

# FYE 101: SUCCEED AT THE G UNC GREENSBORO

Section XX - Fall 2023

Days and Time

Location

3 Credit Hours

## **FYE INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

FYE Instructor Name, FYE Instructor Title

FYE Instructor E-mail

FYE Instructor Work Phone & Cell Phone (optional)

FYE Instructor Office Location & Office Hours

## **PEER ACADEMIC LEADER INFORMATION**

PAL Name, Peer Academic Leader (PAL)

PAL E-mail

PAL Cell Phone (optional)

New Student Transitions & First Year Experience

## **Minerva's Academic Curriculum (MAC)**

FYE 101: Succeed at the G is a Minerva's Academic Curriculum (MAC) Foundations course. MAC Foundations courses connect students to the campus community through university transition content, information literacy, and transferable skills acquisition to facilitate academic and personal development. In this MAC Foundations course, students will learn to:

1. Develop academic skills and demonstrate the ability to identify and use campus services and resources.
2. Develop goals and plans related to personal purpose, interests, or values between self and community.
3. Build connections between self and peers, faculty, and staff.
4. Critically evaluate information and media sources in a variety of formats.
5. Incorporate and cite sources accurately and correctly.

## **Course Description**

This course is designed to help new students transition successfully to academic and student life. Students will connect with the UNCG community, campus resources and opportunities, while developing skills essential for academic success, and beginning their journey to discovering their own purpose and potential.

## **Learning Objectives**

### **1. Connect with the UNC Greensboro Community**

- a. Form strong social connections by developing positive relationships with peers, staff, and faculty to develop a sense of belonging
- b. Understand the vast array of support services and resources available and experience meaningful exposure and use of these resources
- c. Build an affinity for UNC Greensboro through engagement and understanding of the university's mission and vision, history, traditions, and values

### **2. Foster Academic Success**

- a. Learn academic skills and techniques in addition to exercising critical thinking and critical reflection to improve academic performance
- b. Identify and use campus services and resources that contribute to their learning and success both within and beyond the classroom
- c. Critically evaluate information in a variety of formats and accurately incorporate credible information

### **3. Engage in Personal Development**

- a. Explore their sense of purpose, meaning, and direction as they begin their college experience
- b. Practice self-reflection and self-exploration
- c. Connect personal interests, values, and strengths with potential academic majors, goals, and career paths

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## COURSE DETAILS

### **Technology and Communication**

**Canvas:** This course will utilize Canvas for detailed assignment information, general notifications, email communication, and a calendar of events. Thus, you should regularly check the site for updates. Canvas also has free apps for phones and tablets. You can receive push notifications for things like new assignments and class announcements by going to Account > Notifications and editing your preferences.

**Starfish:** UNCG uses [Starfish](#) to help signal to you and others on campus when you may need additional support to achieve academic and personal success as a student. If you receive a Starfish [flag](#), it is time for you to take action! Flags do not directly affect your grade or carry any punitive consequence, but they are intended to signal that you need to make some changes in how you are approaching your coursework. Your FYE Instructor may also raise congratulatory Starfish [kudos](#) when you're doing really well, and [referrals](#) to specific UNCG offices when you might benefit from connecting with them. Starfish can be accessed by logging into [starfish.uncg.edu](http://starfish.uncg.edu).

**E-mail:** You are expected to check and utilize your UNCG email regularly. This will be the primary method of communication from your FYE Instructor and PAL, as well as official communication from UNCG.

**Electronic Devices:** Devices draw attention away from class and detract from the quality of learning for all. Cell phones are to be placed face up on the table/desk. If you need to use your phone (for emergency purposes), please be respectful to the rest of the class and take it outside. Use of laptops or tablets is strictly limited to note-taking or in-class activities, and not for email, chat, gaming, or casual internet browsing. Failure to adhere to the electronic devices policy can result in attendance and participation points being taken away. This decision is up to your FYE Instructor, and will be based on the severity of the situation.

