

SECTION A

**COURSE SYLLABUS &
ASSIGNMENTS**

**Levermore Global Scholars Program
First Year Orientation Experience**

Fall 2008

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

Student Course Syllabus – Fall 2008

I. COURSE TITLE:

LGS FIRST YEAR ORIENTATION EXPERIENCE 0960-100

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II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A one-credit course for incoming First Year students designed to serve as an introduction to the University and to the Levermore Global Scholars Program (LGS). This orientation to Adelphi/LGS includes instruction on the uses of various University resources. The course will also include a discussion of the overall aims and objectives of the LGS, including internship and study abroad programs. The course will address many of the academic and social issues faced by new collegians.

III. RATIONAL:

College attendance is a major investment in time, money and emotional energy, and the successful completion of college has become a virtual requirement for a fulfilling career. The first year of college, and, in fact, the first few weeks of college, require substantial adjustments to a very new academic and social environment. Typically, students do least well in their first year of college and are more likely to drop out during that year than in later years. This course is aimed at helping new college students make the necessary adjustments, acquire or improve essential study, research and communications skills, and learn about and take advantage of the support mechanisms available to them at Adelphi, and LGS.

IV. OVERALL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course you should understand what services and facilities are offered at Adelphi and learn how to access them. The course should also provide you with greater familiarity with the LGS, its academic program and co-curricular activities. If the course has been successful, you will also have learned some things about yourself and your fellow LGS students that will help you adapt to college and get the most out of it, including the opportunities available at LGS.

V. COURSE OUTLINE:

Each class will be directed by the Professor and attended by the Peer Assistant Leader (PAL). The professor will oversee all classes and outside specialists will present some of the material. Some classes will be held in the assigned main classroom; others will be held in the Office or Center of the “presenters.” Please pay careful attention to your class schedule to make sure that you go to the correct location.

The objectives and contents of the course sections are listed in the following sections of your handbook: (Course sections may not be presented in the order listed below.)

Section A	Course Description & Orientation
Section B	Derner Institute Teaching Assistants Discussion on “Academic Honesty” and the “Purpose of Education”
Section D	Information Technology
Section C	Library/Information Literacy
Section J	LGS session: Study Abroad Presentations
Section H	Learning and Writing Centers
Section L	LGS session: Leadership in Non-Profit/Public Sector and Social Entrepreneurship
Section E	Academic Services
Section M	LGS session: Internship Organizations and Placement
Section G	Career Development Center (Resume & Cover Letter Writing)
Section I	Student Affairs
Section F	Financial Services
Section K	Discussion - Citizenship & Informed Globalist

VI. CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance is required at all classes and lateness that disrupts a class or results in missing substantial material is equivalent to an absence.

Required Assignments:

- A. Letter to Edwidge Danticat – Directions and questions are on the First Year Web Site.
- B. Passport – As a LGS Scholar you are encouraged to participate in study abroad before you graduate from Adelphi/LGS. You cannot go abroad unless you are a proud owner of an international travel document called passport. If you do not have a passport or you have it but it is not valid you are asked to apply for the passport as soon as the semester starts. On **September 25**, (the LGS Study Abroad session), those LGS Scholars who have passports will be expected to bring (a copy of the front page of) their passport and those who do not have their passports yet will be required to bring a (copy of) passport application receipt.

- C. Resume/Cover Letter
- Submit your **first draft of resume** by Oct.30 to Jonathan Ivanoff (jivanoff@adelphi.edu)
- Submit your **revised resume** on Nov. 7 to Jonathan Ivanoff (jivanoff@adelphi.edu)
- Submit your **cover letter** on Nov. 7 to Jonathan Ivanoff (jivanoff@adelphi.edu)

Career Liftoff Interest Inventory - Complete the Career Liftoff Interest Inventory on-line as instructed on page G --- one week prior to the Career Development session.

- D. Notebook/Journal - The purpose of this assignment is to encourage students to think critically about their college experiences. Students will submit written summaries of each session's content (e.g., Library/Information Literacy), to reflect on and evaluate the importance of each session for college achievement and to self-evaluate strengths and weaknesses, current performance and future challenges. Your journal is also a way to record, discuss and reflect on the whole process of beginning college and your participation in the LGS. You should feel free to write about the problems (and pleasures) and surprises that you encounter. Please do take this as an opportunity to practice writing well; to express your thoughts and feelings clearly and effectively.

To these ends you will turn in a journal (E-mail or notebook) regularly during the course (instructor will specify how often) with the following entries:

1. Reflections on each of the sections of the course and readings assigned for the sections. You may be given homework assignments in these sessions to answer in your journal.

2. Your reactions to the college experience and LGS program.
3. The co-curricular activity you participated in (see E, below).

Your instructor may specify different or additional content for your journal submissions and the reflective paper (see F. below).

- E. Attend/participate in at least **two LGS cultural/social events** and **one Adelphi event**. The latter can be a basketball game, a meeting of a club, a musical, theatrical or dance performance, etc. Discuss the event(s) you attended in your journal.
- F. Final reflective paper -- In a 2 or 3 page paper (or longer if you wish), to be submitted near the end of the course, you will write about your thoughts and feelings about this first semester. Possible material might be:
- How the actuality of college and LGS compared to your expectations
 - What (if anything) you plan to do differently next semester as a LGS Scholar and Adelphi student
 - What did you like the most about LGS so far and what do you think could be improved, changed and/or offered by the program in the future?

Additional assignments may be given during the course.

VII. GRADING:

The course is graded with a normal letter grade, A-F, on the basis of the guidelines below. Professors may modify these guidelines to meet their individual preferences. At the first class meeting they will indicate what modifications, if any, they choose to make, how they define satisfactory completion of journal assignments, and what they require for satisfactory participation.

For writing the letter to Edwidge Danticat, and answering the three questions, students will earn	10 points
For attending and participating in all 15 classes, students will earn	30 points (minus 2 for each unexcused absence)
For completing the Resume/Cover letter assignment and Career Liftoff students will earn	10 points
Satisfactory Journal Assignments students will earn	30 points (10 journal minimum; minus 3 for each missed)
Writing a satisfactory Final Reflective Paper will earn	10 points
For attending and reporting on an extracurricular activity	10 points

Letter Grade Equivalents

A	=	94-100
A-	=	90-93
B+	=	88-89
B	=	84-87
B-	=	80-83
C+	=	78-79
C	=	74-77
C-	=	70-73
D+	=	68-69
D	=	64-67
D-	=	60-63
F	=	0-59