

College Life SPS 120  
Thursday, 11-11:50 a.m.  
Fall 2009

Instructors:

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Olga Roque	Professor of Philosophy	Instructor
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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 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. Half the semester will be spent with your College Life team; the second half will be spent in a 7 week mini-course that you will select! Participation in activities with fellow students and the teaching staff will be an integral component of the class. Selecting the activities will involve the students as well as the teaching staff.

Grading Policies

Attendance	70%
Assignments/Participation	30%

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

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

- ✓ Students will demonstrate knowledge of College academic policies
- ✓ Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the academic advisor
- ✓ Students will understand the definition of the Liberal Arts.

- ✓ Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills.
- ✓ Students will demonstrate knowledge of the academic skills requires for engagement at Cedar Crest College.

SPS 120 College Life 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 discussion.
- ✓ Students will demonstrate awareness of critical academic skills through participation in class discussions and completion of the class assignments.

## **Schedule**

August 27	<i>What you need to know to get started</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why College Life 101?</li> <li>• Where's the social life?</li> <li>• What's around the Lehigh Valley</li> </ul>
September 3	<i>What you need to survive in the classroom</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to use a syllabus</li> <li>• Absence policies</li> <li>• Communication</li> </ul>
September 10	<i>What's going on around campus?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of 1 event response paper</li> </ul>
September 17	<i>What you need to know about the library</i>
September 24	<i>Gabrielle's Guide to the Good Life</i>
October 1	<i>What you need to know to register for spring classes</i>  <i>The Liberal Arts Curriculum</i>
October 8	<i>What you need to know to go on from here.</i>

## **Assignments**

You will submit one writing assignment each week. Each one will be a reflection on an activity at the college that you attended. Three activities are mandatory: 1) You must attend the Activities Fair on August 26; 2) You must schedule an appointment with Karen Schoenborn at Academic Services and write about that experience; and 3) you must also write about the library tour that we have scheduled for you. Other than that, you can choose ANY 4 other activities to go to and write about.

For each event you attend, you must email a 1 page response to Gabrielle within 48 hours of the event. Your response must include the following information. Answer each question in full sentences and put it together in the form of an essay.

1. Your name
2. Date of event
3. Name of event
4. Description of event
5. What did you like or dislike about the event?
6. Did you learn anything new about the college, the community, yourself or others?
7. Would you recommend that others attend this or similar events?