### **Accommodations**

UNCG seeks to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must connect with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center (EUC), (336) 334-5440, [oars.uncg.edu](http://oars.uncg.edu). Your FYE Instructor can make necessary and appropriate arrangements to accommodate you, and all information will be kept confidential.

### **Health and Well-being**

Health and well-being impact learning and academic success. Throughout your time in the university, you may experience a range of concerns that can cause barriers to your academic success. These might include illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and Counseling & Psychological Services can help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available by calling 336-334-5340, going to <https://shs.uncg.edu/>, or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. For students in recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, the Spartan Recovery Program (SRP) also offers recovery support services. You can learn more about recovery and recovery support services at <https://shs.uncg.edu/srp> or by contacting [recovery@uncg.edu](mailto:recovery@uncg.edu).

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## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- 1) Attend Every Class.** Your success in this course will be greatly increased by your commitment to your attendance and participation. If you must miss class due to an authorized University activity, please provide written notification to your FYE Instructor prior to class. For other absences, contact your FYE Instructor prior to class. If an emergency prevents you from connecting with your FYE Instructor prior to class, make contact as soon as possible following the emergency.
- 2) Do the Work.** Your assignments should be typed in 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and submitted via Canvas prior to the start of class, unless otherwise noted. You will find the due dates for each assignment listed on page 6 of this syllabus. **Late assignments will result in additional loss of credit (one point per day), and no credit after three days.** Please talk with your FYE Instructor right away if you are going to have difficulty submitting an assignment on time. As a precaution, always save your graded assignments until after you have received your final course grade at the end of the semester.
- 3) Participate.** This is an interactive class, in which you and your peers will contribute to both the learning and teaching process. This exchange of ideas is what makes this course an impactful, quality learning experience. Therefore, we cannot reach our full potential as a class without your active participation. Keep in mind this is a seminar class, not a lecture class. As a result, you have the opportunity to offer your own insights, reflections, and questions each and every class. This is also an experiential learning course, which means most of the learning that takes place in this class will be a result of the experiences you share with your classmates. To encourage participation, there will be activities and assignments that appeal to a variety of learning preferences. If you participate in all of the class activities and assignments, and in a respectful manner, you will see the most benefit from this course. Be open to learning!
- 4) Be Respectful.** You will learn about a variety of diverse topics, and encounter values and opinions that will differ from your own. Everyone in this class should feel comfortable enough to participate and express their perspective. You are an important part of creating an atmosphere that makes this possible. To ensure an enjoyable, inclusive, and engaging classroom learning environment, you are expected to: openly share your ideas and express your opinions; respect the opinions, values, and identities of your classmates, FYE Instructor, PAL, and guests; and honor confidentiality when appropriate.
- 5) Be Honest.** You will be expected to adhere to the University Academic Integrity Policy. This policy is outlined at [osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity](https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity) and will also be covered in class. By submitting an assignment, each student is acknowledging their understanding and commitment to the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work for the course. There are six ways in which you can violate the Academic Integrity Policy: *cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, falsification, misuse of academic resources, plagiarism, and unauthorized behaviors*. You are expected to understand each of these terms and their implications, as unawareness of these violations will not excuse a violation of the policy. An infraction of the Academic Integrity Policy will result in a joint conference with your FYE Instructor to review the circumstances and consider possible sanctions for the actions taken. For more information, please refer to [osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity](https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity).

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## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

### 1) Attendance and Engagement (175 points)

You can earn points for your attendance and in-class participation for each class. Participation involves arriving to class on time, being fully alert in class, and engaging with quality contributions to our weekly class discussions and group work. This includes an activity at the end of each class, which you must complete as part of your participation points. You will find consistent attendance has a positive effect on your overall learning, as well as your final course grade (**175 points total**) – 35% of your final grade!

