

CSSB 1000

COLLEGE SUCCESS FOR SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES



A HISTORY OF COLLEGE SUCCESS

In 2015, Chattanooga State decided to work together to create a college success course that shared common themes and content across the various divisions. Each division had at least one course developer, and together these individuals formed a learning community to develop eight College Success courses (one for each division). Personal and College Success (RI 100) was changed to include shared content across the entire campus, with each division adding information specific to the majors within those individual divisions.

The new course description?

"This course will provide students with the skills essential to succeeding in the college setting.

Focus will be on understanding the role of a college student and the application of academic success strategies, work ethic, and well-being. This course will build a foundational level of communication, information literacy, and critical thinking skills. Students will explore their interests, abilities and engage in career research to formulate a career direction. This course will prepare students for college life by offering critical information and providing an ongoing support system, as needed, throughout the first semester."

In 2018, it was approved for all first-time, full-time freshman be required to take college success as a part of their education plan. Our data shows that persistence has increased dramatically since students began taking this course as a requirement. This is attributed to creating a sense of belonging for students, exposing students to faculty and staff across the campus, and introducing students to the support resources that are available to them to aid in their success.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

For this course, I have already loaded your shell for you. The shell includes all of the material that you will need for this semester, with additional materials, should you decide to go in a different direction with some of the information.

There are a few things that you need to do in order to get your shell ready for your students on August 15, 2022:

- 1.Go to the homepage of your course. Complete the information found in the second announcement. At a minimum, you should include your name, virtual office link and hours, office phone, and leave the information concerning email (be sure to either add your alternate email or delete that bullet point).
- 2.Go to course content and choose "Getting Started". Here you will need to update the section called "Communication." Put the same information here that you put on the homepage announcement.
- 3.Go back to the homepage. In the first announcement, you will see a spot that says "Welcome message or video from the instructor." I would encourage you to put a welcome video here so that your students can recognize you before the first day of school. Keep it short, sweet, and engaging!

COURSE SUGGESTIONS

College Success for Social and Behavioral Sciences is divided into five modules, lining up with the other divisions on campus:

Module One: WELCOME to Chattanooga State and College Success

Module Two: How to Succeed in COLLEGE (Part One-Skills)

Module Three: How to Succeed in COLLEGE (Part Two- the ISLOs)

Module Four: How to Succeed in Your CAREER

Module Five: How to Succeed in LIFE.

Several of us have worked long and hard over the years to make sure that the course is organized to meet the needs of our students and to incorporate best practices for the first year experience. The assignments and information provided in the course have all been developed through a college success learning community. In addition, the order has been formed based on success stories and thought to the development of the student throughout the semester.

However, I would like to make two suggestions of activities that you should start sooner rather than later in the course.

In Module Three, Exploring the ISLOs, under Communication Skills, there is an assignment called "Five Minutes of Me". This is a great assignment to use in order to get to know your students. In fact, I would suggest that you make one yourself for your students to be able to get to know you better.

The last assignment that I would encourage introducing earlier in the semester is the "Campus Scavenger Hunt". This is found in Module Three, Exploring the ISLOs, under Work Ethic. This is a great way to build teamwork with your students, and to help them explore the campus early on.

Another valuable tidbit- there are iPad carts that can be used for your courses, if you are not already housed in a computer lab for your class. Currently, there are iPad carts available for checkout by emailing kelli.yates@chattanoogastate.edu

Finally, I have two activities in my office you can check out/borrow, if you need to do so. One is a "College Term Bingo" that is super fun and a great end of semester game. The other is a board game called "The Finish Line." These are great back up plans for days gone wrong.



WHO'S IN MY TRIBE?

As you may remember, we have many sections of College Success for Social and Behavioral Sciences this semester. We will have one online section, one virtual section, two high school sections, one Gates Scholars section, eight Social and Behavioral Sciences sections, and one second seven week sessions.

I am including a list of everyone teaching for us this semester, and then you have a built in network of people that you can bounce ideas off of, network with, ask for help, or just email a quick hello to so that no one feels alone.

