

THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

ADM 1510: Foundations for Academic and Professional Development

Spring 2008: Saturdays, 8:30am-10:30am

Dates: June 21, 28, July 12, 19, August 2, 9, 23

Instructor: Ruth Hickerson, Ph.D.

Phone: 303- 960-8395 Email: rhickers@du.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In *Foundations for Academic and Professional Development*, students are introduced to the mission and goals of The Women's College and how these promote academic, professional, and personal development in a community of engaged learning. A series of course assignments address academic, professional, and personal development and introduce students to reflective and critical thinking. In addition, students gain an understanding of the general education and major/minor curricula of The Women's College, and how these provide frameworks for their chosen course of study. The course also provides an overview of women in U.S. history and of the issues facing women in a contemporary, rapidly changing world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In order to provide students with an overview of academic life at The Women's College, students are introduced to

- Liberal arts education in a female-centered learning environment
 - Academic commitment and claiming an education
 - Practices for reflective and critical thinking
 - Economic realities of women's lives
 - Legacies of women's education and women's history
 - The college curricula and program majors and minors
 - Career and professional development
-

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

The Women's College fully endorses the University of Denver's Honor Code and the procedures put forth by the Office of Citizenship and Community Standards. Academic dishonesty—including plagiarism, cheating, and falsification of data and research—is in violation of the code and will result in a failing grade for the assignment or for the course.

As student members of a community committed to academic integrity and honesty, it is your responsibility to become familiar with the DU Honor Code and its procedures (www.du.edu/honorcode).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Attendance is required on time in each class session, along with active participation in class discussions. Attendance is crucial to your successful completion of this course and will be a deciding factor in your grade. If an emergency arises, it is your responsibility to contact another student for information and any missed assignments and to inform me of the reason for your absence (303.960.8395).

1. Attendance in all class sessions
 2. Participation in class discussions
 3. Completion of assigned readings prior to class
 4. Completion of the following assignments (these will be posted to Blackboard):

Academic Commitment Assignment	15 pts.	Due Session 2
Personal Reflection Assignment	20 pts.	Due Session 4
Economic and Career Development Assignment	20 pts.	Due Session 5
Women's History Assignment	20 pts.	Due Session 6
Oral in-class presentation (5 minutes)	15 pts.	Due Session 7
 5. Attendance and participation in two workshop sessions (5 points each) 10 pts. Conducted Session 3
-
- Total Points 100 pts.

GRADING POLICY:	A	94-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
	A-	90-93	C+	77-79	D	63-66
	B+	87-89	C	73-76	D-	60-62
	B	83-86	C-	70-72	F	Less than 59

SATURDAY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE: July 12th

Strategies for Effective Career Management (9:45 – 10:30 am)

Using Penrose Library Research Tools (8:30 to 9:30 am)

READINGS AND COURSE MATERIALS: All texts in their most recent editions are available at the DU Bookstore.

1. **REQUIRED:** Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*. First Vintage edition. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1991 [© 1984]. ISBN: 0679 73477 5
2. **REQUIRED:** Roberts, Judy M. *Effective Study Skills: Maximizing Your Academic Potential*. Second Edition. New York: Prentice-Hall, 2004. ISBN: 0131117289

PREPARATION FOR THE FIRST CLASS: Read the course syllabus carefully and come prepared to discuss it in class. Begin reading *The House on Mango Street*.

Class Session Class Topics

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | <p><i>Introduction to The Women's College Educational Model and Learning Community</i></p> <p>Course overview, discussion of syllabus and course requirements</p> <p>Assignment for Class Two:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Academic Commitment Assignment, a one-two page essay</p> |
|---|--|

Complete reading *The House on Mango Street* and the author's "Introduction"

- 2 ***TWC Educational Model: Self and Identity Development***
Critical reflection discussion, *The House on Mango Street* and author's "Introduction"
Review of first two sections in *Effective Study Skills*
Academic Commitment Assignment due in class
 Assignment for Class Four:
 Personal Reflection Assignment, a three-page essay on *The House on Mango Street*
- 3 ***TWC Educational Model: Economic and Professional Development***
Career and Professional Planning, Using Penrose Library Resources
Assignment for Class Four:
 Read "On Understanding the Liberal Arts" for class discussion
- 4 ***TWC Educational Model: Academic Development***
The Liberal Arts tradition and The Women's College Curriculum
Personal Reflection Assignment due in class
Assignment for Class Five:
 Economic and Professional Development Assignment
 Women's History Reading Assignment, Women's History Assessment
 Complete reading Internet materials on women's history (links posted to Blackboard)
- 5 ***TWC Educational Model: Social and Relational Development***
Overview: U.S. women's history; Gender and Women's Studies
Economic and Career Development Assignment due in class
Assignment for Class Six:
 Women's History Essay Assignment
 Read "Chapter 12: Critical Reading and Thinking" in *Effective Study Skills* for class discussion only
- 6 ***TWC Educational Model: Critical Thinking Development***
Discussion of "Critical Reading and Thinking"
Women's History Assignment due in class
 Assignment for Class Seven:
 Prepare a five-minute oral presentation on The Three Most Valuable Insights You Have Gained This Quarter
- 7 ***TWC Educational Model:***
Transformation of Women's Lives through Education
In-class oral student presentations (five minutes each)
Summary discussion and student plans for next quarter

Complete course evaluations in PRC