



ENGR 1034 First-Year Hypatia Seminar, Fall 2007

Instructor Information

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Additional Instructors

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Class Time & Location

Tuesday 8-8:50 AM Holden 114
Thursday 8-8:50 AM Smyth 146

Important Course Credit Notice

Course credits earned in ENGR 1034 **cannot** be applied toward graduation requirements. These credits are applicable in determining full time status, financial aid, and other eligibility issues. Grades received are computed in the term and cumulative QCAs.

Course Information

This course will discuss success strategies designed for freshman engineering students who are participants of the Hypatia residential community.

This course is designed to assist you in your efforts to become a successful engineering student at Virginia Tech. It provides you with the information necessary to become successful academically, professionally, and personally. From an academic viewpoint, this course is built around the theme that learning is both an individual and a collaborative process. You must determine what works best for you while learning how to utilize the skills and minds of others around you.

Specific areas that will be covered include:

1. *Professional Development:* Cover Letter, Thank You Letter, and Resume Writing, VT Career Services, Engineering Expo, Interviewing, Written and Oral Presentation Skills, Internships and Co-ops, Networking with Employers
2. *Academic Success Strategies:* Time Management, Study Skills, Test Taking Skills, Stress Management

3. *Diversity: Gender Issues in Engineering, Engineering in a Global Workplace*
4. *Personal Development: Service Learning, Team Building, Personal Health Issues*

Goals

1. To foster achievement in first-year engineering students.
2. To enhance personal study skills and habits.
3. To gain a sense of confidence in academic ability.
4. To identify and employ strategies and skills for academic, personal, and professional success.

Expectations

We expect this class to be a very interactive and collaborative session. We will have many opportunities to engage with each other and with guest speakers. Discussions of personal experiences and opinions are important and valued. You are encouraged to make suggestions about your needs as freshman engineering students and constructively share the ideas that you believe help you develop as a young pre-professional.

It is expected that each student can earn an A in this course by actively participating in class, completing assignments, and attending Hypatia activities. Most importantly, you will succeed in this course (and others) if you approach it with an open mind and willingness to learn.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will not be accepted unless there is an emergency/illness. Any student who wishes to turn in a late assignment must **first** seek approval from the instructor. All assignments should be submitted at the beginning of the class on the date it is due except where noted.

Honor System

I am committed to academic integrity. Violations of the Virginia Tech Honor System will be handled according to the Virginia Tech policy on academic dishonesty. Violations of the Virginia Tech Honor System include:

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Falsification of work or data

If you are ever unsure if something is academically honest, ask the instructor. Never assume that what is appropriate in one class is appropriate in another. No one gets in trouble for asking what is expected of them! For more information about the Virginia Tech Honor System visit: <http://www.honorsystem.vt.edu>

Cell Phones and Computer Use

All cell phones must be turned off prior to the start of class. Laptop computers are to be used in class only when they are necessary for a classroom exercise. Students who do not comply with this policy will lose points for professionalism.

Course Books

1. **SEC Planner** - You should receive a free copy of the SEC planner by the 2nd week of class in ENGE 1024. **(REQUIRED)**

Special Accommodations

Any student with special needs or circumstances (i.e. religious conflicts, disabilities, etc.) should meet with the course instructor during office hours to discuss accommodations and/or special circumstances.

Evaluation

Attendance

Students are expected to be present at each class session. Much of this class will be discussion based. It is imperative that students attend regularly and participate. Students will lose one full letter grade for every absence over two.

Assignments

Assignments are applications related to weekly topics. Assignments will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard at least one week before the assignment's due date.

Group Project

Students will work in teams to complete a group project. Students will answer the question "Why choose VT Engineering?" by producing a 3-5 minute multimedia presentation on DVD/CD. More information will be provided by the instructor.

Academic Advisor Interview

Each student is required to complete a meeting with his academic advisor. This meeting is an opportunity for the student and the faculty member to discuss topics covered in the EngE class and any that may relate to the goals of ENGE 1024. The meeting will also serve as a chance for students to become familiar with meeting with their advisor to discuss academic and career related issues. Additional information about this assignment will be provided later in the semester.

