Augustana College
GENL 097: New Student Seminar | Section ______

Thursdays, 10:00 – 10:50 a.m. (through November 5, 2015)

Faculty Mentor(s): __________________________________________

Office Hours: ____________________________________________________________________

Viking Guides: _________________________________________________________________

Home Classroom: _______________________________________________________________

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“I did then what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better.” — Maya Angelou

“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.” — Benjamin Franklin

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
New Student Seminar (NSS) is a one-credit, required course, which will initiate you into a variety of Augustana experiences. NSS is designed to facilitate the transition from high school to higher education in general, and the specific learning environment of Augustana in particular. The seminar group is intended to provide a group of colleagues with whom you will share this experience and with whom you should feel free to process your progress, concerns, etc. Faculty mentors guide their groups through the class meetings, and also serve as a resource and secondary (sometimes primary) advisor. The Viking Guides who led you through Welcome Week bring their own experiences, knowledge and advice to the group each week, serving as student mentors.

The specific goals of NSS include the following:

- To orient new students into their role of academic learning and ethically responsible decision making
- To explore the core values of Augustana College: Christian, Liberal Arts, Excellence, Community, and Service
- To learn about finding balance and wellbeing by reading and discussing WellBeing: The Five Essential Elements.
- To promote critical thinking as “a model for learning and living”
- To appreciate and appropriately develop the qualities of flexibility and grit
- To gain knowledge of opportunities to study off-campus and to appreciate the experiences of those for whom Augustana College is “studying abroad”
- To increase understanding of Augustana’s liberal arts tradition and general education plan
- To retain the relationships begun in Welcome Week and to provide new students an opportunity to know a faculty/staff mentor

COURSE TEXTS
WellBeing: The Five Essential Elements will be the basis for several of our classroom discussions. Complete the WellbeingFinder™ the last day of September.

All participants will use the New Student Seminar 2015 course materials which are available at http://library.augie.edu/2015-nss-student-manual, as well as a variety of video clips and short articles that will be identified and/or provided by the faculty mentor(s).
COURSEWORK
In addition to active participation during class sessions, you will:

- Meet your faculty/staff mentor for your individual appointment as scheduled. Your mentor will most likely provide a sign-up sheet or another method for you to set up the appointment time. Mentors are a good source of information and are interested in helping you adjust to Augustana. Feel free to ask questions and share concerns with your mentor(s). Mentors are available to listen and assist with your transition to the college environment. Getting to know one another will enhance your participation in the Augustana community.

- Write a brief profile about yourself, similar to what you would post on Facebook or to an online forum and send it to your faculty mentor(s) via email several days prior to your scheduled individual appointment.

- Analyze and critically respond to any guided questions and writing prompts and other out-of-class assignments that are found throughout the various sessions.

- Attend a library session. Options for completing this session include the following:
  1. Be in attendance AND sign in if a librarian presents to your class(es) before October 30 OR
  2. Attend one of the library presentations on Sunday, October 18 in Bergsaker (7:00 p.m.) or Solberg (8:00 p.m.) OR
  3. Sign up for and attend a library workshop. Visit the library website, library.augie.edu, and select the session that works best for you. Each session will be limited to 15 students and held in the library classroom.
     - Monday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m. & 8:00pm
     - Tuesday, October 20 at 4:00 pm & 7:00 p.m.
     - Wednesday, October 21 at 3:00 p.m. & 8:00pm
     - Thursday, October 22 at 4:00pm & 7:00 p.m.
     - Friday, October 23 at 10:00am

Your NSS faculty mentor(s) will provide more detailed information during one of your NSS sessions. The library staff will confirm your attendance through an email to your faculty mentor(s).

- Submit your response to the Writing Prompt indicated in Session Six. This is to be a one-page typed essay, due Thursday, November 5. Please follow the instructions given by your specific faculty mentor for submitting your essay.

As a student, you are responsible for your assignments in NSS.

