete list of all FYLC themes and information on how to enroll, visit ou.edu/newsooner/fylc. To secure your spot in a FYLC and begin your pre-registration process, email fylc@ou.edu or discuss joining an FYLC with your academic advisor during New Sooner Orientation.



“The FYLC gives students the opportunity to explore discipline specific content from the linked course(s) in a smaller group and at a deeper level. The students love getting to know the discipline based instructor better out of the larger lecture setting. They appreciate the study groups and input from their Peer Teaching Assistants on how to be successful in these specific courses, and they get a jump start on connecting with resources and individuals in their major field of study.” – **Gateway Instructor**



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SEMINARS (UCOL 1022)

Through University College Seminar courses, students have an opportunity to discover a unique support system while making a successful transition to college learning. Each seminar features exploration of a specific topic with an outstanding instructor in a small class environment.

1. Study of a topic of special interest to an outstanding instructor who has a unique perspective on the subject and is enthusiastic about sharing this knowledge
2. A small class (maximum enrollment is limited to 25 students or less) that includes all classifications (freshmen - senior students)
3. Personal interaction with an experienced and carefully selected professor or instructor
4. An opportunity to learn how to succeed as a college student by “learning how to learn” about a particular field
5. All University College Seminar Courses are 2-credit-hour, letter-graded electives.

Diversity & Inclusion: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Instructor: George Lee

What is diversity? Many academics, professionals, and experts have attempted to define the phenomenon of diversity. Students in this class will explore identity in terms of race, class, gender, ability, and sexuality from a lens of social justice. Students will discuss identities in regards to political, social, and economic implications along with our responsibility in building an equitable and inclusive society.

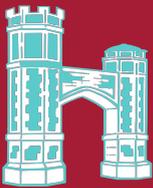
Lead Your Way: Leadership Training at OU

Instructor: Kate Stanton

Take this opportunity to become a front-running first-year student by exploring your pathway to leadership:

1. Get a handle on leadership training through exploration in teamwork and self-discovery
2. Map out who's who at OU and how to find your way
3. Discover your leader within and increase your potential as a campus leader and in life beyond college
4. Make a difference in the world around us via a service-learning project
5. Learn the art of creating a resume, completing campus applications, and knowing the best way to represent yourself on paper
6. Explore leadership in the “real world” as you select a leader in your field of interest to interview and
7. Get to know your peers in the class and be challenged to grow as a leader along the way.

This seminar will meet for 16 weeks, twice a week for 50 minutes each; this also includes an out-of-class service learning component. Through this seminar, OU will come to life as a leadership laboratory waiting to be discovered by you. Join us in this challenge.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SEMINARS (UCOL 1022)

Sex in the 21st Century

Instructor: Joe Marshall

The primary goal is to explore various sexual issues as they are developing today. This may include; Abortion, STDs, Gay Marriage, Sexual Dysfunctions, Rape, and also such positive issues as Sex Education, Contraception, Love, and Relationships. The precise issues will be determined by what will be occurring in the media at the time of the class. The purpose is to promote a forum where differing views can be discussed in an open and respectful manner. You are not told what to think, but rather to think, and to develop your individual “meaning of sex.” Some of the secondary goals are to enhance the students’ ability to think critically, to know and use the University’s resources, to work independently on some projects, together in teams on others, and to be aware of current events involving sex.

Becoming Globally Engaged

Instructor: Bushra Asif

This course aims to critically examine the meaning, importance and application of “global engagement”. Throughout the course, students will explore the many ways they can become globally engaged during and after their time at OU. The class will help students become active global citizens by increasing their understanding of a variety of global issues, critically analyzing the case for studying abroad, reflecting upon the role of cultural assumptions, power and privilege during inter-cultural exchange and the meaning of service and global civic participation. This course is open to Global Engagement Fellows. Students taking this course are encouraged to also enroll in IAS 2003: The Global Community.

History of Comics

Instructor: Jeffrey Provine

Iron-Man. Batman. Garfield. The Yellow Kid. Uncle Sam. William the Conqueror. Ramses II. All, fictional and real, have been immortalized in the often overlooked medium of comics. Our class will study comics and cartoons as pictorial literature, one of the most significant means to tell a story and convey information. We will trace the history of comics as well as create a few of our own. Students will be responsible for an exam over comic history, a research paper giving a biography of a cartoonist, and a final portfolio of original comics and cartoons. Special guests from the Oklahoma Comics Creators will give firsthand peeks into the world of art and publishing.

The Stadium and the Ivory Tower in the 21st Century

Instructor: Mike Meade

With the vast array of perspectives from the media and the public eye regarding the current landscape of intercollegiate athletics, it can be a challenge to make sense of the relationship between the athletics and academic communities on campus. This course will explore current trends and issues in athletics in higher education. Particular attention will be given to the development and structure of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Additionally, students will discuss recent legislation and issues surrounding such topics as academic standards, the student-athlete experience and the pay-for-play debate.

Hollywood Politics

Instructor: [Kim Gaddie](#)

Do filmmakers portray reality in their stories? Or do filmmakers take only a minimum of actual fact and distort it to the point that it no longer has any basis in reality? Maybe it is some of both. Often, those who write literature and produce film do so in order to make statements about politics. Producers use their observations about politics and campaigns and attempt to convey those observations in an entertaining medium in order to bring the issues to the attention of a wider audience. This course will use specific films and film segments to discuss how the American political experience is communicated through Hollywood's feature films.

Abnormal Psychology in Film

Instructor: [Cindy Torres](#)

From Psycho to Split, the fascinating aspects of abnormal psychology have been a popular topic of exciting, funny and frightening Hollywood movies for decades. How are these movies beneficial for learning about abnormal psychology? How might they be harmful? Learn about abnormal psychology while exploring and analyzing how Hollywood movies have depicted the field and those who are affected by these disorders. Assignments will include viewing and critically analyzing films which feature characters affected by abnormal psychological disorders.

