

SPS 120
COLLEGE LIFE 101
Thursdays 11:00-11:50 a.m.
Fall 2009

Instructors:

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Course Description:

College Life 101 is a First-Year Experience course designed to introduce students to the liberal arts, assist students in developing the academic skills necessary for academic engagement at Cedar Crest College, develop students' critical thinking abilities, and orient students to live at Cedar Crest. Students will participate in both small group discussions and large group presentations led by faculty members and guest speakers. The course will be taught by a faculty member and facilitated by a staff member and an upper-class Orientation Assistant. This 1-credit course meets every week: Thursdays from 11-11:50 for the duration of the fall semester.

Grading Scale:

Attendance:	70%
Assignments/Participation	<u>30%</u>
	100%

Note: In order to receive a passing grade, students must complete and return the Student Satisfaction Inventory.

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 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.

Note: The following represents the tentative “classroom” schedule. Several weeks will involve instead mandatory attendance at selected events on campus. You will be informed in advance, either in class the previous week or by email, of the specific event you are required to attend.

Week 1: August 27, 2009

- Questions and Answers
- Introduce Academic Services
- Discuss Campus/Resident Life Activities
- Activities Fair Discussion
- Go to an Activity

Week 2: September 3, 2009

- Scavenger Hunt

Week 3: September 10, 2009

- Discuss Activities
- Organization/Time Management

Week 4: September 17, 2009

- Magical Mystery Tour of Allentown

Week 5: September 24, 2009

- Sarah Wessells led discussion on:
 - Sex, drugs and alcohol
 - Homesickness
 - Making new friends

Week 6: October 1, 2009

- Complete Student Satisfaction Inventory
- Topic: Preparing for registration
 - New curriculum
 - Appropriate course for next semester
 - On-line registration
 - SSIs

Week 7: October 8, 2009

- Topic: Pizza Party with Sue Secombe Cox, Executive Director of Alumnae Affairs, who will regale us with great stories of past days at Cedar Crest.