Since this is a seminar course, attendance and participation are vital to your success and acquisition of knowledge. Thus, you are expected to attend **all** class meetings and required experiences. An absence will result in a 0 for that day's attendance and participation points. This penalty may be waived for excused absences, such as (but not necessarily limited to); participation in an authorized University activity, participation in legal proceedings, family death or illness, religious obligations, personal illness, or weather-related emergencies. Please notify your FYE Instructor **before class** if you will miss for an aforementioned reason, though this does not guarantee an excused absence; the decision will be made at the discretion of your FYE Instructor. **Six or more** unexcused absences may result in a failing grade.

Tardiness disrupts the learning environment and is disrespectful to your classmates, FYE Instructor, and guest speakers. Tardiness will result in a partial deduction to your attendance points, and excessive and/or consistent tardiness may result in further penalty to your grade.

### 2) Critical Reflection Journals (60 points)

Throughout the semester, you will be expected to write a total of four critical reflection journals on various topics. Critical thinking is defined as "disciplined thinking that is clear, rational, open-minded, and informed by evidence" (Dictionary.com, 2022). These journals will help you develop and/or improve upon critical thinking skills, such as gathering facts, analyzing data, identifying assumptions, and presenting a compelling argument. Journal prompts are provided to guide your writing, and through your responses your FYE Instructor should specifically learn more about you, your transition, and your life at UNCG through your writing. Though you do not have to address each question in the prompt directly, your reflection should synthesize your thoughts about the prompt in a meaningful way.

### 3) Your Spartan Experiences (60 points)

Transitioning to college life is exciting, and experiencing UNCG first-hand will help you feel like a member of the Spartan community in no time. The purpose of this three-part assignment is to explore a variety of campus resources and opportunities that can help you **Succeed at the G**. So, take this opportunity to engage in experiences that will push you outside of your comfort zone, connect you with others, and build an affinity for the G. For this assignment, you will engage in three different experiences connected to our course learning objectives and complete a creative reflection on each experience.

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## 4) Build Your Success Network (30 points)

UNCG is full of helpful individuals, but these three in particular can support you during your first year: your FYE Instructor, your Peer Academic Leader, and your Academic Advisor. This support team is your “Success Network,” and you will meet with them at least once this semester to discuss your experiences and plan for the future.

**a) Meeting with your FYE Instructor (10 points)**

You will discuss your transition to college, how your classes are going this semester, your academic goals, and any questions about your experience at UNC Greensboro thus far with your FYE Instructor.

**b) Meeting with your PAL (10 points)**

You will have a meeting with your Peer Academic Leader (PAL) to discuss your transition to UNCG and classes for the semester.

**c) Meeting with your Academic Advisor (10 points)**

You must meet with your Academic Advisor to discuss your academic advising needs and receive your advising code as you prepare to register for the spring semester.

## 5) Career & Professional Development Group Project (80 points)

This project provides you with an opportunity to collaborate with a group of peers to explore a career path of interest to you. With your group, you will compile, assess, and present information related to the academics, experiences, and skills required for this career, as well as what a career in this field entails in terms of responsibilities, opportunities, and professional growth. To further develop your information literacy and communication skills, your group will conduct research on this career path and present your findings to the rest of the class. This project consists of four parts: a group proposal, an informational interview, a group presentation, and a group member evaluation.

## 6) How to Succeed at the G Paper and Presentation (80 points)

This two-part assignment is an opportunity for you to reflect on lessons you have learned throughout your time in FYE 101 and at UNCG, and develop an action plan for how you will continue to **Succeed at the G**. Part one of this assignment is a 6-8 minute presentation in which you will reflect on the lessons you have learned throughout your time at UNCG, and part two is a 3-5 page paper in which you will discuss what you are going to do with that knowledge, in the form of goal setting and action planning. Your lessons, goals, and plans should connect to all three FYE 101 learning objectives: 1) Connect with the UNC Greensboro Community, 2) Foster Academic Success, and 3) Engage in Personal Development.