COURSE GRADING
The course will be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis (S/U).

To graduate from Augustana, you must earn a “Satisfactory” grade in NSS. To do so, you must complete all reading and writing assignments on time, as well as prepare appropriately for each group meeting and participate actively in NSS sessions. It is your responsibility to come to class having read any material assigned for the day, having completed any assignments, and being prepared to present your point of view. It is also your responsibility to listen to others respectfully and to engage in civil exchanges of ideas.
ATTENDANCE
Students will meet in their specific home classrooms for sessions, unless otherwise indicated. In addition to attending class sessions, students will participate in several out-of-class activities. As a seminar course, most NSS sessions will involve group discussion, which is an essential part of your college and academic experience. Because the number of class meetings is small, unexcused absences are likely to result in your receiving the grade of “Unsatisfactory” for your NSS course. Discuss any anticipated absences (in advance, if possible) with your course mentor(s). Consult Susan Bies, NSS Chair (susan.bies@augie.edu, 605.274.5503, or Edith Mortenson Center Suite 100) for consequences resulting from an “Unsatisfactory” grade.

HONOR CODE
As a community of scholars, the students and faculty at Augustana College commit to the highest standards of excellence by mutually embracing an Honor Code. As a College of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, we understand the individual and collective responsibility we have in fostering integrity. Ultimately, our purpose is to be an engaged body of academically excellent, highly articulate, and ethically centered persons who learn about and examine the world together. We believe that only when we are honest with ourselves and each other can we begin to contribute to the world in a meaningful manner.

Integrity is vital to the academic classroom at Augustana College because it involves the search for and acquisition of knowledge and understanding. Any willful misrepresentation of the relation between the work being evaluated and the student’s actual state of knowledge is a violation of the Honor Code. Examples of such misrepresentation include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, copying (with or without another’s knowledge) during an exam, doing class assignments for someone else, submitting a paper that has been purchased from another (in person or online), fabricating laboratory or research data, submitting previously graded work (either your own or someone else’s, for that class or any other), and destroying, stealing or sabotaging the work of other students.

The Honor Code states the principles that guide our work together. Students will sign an honor pledge on every examination and other assignments deemed appropriate by the faculty member. The Honor Pledge is as follows:

“On my honor, I pledge that I have upheld the Honor Code, and that the work I have done on this assignment has been honest, and that the work of others in this class has, to the best of my knowledge, been honest as well.”

Augustana College expects all students consistently to uphold high standards of academic integrity, and to abide by the decisions of the faculty/student Honor Board.

More information, including a comprehensive description of the Honor Code, and details about the composition and role of the Honor Board, is published in the online version of the Student Handbook under Academic Affairs.

ACCESSIBILITY & ACCOMMODATION
Augustana welcomes students with disabilities to participate in all of its courses, programs, services and activities. If you have a documented disability and are requesting accommodations, please contact Susan Bies, Director of Accessibility and Academic Support. Her office is located in the new Student Success Center, Edith Mortenson Center (Suite 100) and she may be reached at 605-274-5503 or susan.bies@augie.edu.
NONDISCRIMINATION
Augustana College is committed to creating and fostering a learning and working environment based on open communication and mutual respect. This is an integral part of the College’s academic mission to enrich our students’ educational experiences and prepare them to live in and contribute to a global society. If you encounter sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, sexual assault, or discrimination based on Augustana’s Notice of Nondiscrimination, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at 605.274.4044 or beth.torkelson@augie.edu. If you make a report of this nature to a faculty member, she or he must notify the Title IX Coordinator about the basic facts of the incident (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). For more information about options at Augustana, please visit www.augie.edu/titleix.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE
Tuesday, September 1 at 10:30 a.m. is the Opening Celebration at the Kirkeby-Over Football Field. Students earning the distinction of Sophomore Honors are recognized.