Multicultural Challenge

Each student is required to complete a multicultural experience through the watching of a film, participating in an activity, or the reading of a book. A one-page reflection paper must be submitted to summarize the challenge experience. More information will be provided by the instructor.

Individual Presentation

Each student is required to deliver an individual PowerPoint presentation to the small seminar class. Additional information about this assignment will be provided later in the semester.

Service Learning Project

Each student is required to complete at least six hours of community service. Students may pick one of the projects provided by the instructor or they may find a local service learning project. All service learning projects not provided by the instructor must be approved by the instructor **prior** to the start of the project. We encourage you to participate in any service project that serves to benefit the community and the "greater good" of society.

At the completion of the service learning project, students must submit a 1-2 page written paper on the service learning experience. More detailed information will be provided about the service learning project later in the semester.

Other Activities as Assigned

Evaluation Process

Assignments

Hypatia Webpage Profile	25	}	175
Plan for Academic Success	25		
Extracurricular Involvement	25		
Expo I	25		
Resume	25		
Expo II	25		
Cover Letter/Thank You Letter	25		
Attendance/Participation/Professionalism*	100	}	825
Participation in 2 nd Year Planned Activities	125		
Academic Advisor Interview	75		
Individual Presentation	75		
Group Project	200		
Multicultural Challenge	125		
Service Learning Project	125		

Total Points Possible 1000

*Professionalism entails coming to class on time, being attentive in class, completing individual assignments, fulfilling your commitments (doing what you say you will), and being respectful of your instructors and other class members during class, in discussion, and in any electronic setting (email, etc.).

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used:

1000-940	A
939-900	A-
899-870	B+
869-840	B
839-800	B-
799-770	C+
769-740	C
739-700	C-
699-670	D+
669-640	D
639-600	D-
<600	F

Remember, you will succeed in this course and many others if you approach it with an open mind and willingness to learn.

Galileo 1054 and Hypatia 1034 Syllabus

Date	Topics	Assignments Given	Assignments Due
8/21 T	Introductions & Expectations		
8/23 R	Team Building Activities	Group Project/ Extracurricular Involvement	
8/28 T	"Float Your Marbles"		
8/30 R	Academic Success/Resumes	Plan for Academic Success/Resume	
9/4 T	Resume Workshop (Bring Laptop)		Plan for Academic Success
9/6 R	Service Learning & Expo Prep	Service Learning/Expo I	
9/11 T	Check-in on Life		Extracurricular Involvement
9/13 R	Career Panel Presentation	Expo II	Expo I
9/18 T	Corporate Representative (Study Skills)	Academic Advisor Interview	Resume
9/20 R	Career Panel Presentation		
9/25 T	Growing Diversity at VT	Multicultural Challenge	Expo II
9/27 R	Written Communication		
10/2 T	Cover Letter/Thank You Letter in-class assignment		
10/4 R	Group Project Work in-class		
10/9 T	No Class—Fall Break		
10/11 R	Financial Accountability		
10/16 T	Mid-Semester Check-in		
10/18 R	No Class-Group Project Work by arrangement		
10/23 T	<i>My Plan</i> Assessments		
10/25 R	Presentation Skills	Individual Presentations	Academic Advisor Interview
10/30 T	Pilot 2 nd Year Projects		
11/1 R	Interpretation of <i>My Plan</i>		
11/6 T	Individual Presentations		Individual Presentations—All Due
11/8 R	Team Development/Intro to 2 nd Year		Group Project
11/13 T	Individual Presentations		Multicultural Challenge
11/15 R	Viewing of Group Presentations		
11/20 T	No Class-Thanksgiving Break		
11/22 R	No Class-Thanksgiving Break		
11/27 T	Stress Management		Service Learning
11/29 R	Viewing Group Presentations		
12/4 T	Course Evaluation/Assessment		
12/6 R	No Class—Reading Day		