

Glendale Community College

Spring 2013

Student Development 141 (1 unit)

Improving College Performance and Study Skills
Class Length: 8 weeks (first or second 8 week class)
For Appointments call: (818) 240-1000 Ext: **6900**

Professor: Rosette Aghekian

Office: EOPS
Phone: (818) 240-1000 Ext: **5568**
Email: aghekian@glendale.edu

Course Overview/Syllabus

Course Description:

Student Development 141 is an introduction to study skills methods, academic support services, and students' academic assessment. This class is designed to improve such skills as note taking, test taking and time management. This course is offered only as Pass/No Pass.

Textbook: Will be provided by the Instructor.

The following instructional methodologies may be used in this course:

1. Classroom lectures.
2. Use of the internet and computer.
3. In-class assignments, done individually and in groups, on lecture and various topics.
4. Tours & Presentations.
6. Collaborative-interactive presentations by instructor and students.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to accomplish the following:
Students will be able to:

1. Apply effective academic strategies in note taking, reading, memorization, and preparing for tests.
2. Identify campus support services and resources.
3. Understand college academic and student conduct regulation.

Course Grading:

Your grade is calculated based on attendance, participation, assignments, SEP, and the final exam.

Students need minimum 70 points (out of 100) to earn CREDIT for this class.

1. Attendance:	10 points
2. Class participation:	15 points
3. Assignments:	35 points
4. Final Exam:	40 points
Total:	<hr/> 100 points

Exam Makeup Policy:

Students who have an unexpected event in their life which prevents them from taking the exam, should communicate with the instructor as soon as possible (preferably before the exam date) to plan a make-up exam.

Students are encouraged to make at least one appointment with the instructor and also with their own counselor. Please bring all materials to class and appointments with instructor/counselor. The purpose of the appointment with the instructor/counselor will be to provide an opportunity to review, ask questions, synthesize the materials and/or get help with the assignments.

Course Content:

- Week 1 **Self-Evaluation:**
 - Review assessment results.
 - Review previous course work.
 - Learning Styles.
 - Week 2 **Self-Evaluation (continued):**
 - Students self-assessment.
 - Analyze and evaluate the student's financial situation & review possible financial aid options.
 - Analyze grade point balance and develop strategies for clearing probation or improving (GPA).
 - Week 3 **Personal management and responsibility:**
 - Managing stress and maintaining a healthy, balanced lifestyle.
 - Self-motivation, interdependence, emotional maturity, assertiveness.
 - Goal setting, personal values, identity, decision-making, and self-awareness.
 - Creative and critical thinking.
 - Week 4 **Personal management and responsibility (continued):**
 - Instructor-Student relations.
 - College Academic and Student Conduct Regulations.
- Academic Study Strategies:** - Note taking.
- Week 5 **Academic Study Strategies (continued):** - Textbook Study Systems- Reading
 - Week 6 **Academic Study Strategies (continued):** - Using the Library & the Learning center, Tutorial Center, Writing Lab, Math Discovery Center.
 - Week 7 **Campus Student and Instructional Services:**
 - Counseling and Assessment Center.
 - Career center, Transfer Center, and Center for Students of Disabilities.
 - Health center.
 - Library services and workshops.
 - Week 8 **Academic Study Strategies (continued):** - Strengthening Memory & Test-taking skills.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all class sessions and participate in class activities.

Emergencies do happen. If students cannot attend a particular class session, they should get the notes for class from a classmate. Students who have an unexpected event in their life which prevents them from completing an assignment on time should communicate as soon as possible (preferably before the assignment is due) with the instructor to plan make-up activities.

Participation: Discussion, in the form of comments, opinions, and questions, is integral for the classroom to be a learning environment. Students will be expected to participate in discussion, ask questions when they don't understand, and offer opinions and critiques of all course materials and of presentations by the instructor and students. Students benefit by being prepared with questions for each class session and/or being prepared to offer an alternative to the position of the assigned reading(s).

The instructor may elect, in a few cases, to award additional points to any student for outstanding contributions in the classroom in the form of thoughtful comments, discussion, leadership, critiques of the course materials, and/or exemplary participation.

Courtesy in Class: All students are expected to be courteous (gracious and considerate) towards others in the class. This includes respecting others' opinions and their expression of ideas during class. It also means that behavior distracting from the learning environment is not acceptable such as private conversations during class.

Cell Phones: Please turn Cell Phones, Pagers, and Blackberries or Text Devices **Off** before beginning of class.

Academic Honesty Policy: All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. Please check GCC catalog for additional information on the Academic Honesty Policy on page 55 of the 2012-2013 catalog.

Students with Disabilities/Accommodations: All students with disabilities requiring accommodations are responsible for making arrangements in a timely manner through the Center for Students with Disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to follow up with the instructor as soon as possible. Please speak with the instructor/counselor if you have a disability that may hinder you in completing the course requirements under standard conditions. The instructor will explore appropriate accommodations that allow you the opportunity to express your knowledge and successfully complete the course.