Thursday, September 3 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 1: Introduction to New Student Seminar (NSS)
Overview of the NSS sessions and activities; considering Augustana’s mission and values

Thursday, September 10 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 2: Academic Integrity
Orientation to Augustana’s Honor Code and Honor Pledge.

Thursday, September 17 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 3: Mindset
An Introduction to fixed and growth mindsets; considering grit as a personal characteristic

Thursday, September 24 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 4: Career Wellbeing
Access the career tools and resources available at Augustana as you explore your academic path and consider future career possibilities.

Thursday, October 1 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 5: Social and Community Wellbeing
Explore the elements of social and community wellbeing; consider social connections and the impact on behavior and formation of good habits.

Thursday, October 8 10:00 a.m. Home Classroom
Session 6: Financial and Physical Wellbeing
Consider setting positive defaults in the elements of physical and financial wellbeing. Interactive tools and resources will be utilized during this session.

Thursday, October 15 10:00 a.m. All sections meet in the Chapel of Reconciliation
Session 7: Domestic and International Study Experiences
Participate in a panel discussion of the world as your classroom

Thursday, October 22 10:00 a.m. All sections meet in Kresge Recital Hall
Session 8: Academic Planner.
Practice using Academic Planner, an online tool designed to help you plan (and adjust) your educational goals. Presentation prepared by the Registrar’s office personnel.

Thursday, October 29 10:00 a.m. Major Fair locations in Session 9 materials.
Session 9: Creating an Educational Plan
Make informed decisions regarding your degree plan by attending the Major fair sessions
Thursday, November 5       10:00 am       All sections meet in the Chapel of Reconciliation

Session 10:
Hear a message from Dr. Rickey Andrews, professor of music, and recipient of the 2014-2015 Augustana Student Association Faculty Recognition Award.
OUT-OF-CLASS RESOURCES
An Augustana experience encompasses more than that which transpires within the classroom, some of which supports this work and some of which complement it. Some of the many organizations, offices and opportunities that you may wish to know more about are listed below with their website URLs. More information is frequently available through Facebook, Viking Central, Twitter, etc. AugieTV is also a great source of information about what is going on at Augustana, as are your classmates, upper-class friends, and faculty. Keep your eyes and ears open; you’ll learn much! And if you’re wondering, just ask.

The Writing Center, located in Humanities 220, is a great resource for help with all kinds of writing.

Information Technology Services provides technology resources and support services to the Augustana College community. The ITS Help Desk, 605.274.5331, is the place to start for your computer, network and printer questions.

Accessibility and Academic Support includes tutoring in many areas for all students, and course accommodations for students with disabilities or special learning needs.

Augustana is committed to an environment that promotes the physical and emotional well-being of each student through health and counseling services.

The Department of Campus Safety, on the first floor of Morrison Commons, has officers available 24 hours a day year round to provide protection and service to students, staff and visitors.

The ecumenical faith community at Augustana is grounded in worship and lived in service.

Augustana’s new Student Success Center in Edith Mortenson Center (room 100) is a central place for career and academic support services. We empower students to discover and achieve their academic and professional goals from the point of entry to graduation and beyond.

Now that you’re on campus, you’ll need to be aware of some of the offices other than Admission in the Administration Building! Among the places you’ll want to find are Financial Aid, on the other side of the garden level; travel up one flight of stairs to find the Business Office and the Registrar’s Office.

There’s more to college than just academics! Recreational Services offers team and individual sports, competitive and noncompetitive activities, and a variety of fitness programs to develop your physical and social sides!

Textbooks (hard copy, electronic and rentals), supplies, apparel, gifts and so much more are at the Augustana Bookstore, physically located in the Morrison Commons.

Make a point to find the Student Affairs Office and Center for Campus Life this fall. It’s located in the Edith Mortensen Center, suite 119, just off of Student Street in the Morrison Commons and across the hall from the Dean of Students’ Office, and the home of Housing and Residence Life, Student Activities, Multicultural programming.

It’s always a great day to be a Viking,
but it’s especially great during homecoming: