UNIV 1301

Course Description

UNIV 1301 is a course that provides a common first-year experience, wherein students employ their agency to develop strategies for academic, career, and lifelong success. This course will help students build a foundational network of support to increase their sense of belonging and commitment to the University. UNIV 1301 will prepare students for internships, employment, undergraduate research, and community-engaged learning experiences. Students will engage in enriching experiences to understand and develop their personal strengths, enabling them to succeed in college and beyond.

Learning Outcomes:

✓ Students will increase their sense of agency by exploring, reflecting on, and documenting their entering student experience to clarify academic and professional aspirations
✓ Students will participate in and reflect upon campus and community experiences to expand and deepen their sense of belonging at UTEP and in the local community
✓ Students will engage as members of an academic community by developing reading, writing, and critical thinking skills transferable to their professional and life goals
✓ Students will participate in meaningful hands-on learning and enriching experiences to identify, assess, and strengthen their professional and leadership skills
✓ Students will experience an environment of trust by developing a network of faculty, staff, peers, and community members to establish a strong foundation of academic and professional support

UTEP EDGE: You will become more aware of the UTEP Edge and your Edge Advantages through this course. You will become more familiar with and strengthen the many assets you bring to the university.
Contact Information

Instructor Information:
Name: Karina Calder
Email: kacalderon@utep.edu
Office location: UGLC 120
Office hours: MW 10:30a-11:30a & by appointment

Peer Leader Information:
Name: Mimi Aguirre
E-mail: miaguirre4@miners.utep.edu
Office location: UGLC 214
Office hours: M 12:30p-2:00p and F 9:30a-11:00a

Librarian Information:
Name: Angela Lucero
Email: ajmartinez5@utep.edu
Office location: LIBR 214

Academic Advisor Information:
Name: Lucy Snelson
E-mail: lsnelson@utep.edu
Office location: AAC

UTEP Events
Work @ UTEP Job Fair
WR Sept 1 & 2 | 9a-2p | Leech Grove

Career EXPO
R Sept 16 | 9a-2p | Don Haskins Center
F Sept 17 | 9a-2p | Virtual (Job Mine)

Graduate & Professional Schools Fair
W Oct 6 | 10a-2p | Union E, 3rd floor
R Oct 7 | 10a-2p | Virtual (Job Mine)

Additional events listed on the UTEP Events page: https://events.utep.edu/

Talented Students / Enriching Experiences / Lifelong Success

Course Assignments

Professional Preparation: You will participate in a series of professional preparation activities that include identifying and building your strengths, exploring possible careers and internships, participating in a mock interview, and creating a résumé. These assignments collectively add up to 200 points.

Academic Success: You will engage in critical thinking and exploratory assignments related to academic success skills, academic advising, and library resources. You will complete a major group project with the guidance of a research librarian. You will also meet with the instructional team four times during the term. These assignments collectively add up to 250 points.

Engagement: You will engage with campus resources and participate in UTEP events and campus talks to increase your sense of belonging at UTEP. These assignments collectively add up to 100 points.

Common Reading: Throughout the semester, you will read one woman’s personal and academic journey. Using her journey as a starting point, you will reflect on how your academic journey is building your five pillars of academic success (agency, belonging, engagement, academic success, and professional preparation). These assignments collectively add up to 100 points.

Digital Story: Throughout the semester, you will participate in various course, campus, and community activities that will help shape your entering student experience at UTEP. You will document these experiences and create a multimodal digital story. The digital story is collectively worth 150 points.

Daily Work: Throughout the semester, you will participate in activities and complete assignments that help develop your five pillars of success. These assignments, along with your attendance grade and UNIV 1301 End-of-Semester Survey completion, collectively add up to 200 points.

ESE Speaker Series: These one-hour talks are sponsored by the Entering Student Experience and are required viewing for UNIV 1301 students. You may attend the talk live (via Zoom) OR watch the recording of the talk. You must first register for the talk here. Recordings will be available later that day here.

Course Point Values

Here are the point values for the major assignments you will complete in UNIV 1301:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Prep</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Success</td>
<td>250 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Read</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Story</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Work</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,000 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grade distribution for UNIV 1301 is as follows:

- A 900-1000 points
- B 800-899 points
- C 700-799 points
- D 600-699 points
- F 0-599 points

If you have any questions about the graded feedback you receive from your instructor or peer leader, email your instructor to set up an appointment to discuss your concerns.
UNIV 1301 Attendance Policy

University policy indicates that attendance is mandatory for all freshmen-level courses, including UNIV 1301. You are expected to attend all class periods and engage in discussions, activities, workshops, assignments, and instructor/peer leader meetings. Participation and attendance is part of your final grade. You may miss up to three (3) class meetings without penalty. If you experience an emergency this semester, please contact the instructor ASAP to make adjustments.