Nine Things Every College Student Should Know About Money

Instructors: [Brad Burnett](#) | [Judith Voeller](#) | [Mike Hinderman](#)

This course is designed to give students a basic knowledge of personal finance and money management, covering topics such as saving, credit cards, investing, credit scores, buying a home, and other monetary issues that directly affect college students and graduates. Students will take an active role in the course by applying lessons and assignments to their own personal situations. Students will learn how to build and maintain a personal financial plan. The goal of the course is to develop financially literate students who will be fiscally secure today and in the future.

Exploring Your Strengths

Instructors: [Zac Stevens](#) | [Lori Stevens](#)

The goal of the course is to assist students in understanding, affirming, and using their strengths to create success in college and life after college. This will be accomplished by investigation and exploration of students' strengths as defined by Clifton Strengths for Students and the use of creative projects, practice of academic skills, and self-assessment.



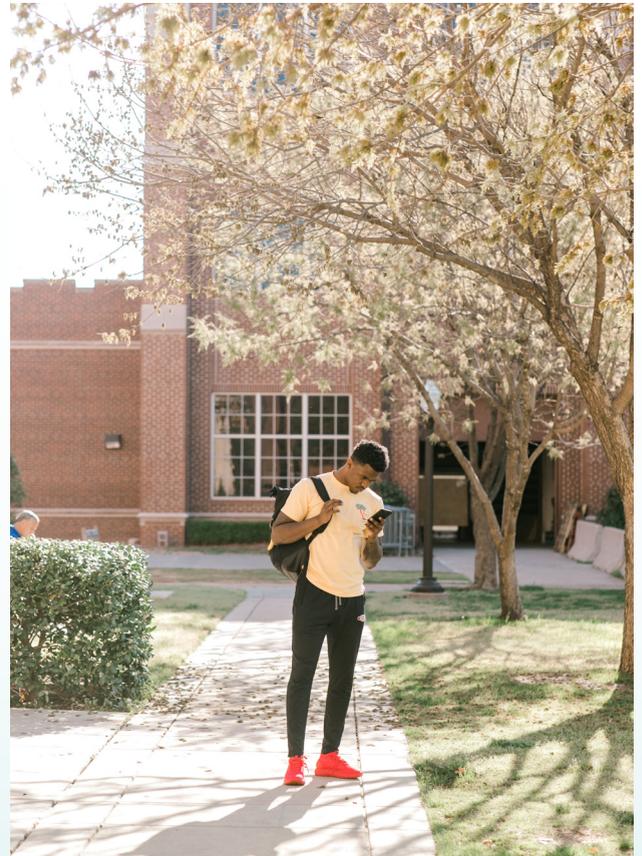
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SEMINARS (UCOL 1022)

Perspectives on Happiness

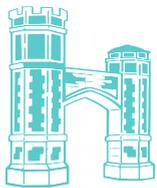
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Instructors: Lillian Miller

What is happiness? Many philosophers, psychologists, and health professionals have attempted to answer this age-old question. So, what do these experts agree and disagree on concerning the meaning and the contributors and barriers to happiness and well-being? What can be learned from the research, from the people in your everyday life, and from your own experiences to help you live a more fulfilling and productive life? Through this seminar course, Perspectives on Happiness, you can expect and exploration of happiness on a personal and societal level and consider significant inhibitors to the well-being of yourself and others. This insight will help you understand this ongoing area of research and inspire you to apply the related skills to flourish in college and beyond.



**Course information is subject to change*



HOW DO I ENROLL?

Talk to your Academic Advisor about enrolling in Gateway to College Learning (UCOL 1002), a UC Seminar (UCOL 1022), or joining a FYLC during your New Sooner Orientation advising appointment.

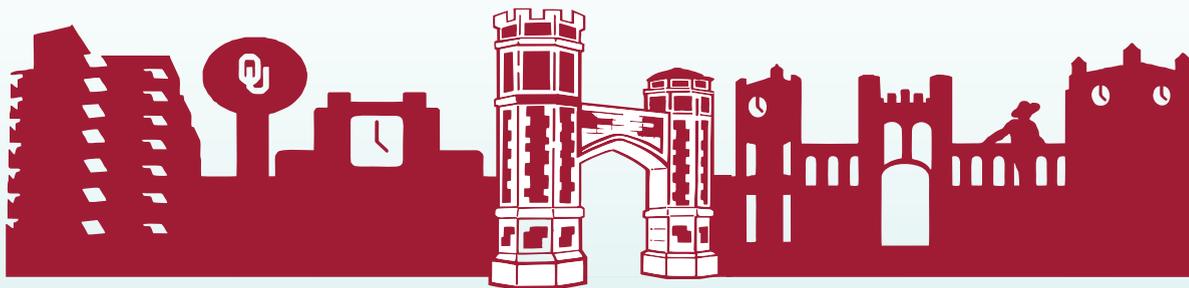
If you are interested in pre-registering for a FYLC prior to New Sooner Orientation, visit ou.edu/newsooner/fylc to begin the pre-registration process.

Questions? Contact Freshman Programs at (405) 325-8216.

For more information about the nature of the course, contact:

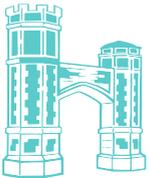
Lori Stevens, M.Ed. | Director of Freshman Programs
University College | (405) 325-8216 | freshmanprograms@ou.edu

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. www.ou.edu/eoo





Freshman Programs



COURSES

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US!

The University of Oklahoma
University College
Wagner Hall | 1005 Asp Avenue | Norman, OK 73019

freshmanprograms@ou.edu | (405) 325-8216