INSTRUCTOR	OFFICE	PHONE EMAIL	CLASSES
	V.I.V	I II OIL LIVIAIL	CLAUGED

MW	2:00-3:15	
TR	8:15-9:45	Brainerd
MW	9:30-10:45	
TR	11:00-12:15	
MW	9:00-10:15	DVC
TR	9:30-10:50	East Ridge
TR	2:00-3:15	
MW	11:00-12:15	
TR	11:00-12:15	
MW	11:00-12:15	
MW	9:30-10:45	
TR	11:00-12:15	Second 7

You should also be aware of the following name and information:

HIDDEN ITEMS

When I was creating the course for this semester, there was no way that I could use everything in the course. So I chose the items that fit our focus best. Here is a brief explanation of what is hidden.

MODULE ONE

The only thing that is currently hidden in Module One that you might want to incorporate into your classes is ePortfolio. For Social and Behavioral Sciences, it is less useful than it might be in some other majors (except for education majors). There is a powerpoint for "Adopting an ePortfolio", and there is also an assignment where the students could receive points for creating an ePortfolio.

MODULE TWO

For Module Two, I have hidden a few assignments and pieces of information. You can choose to implement them into your course. The first is an assignment called "Study Smarter- Study Skills Activity". The second is called "Track and Reflect on How to Use Your Time." My reasoning for hiding these is that during a seven week section of this course, we are focused on how to make them successful in their transition to Chattanooga State. These assignments are valuable, but I would consider them content to use when we have fulfilled our first mission.

MODULE THREE

Module Three is an amazing source of wonderful activities. I have hidden a few items in it, but it is not because they are not important. Right now they are hidden because I wasn't sure how they were going to be handled. Once I learn more about how we will proceed with them, I will let you know.

- 1. The first is the ISLO Challenge. We have an escape room on campus, for students to participate in together, but we also have an online escape room now. There are several activities hidden related to this in the shell, and we will use them later.
- 2. The second is the information on financial aid materials. There is some good information here, but once again- it couldn't all fit in. But you can look at it and see if there is something that you are interested in including. I left it in there for that reason. In addition, there is also a personal budget activity.
- 3. The third thing is the diversity, equity, and inclusion section. This is a powerful section with some amazing information. I would say this section alone could take two weeks. But we don't have two weeks. Feel free to use it!

MODULE FOUR

Module Four slows down slightly, but it is still full of great information. I hid the cover letter activity and the hiring case study. These are both great tools and assignments, but as first-time, full-time freshman, I wasn't sure this was the necessary course for them to be in for our division. Also, since this is first seven weeks, we can talk to the students about registering for the spring semester, but it won't actually be able to happen until the second seven weeks.

MODULE FIVE

For Module Five, I hid the wellness activity and reflection, as well as the activity related to community service. Once again, amazing information but we have to focus on the course purpose first and foremost.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

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POTENTIAL SPEAKERS

In order to make sure that you have all of the resources that you need, I have compiled a list of helpful contacts, as well as potential speakers. Please feel free to reach out on your own to schedule a potential speaker, and always feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or snide remarks.

Helpful Contacts:
Department Head
Phone
Email
Dean
Phone
Email
Potential Speakers:
Academic Advisor
Phone
Email
Possible Topics: scholarships, advising, registration
Coordinator of Financial Literacy
Phone
Email
Possible Topics: financial aid, budgeting, scholarships, financial literacy
Academic Advisor
Phone
Email
Possible Topics: scholarships, advising, registration
Coordinator of BOSS (Building Outstanding Student Scholars)
Coordinator of BOSS (Building Outstanding Student Scholars) Phone
Email
Possible Topics: BOSS, DEI,
Director of Student Support
Phone
Email
Possible Topics: counseling, single stop resources, Veteran services, Tiger Cupboard
Director of the Center for Access & Disability Services
Phone
Email

Possible Topics: disability services, equity

