

Course Logistics and Instructor Contact Information

Course Title: Student Success Seminar

Course Number and Section: NURS 1000 section 063

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

Last Day to Withdraw: November 4, 2025

Instructor Name: Mrs. Leah Velarde

Office Location: UC3150B

Phone Number: 903.566.7024

Email: lvelarde@uttyler.edu

Best way to contact: email

Office Hours: Monday, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m., [Zoom option](#) available, and by appointment

Course Information

Course Overview:

This course provides incoming students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge, skills, and strategies for success in succeeding in their academic programs, having a full educational experience, and earn their degrees.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After successfully completing this course, the incoming student can:

- Understand the value of various strategies and resources, including AI, to succeed in academic settings.
- Network with others in the discipline and workplace associated with the discipline.
- Identify individuals in colleges and across UT Tyler who can assist them.
- Articulate the importance of a growth mindset, emotional intelligence, and having a strong organizational and study strategies toolbox to have a successful college career.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

There is no required textbook for this course. We will use materials shared in this Canvas course as our texts.

Graded Assignment Requirements Information

To earn credit in this First Year Experience Course, you must complete 12 of the 14 modules. That's it – complete 12 of the 14 modules.

Grade Categories and Weights

In this course, you'll engage in the different types of learning experiences.

- Discussion Boards:
- Videos
- Creating a Collage
- Self-Checks

As you must complete all components of each module, all categories are weighted equally.

Grading Scale

Assigned Grade	Criterion
CR - credit	Completed 12 modules
NC – no credit	Did not complete 12 modules

Late Work and Make-Up Exams:

You have the entire week of class to complete the components in the modules. Therefore, you should not need time to submit late work. If you were ill during one of the weeks, it is paramount for you to contact your instructor immediately. However, if you get behind, you may complete your modules until the last day of the coursework – not finals. This occurs on Dec 7th. There are no exams in this course; therefore, there is no need for a make-up exam.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Module	Dates	Class Topic	Readings & Explorations	Assignments & Critical Dates and Times
1	August 25 – August 31	Course Introduction You are an Asset to UT Tyler General Information about Syllabi Our Course Syllabi Student Survey Meeting Your Small Group Members	Videos Small Group Introductions	Survey Discussion Board Introduction Self-Check
2	Sept. 1 - 7	Growth Mindset Active Listening	Videos Slide Deck	Discussion Board

3	Sept. 8 - 14	Tips from Last Year's Incoming First Year Students	Slide Deck	Discussion Board
4	Sept. 15 - 21	Research-based Study Strategies	Videos Slide Deck	Discussion Board Study Method Submission
5	Sept. 22 - 28	Meet Your Colleges Deans, Chairs and Program Coordinators	Videos	Discussion Board
6	Sept. 29 – Oct. 5	Recovering from a Bad Grade	Videos Slide Deck	Discussion Board AI Prompt Submission
7	Oct. 6- 12	How to use AI as Thought Partner in Your Studying	Video Readings Student Guide Websites	Exploration & Discussion Board
8	Oct. 13 - 19	Grown-Up Stuff: Adult-ing & College	Video Slide Deck	Discussion Board Resource Appointment Submission
9	Oct. 20 - 26	Student Organizations in Your College	Videos	Discussion Board
10	Oct. 27 – Nov. 2	Advising	Videos Academics 101	Proof of Advising Appointment scheduling
11	Nov. 2 - 9	Start with the End in Mind	Videos Exploration of Videos and Text	Discussion Board
12	Nov. 10 - 16	Financial Aid & Scholarships	Videos Slide Deck	Submission of external scholarship that interests you
13	Nov. 17 - 23	Emotional Intelligence	Videos Slide Deck	Discussion Board
14	Dec. 1-7	Real Conversations	Videos	Quiz (sooo easy)

Note: This tentative schedule is subject to change as necessary. However, I pledge to stay to this schedule as much as possible. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing or an extended absence from the University, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and/or assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.

Course Structure

This course has a module for every week of the Fall 2025 term. You can complete each of these modules in 50 minutes or less. Each has been designed to help you be successful in corresponding part of the semester.

Tips for Success in this Course

1. Participate. You should engage deeply, ask questions, and discuss the course content with your peers. You can learn a great deal from discussing ideas and perspectives with your peers and me. Participation can also help you articulate your thoughts and hone your critical thinking skills.
2. Manage your time wisely. I understand that we are all extremely busy. Log in to our course regularly, at least 2 to 3 times a week during the 5 weeks our course meets.
3. Use Canvas notification settings. Let the features in Canvas help you with your time management. You can receive timely notifications in your email or via text. Be sure to enable notifications to be sent instantly or daily. (See the Canvas Notification Guide).
4. Communicate with me. Let me know if you need help or if something is happening in your life. Please do not wait until it is too late to recover. I want you to be successful in this course and to get to cheer for you at graduation!

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use in this Course

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, **AI is encouraged, and appropriate acknowledgment is expected.** In this course, you can use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.). These programs can be powerful tools for learning and other productive pursuits, including completing assignments in less time, helping you generate new ideas, or serving as a personalized learning tool. However, your ethical responsibilities as a student remain the same. You must follow UT Tyler's Honor Code and uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This applies to all uncited or improperly cited content, whether created by a human or in collaboration with an AI tool. If you use an AI tool to develop content for an assignment, you must cite the tool's contribution to your work. You can find information on how to correctly cite AI-generated output at:

[APA Style Citation](#)

[MLA Style Citation](#)

[Chicago Style Citation](#)