

College Life SPS 120

Instructors: M. Gibbons, Assistant Professor; Joan Kern, Academic Advisor/ Adjunct Professor and Rachel Roeckel, Head OA.

Office: Curtis 225 and 250

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****Please note that due to confidentiality, we will only correspond through Cedar Crest email accounts. Contact technology about having your emails forwarded to a different account such as home, work, etc.**

Office Hours: M. Gibbons: Tues. 3:45-6:15; Thurs. 3:45-6:15

Joan Kern: TBA

Rachel Roeckel: By Appointment

College Life SPS 120 is a First-Year Experience course designed to introduce students to the liberal arts, assist students in developing the skills necessary for the academic experience at Cedar Crest College, develop students' critical thinking abilities, and help students adjust to the academic and social life at Cedar Crest College. The course is taught by a team of dedicated individuals that includes a faculty member, an administrator and an upper-class Orientation Assistant. This 1-credit course meets every week on Thursdays from 11-11:50 for the duration of the fall semester.

During the second half of the fall semester, students will participate in College Life groups designed around a specific topic and will select a College Life group during the first half of the semester. Students who are in academic danger will be assigned to a specific College Life group at the discretion of the faculty advisor and the Director of Academic Services.

In order to receive a passing grade for the course, students must complete both parts with a passing grade.

Course Objectives:

SPS 120: College Life is designed to meet the following educational outcomes:

- Students will understand the definition of the Liberal Arts.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of College academic policies.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the academic advisor.
- Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the academic skills required for engagement at Cedar Crest College.

In order to attain these outcomes, SPS 120 has the following course objectives:

- Cedar Crest College focuses on the Liberal Arts, and students will learn what it means to study under the Liberal Arts philosophies.
- Understanding College policies is a crucial component of your academic experience. Your advisor, College Life staff leader, and College Life student leader will assist you in discovering the policies and procedures of the College.
- Your advisor serves as a source of information throughout your academic career. In College Life, your advisor will help you understand his or her role in your education.
- Critical thinking is an essential component of the academic experience at Cedar Crest College, and students will learn to think critically in terms of the required course readings.
- Other academic skills will be highlighted during the course, and students will gain an understanding of how those skills are crucial to academic success.

SPS 120 meets its educational outcomes through the following forms of assessment:

- Students will demonstrate understanding of the Liberal Arts through participation in class discussions.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of College policies and procedures through class discussion and adherence to policies.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the advisor through appropriate contact with their academic advisor.
- Students will demonstrate critical thinking through participation in class discussions.

- Students will demonstrate awareness of critical academic skills through participation in class discussions.

Additional Specific Course Requirements:

- **Students are expected to attend all classes. If an unforeseen circumstance would arise, please call Meridith Gibbons at Ext. 3740 or Joan Kern at Ext. 3618. Students who miss any of the 7 class periods may be dropped one or more letter grades.**

SPS 120: Course Schedule*

***The instructors reserve the right to make changes in this course schedule to meet the needs of students, including developing prerequisite knowledge/skills, reviewing/re-teaching content, etc.**

Date	Topic(s)	Assignment(s) Due
8/28	Mandatory Meeting to Discuss Schedule Modifications To Schedule	Questions
9/4	Syllabus Academic Calendar Drop/Add E-Companion FERPA Professionalism Rubric Hand out Gardner's Multiple Intelligence Survey	
9/11	Gardner's MI Academic Services Education Club Approaching Professors	Multiple Intelligence Survey Due
9/18	Things To Do In Allentown Field Trip to Curriculum Library	
9/25	Rachel's Q & A	

10/02	Meet at Blaney Computer Lab: Preparing For Registration	
10/9	PARTY!!!!	