

Cedar Crest College
College Life: SPS 120-10 (.5 credit)
Thursday 11-11:50 AM, Fall 2009
Miller 32

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College Life 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.

College Life has the following course objectives:

- To help students make a smooth transition to college life
- To help students make a smooth academic transition
- To introduce students to the expectations of college study, policies and procedures
- To connect students to campus.

College Life is designed to meet the following educational outcomes:

- Students will communicate their adjustment to the demands of college life.
- Students will understand the definition of the Liberal Arts. Cedar Crest College focuses on the Liberal Arts, and students will learn what it means to study under the Liberal Arts philosophies.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of college academic policies. 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.
- Students will articulate the principles of good scholarship and knowledge of the academic skills and expectation required for success at Cedar Crest College. Academic skills such as study habits, note-taking and time-management will be highlighted during the course and students will gain an understanding of how those skills are crucial to academic success.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of campus life opportunities, resources and activities.

- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the academic advisor. Your academic advisor serves as a source of information throughout your academic career.

College Life meets its educational outcomes through the following forms of assessment:

- Students will demonstrate responsibility and self-report their adjustment through participation in class discussions and assignments.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the Liberal Arts through participation in class discussions and maintenance of their own academic record of LAC fulfillments.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of College resources, policies, procedures and academic expectations through class discussion, adherence to policies and self-reporting through class discussions and assignments.
- Students will demonstrate awareness of critical academic skills through participation in class discussions.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the advisor through appropriate contact with their academic advisor.

Class Policies: We fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and the Classroom Protocol Code as stated in the *Student Handbook*, pages 5-9

Grading: You will earn a grade based on **attendance** and **participation**.

- Attendance: 10 points earned for each class meeting; attendance is 70% of the grade.
- 3 Assignments: 10 points earned for each assignment; assignments are 30% of the grade. No credit is awarded for assignments which are submitted late.

Important Dates:

- **Drop/Add period ends: August 31, 4 PM**
- **Labor Day Holiday: Monday, September 7**
- **Fall Break: Monday and Tuesday, October 12 and 13**
- **President's Inauguration: Friday, October 23 (No Classes)**
- **Course Withdrawal Deadline: Monday, November 9, 4 PM**
- **Thanksgiving Break: Wednesday-Sunday, November 25-November 29**
- **Classes End: Tuesday, December 8- Follow Friday's schedule.**
- **Final Exams: TBA during Friday, December 11-Tuesday, December 15**

Meeting Dates and Topics

Always bring your folders to the College Life meetings

Class #1: August 27

Introductions, Folders, *Liberal Arts Curriculum* preview and Major's checklist, voicemail/email check, campus services, questions and discussion about course expectations, classroom protocol, plagiarism, email etiquette, visit the Chair's office
What is the ratio of study time relevant to class time?

Class #2: September 3 Meet in Miller 20

College Website/Academic programs, study skills, note taking.

ASSIGNMENT# 1: Obtain information about an activity you would be interested in joining. Include the following: a description of the activity, a contact person, and meeting days/times

DUE: Next Week

Class #3: September 10

Campus involvement, time management; do you prioritize or procrastinate? Stress management

ASSIGNMENT #2: Email at least 2 questions to Tamara by Sept. 16.

Class #4: September 17

Tamara's Day

Class #5: September 24 Meet in SC 136

Science Panel- Dr. Pamela Kistler, Chair of Chemical and Physical Sciences, will conduct a Science Panel to introduce you to science majors, clubs, and internships

Before entering 136: Please sign the attendance sheet on a table outside of SC 136; if you do not sign in, you will be counted as absent.

ASSIGNMENT #3: Create a list of spring courses you plan to register and alternate courses as back-ups for the LAC. Include the Dept. name, course number, section number and type for example, BIO 122 00 2; schedule a meeting with your academic advisor to discuss it. Course list and advising folder must be brought to your advising meeting with Mrs. Malitsch. A sign-up sheet will be posted. DUE DATE: October 8th (last class)

Class #6: October 1

Spring Registration discussion; LAC and major's courses.

Class #7: October 8

Pizza Party!!! Reflection on *College Life*; Trip to the DaVinci Center