## 7) Pre-Test, Post-Test, and Course Evaluation (15 points)

These three assignments will mark the very beginning and end of your FYE 101: Succeed at the G experience. The pre-and post-test will help provide insight on what you learned this semester, and the course evaluation will give you the opportunity to provide valuable feedback about your class, FYE Instructor, and PAL.

Attendance and Engagement	175 points	35%	Your Spartan Experiences (3)	60 points	12%
CPD Group Project	80 points	16%	Critical Reflection Journals (4)	60 points	12%
How to Succeed at the G Final Project	80 points	16%	Build Your Success Network (3)	30 points	6%
Pre-Test, Post-Test, and Course Evaluation	15 points	3%			

<b>Grading:</b> The following grading scale will be used to determine your final grade in this course.	93%+ = A = 463-500 points	87% = B+ = 433-447 points	77% = C+ = 383-397 points	67% = D+ = 333-347 points
	90% = A- = 448-462 points	83% = B = 413-432 points	73% = C = 363-382 points	63% = D = 313-332 points
		80% = B- = 398-412 points	70% = C- = 348-363 points	60% = D- = 298-312 points
				Below 60% = F = 0-297 points

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Week	Date	Topics	Assignments Due
Week 1	8/16	Welcome, Introductions, Course Overview, & Community Expectations	Complete Pre-Test (in class)
Week 2	8/21	Becoming a Spartan & How to Get Involved	About Yourself Critical Reflection Journal #1
	8/23	UNCG Campus Resources	
Week 3	8/28	#HowtoCollege	Your Spartan Experience #1
	8/30	Goal Setting & Success Planning	
Week 4	9/6	Skills for Academic Success Part One: Time Management	CPD Group Project Part One
Week 5	9/11	Skills for Academic Success Part Two: Note Taking	Reminder to identify an informational interview subject
	9/13	Skills for Academic Success Part Three: Study Strategies	Reminder to complete VIA Character Strengths Deadline to meet with your PAL
Week 6	9/18	Skills for Academic Success Part Four: Information Literacy	Your Spartan Experience #2
	9/20	VIA Character Strengths	
Week 7	9/25	Values & Knowing Your Why	VIA Character Strengths Critical Reflection Journal #2
	9/27	Identifying Your Purpose & Meaningful Work	
Week 8	10/2	Major & Career Exploration	Mid-Semester Critical Reflection Journal #3
	10/4	Academic Advising at UNCG	
Week 9	10/11	Holistic Well-Being & Mental Health	CPD Group Project Part Two
Week 10	10/16	Public Speaking & Presentation Skills	
	10/18	CPD Group Project	CPD Group Project Part Three & Four (in class)
Week 11	10/23	Understanding Culture	Gratitude & Impact Letter Critical Reflection Journal #4
	10/25	Understanding Diversity	Deadline to meet with your FYE Instructor
Week 12	10/30	Financial Literacy	Your Spartan Experience #3
	11/1	TBD - FYE Instructor & PAL Choice	
Week 13	11/6	How to Succeed at the G Presentations	How to Succeed at the G Final Presentation
	11/8		
Week 14	11/13	How to Succeed at the G Presentations	How to Succeed at the G Final Reflection Deadline to meet with your Academic Advisor
	11/15		
Week 15	11/20	TBD - FYE Instructor & PAL Choice	
Week 16	11/27	Find Your Way Here: Planning for the Rest of Your First Year	
	11/29	Last Day of FYE 101: Succeed at the G	Complete Post-Test & Course Evaluation (in class)

\*\*\*This syllabus may be revised and adapted throughout the semester to better serve the needs of the class. Additionally, your decision to remain in this class upon receipt of this syllabus serves as your acceptance of this syllabus as a binding contract, meaning you agree with the terms set forth and the expectations of you as a member of the class.\*\*\*