UNV 100 – First Year Experience Courses
As of April 16, 2013

Summer 2013 Offerings

CRN 41116  UNV100:01  Let’s Talk About Sex and HIV (4 credits)
Meets: Tuesday/Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:20 pm
Instructors: Jerry Sanders, Associate Professor, Biology
Tonya Bailey, Lecturer, English

Course description:
Through a multidisciplinary focus on HIV, the proposed First Year Experience will examine the current scientific understanding of HIV and AIDS, popular and artistic representations of HIV/AIDS, its impact on public health, issues surrounding safe sex, and the ethical issues arising from this disease. The course will explore the aims of higher education through the lens of AIDS/HIV in an effort to guide first-year students in critical thinking and life decisions that can affect their persistence and graduation. It will combine study skills, personal development, and an introduction to University resources by linking college and life survival skills, including preventing the transmission of HIV and other topics that no one may have told them about. Course activities will also include: orientation to UM-Flint academic resources, refinement of research and writing skills, and promotion of civic engagement through an understanding of HIV/AIDS in the community and world at large.

CRN 41430  UNV100:02  Prove it! (3 credits)
Meets: Monday/Wednesday, 1:30-4:00 pm, 121 MSB
Instructors: James Anderson, Lecturer, English

Course description:
In an age where a wealth of information can be acquired by the simple click of a computer mouse, information is often conflated with knowledge. The need for a healthy, principled skepticism among the citizens of a democratic society has never been greater. How do we sort through the Internet’s tangle of fact and opinion, claim and counter-claim, to pull out threads of truth? In short, how do we decide who and what to believe? This course looks to rhetorical tradition and theory to help answer this question. Readings will include Aristotle’s Rhetoric and a textbook like Logic and Contemporary Rhetoric. These texts, along with the rhetorical perspectives of guest speakers from multiple disciplines (philosophy, law, and marketing), will serve as the conceptual framework for the course. Students will use this framework to 1) analyze evidence presented in case studies about social issues relevant to the Flint community as presented in forms common to the digital age and 2) to further investigate issues presented in the case studies with a critical eye towards evidence in a final research project. Students will be asked to identify, interrogate, and at times dispose of their preconceived notions and dubious sources and to replace them with credible sources, critical thinking, and methods appropriate for academic study. Students will gain practice and confidence with finding, analyzing, and evaluating sources. They will learn to identify bias and misleading information from a variety of sources, including web sites, television, and film. Ultimately, in learning about and applying ideas from rhetorical theory, students will gain confidence in their ability to negotiate the influx of information available in the digital age and develop the skills required for rational and critical inquiry in academia and beyond.

CRN 41432  UNV100:03  Let’s Go Arts! (3 credits)
Meets: Monday/Wednesday, 1:30 –4:00 pm
Instructor: Kendrick Jones, Lecturer, Theatre
Julie Carr, Lecturer, Music

Course description:
The course will focus on four major arts disciplines (visual arts, music, theatre and dance) and take students outside of the classroom into the exhibit and performance venues. Students will experience a variety of local arts venues (Flint Institute of Arts, Flint Symphony, Flint Youth Theatre and university exhibits and performances) as an introduction to the fine arts. The arts contribute greatly to the health and identity of an urban area and for Flint, this is especially true. The students will experience the vitality