Course Drop / Withdrawal Policy

If you
1) fail to consistently submit coursework (lack of effort),
2) fail to consistently attend class and/or log into the Blackboard course shell (neglect), or
3) have a course average of 70% or below at or after midterm,
you may be dropped from the course at the instructor’s discretion. If you decide to drop the course yourself, it is your responsibility to contact your academic advisor and initiate the process. Dropping a course may impact your financial aid, scholarships, military funding, or student visa, so it is important that you consult with your advisor if you are thinking of dropping. If you drop the course or are dropped by the instructor before the Course Drop Deadline, you will receive a grade of “W” (or “withdrawal”), which counts toward the 6-drop limit. If you drop yourself or are dropped by the instructor after the Deadline, you will receive an “F” for the course.

Late Work Policy

Late work is not accepted in UNIV 1301. Quizzes and in-class assignments cannot be made up. If you are going to miss class, submit your work ahead of time. This policy applies to both university-sanctioned and personal absences.

Course Management System

Blackboard Ultra is the online course management system we will use throughout the semester. You can access Blackboard through my.utep.edu. The Blackboard app is great for course announcements, emails, and discussions. However, a desktop or laptop computer is recommended for downloading and/or reading course materials, uploading documents or submitting assignments. The Help Desk, 747-5257, can assist with access. You must check Blackboard daily for course announcements, assignments and updates.

Technical Requirements

- A computer with internet access. This course cannot be completed without access to a computer or the Internet. Inability to complete an assignment due to the limitations of the Blackboard app on phones or tablets is not an acceptable reason to miss an assignment or to not follow deadlines or directions.
- A web browser that supports Blackboard, YouTube, TED Talks, Yuja, Kanopy, and other forms of media as needed throughout the course.
- Microsoft Office365 or equivalent. Assignments must be submitted as a Word document (doc or docx) or PDF. Attachments in any other format will not be graded.

You can download a free copy of Microsoft Office as a UTEP student here.

Assignment Format

All assignments submitted in UNIV 1301 should follow this format unless otherwise stipulated by the instructor:

Calibri | 11pt font | one-inch margins | double-spacing

UTEPI Policies

ADA: The ADA requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with disabilities. Please contact CASS at 747-5148, Union East 106, or cass@utep.edu.

Academic Integrity: Scholastic dishonesty is never tolerated by UTEP or the Entering Student Program. All suspected cases are reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for review. For more info, click here.

Copyright and Fair Use: The university requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. Students are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend students nor assume any responsibility for student violations. Violations of copyright laws could subject students to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under university policies.

Student Conduct: [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Conduct and Discipline]. Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents’ Rules and Regulations, which are available here.

Final Exam Policy: Exemption from final examination may not be given. Final examinations are scheduled to be two hours, forty-five minutes in length and take place during the final examination period. It is the policy of the university not to administer a second final examination in the course. It is also university policy that students shall not have more than two final examinations in a single day. In the unlikely event that the examination schedule results in a student having three final examinations on a single day, the faculty member upon the request of the student shall reschedule the second of that student’s three examinations.
Inclusivity Statement

Our students come from all walks of life and so do your instructors and peer leaders. This UNIV 1301 course is committed to cultivating a culture of inclusion and connectedness. Let us work together to create a learning environment in which each person’s name, pronouns, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, color, ability, nationality, and ethnic ancestry are respected.

COVID-19 Policy

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Helpful Campus Resources

Academic Advising Center  https://www.utep.edu/advising/
Counseling and Psychological Services  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/
Center for Accommodations and Support Services  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/
Financial and Social Support Services (FSSS)  https://www.utep.edu/advising/students_we_serve/fhar.html
Food Pantry  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/foodpantry/
Foster, Homeless, Adopted Resources (FHAR)  https://www.utep.edu/advising/students_we_serve/fhar.html
History Tutoring Center  https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/history/resources/student-resource/history-tutoring-center.html
Math Resource Center for Students (MaRCS)  https://www.utep.edu/science/math/marcs/
Military Student Success Center  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/mssc/
Miner Learning Center  https://www.utep.edu/mlc/
Student Financial Aid  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/financialaid/
Student Health & Wellness Center  https://www.utep.edu/chs/shc/
Student Success Helpdesk  https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-helpdesk.html
University Career Center  https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/careers/
University Library  https://www.utep.edu/library/
University Writing Center  https://www.utep.edu/uwc
UTEP Edge:  https://www.utep.edu/edge
UTEP Police Department  https://www.utep.edu/police