San José State University -- Science 2 -- SUCCESS IN SCIENCE

Fall 2015
MW 1230-1320
Office Hours for all Instructors: by arrangement
Section 1 (Lecture)
Main Lecture: Morris Dailey Auditorium (Tower Hall)
2 hours lecture + 2 hours activity (3 units total)

Lecture Instructors/Coordinators:
Mr. Michael Randle, Instructor
Dr. Elaine Collins, Associate Dean
Student Services Center, GE Advising office.
College of Science
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Peer Advisors can be reached at 924-2813 or science2pa@yahoo.com

PREREQUISITE: Ready to Work!

REQUIRED TEXT: Robert Sapolsky’s memoir titled A Primate’s Memoir Simon & Schuster, 2001, ISBN 0-7432-0241-4; (available through the campus book store and online bookstores like amazon.com) is the only text. Reading and other assignments are listed in the Science 2 Schedule. Additional reading purchases for the course include a course reader entitled Success as Spartans I, which can be found at Maple Press 481 E San Carlos St., San Jose, CA 95112 (408) 297-1000. Please note: Most homework and other assignments will be found in the reader.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: You will need to purchase a big wall calendar (desk calendar size 17x22), and a package of 3 x 5 blank index cards. You must be able to email attachments created in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint); if this is not possible, talk with your instructors about alternatives. If you are in LLD 1 or 2, you will need a dictionary and thesaurus. Additionally you will be required to attend at least 4 campus events such as club meetings, sporting events, seminars, lectures, plays, etc. NOTE: At least one event must be college or major department related. These events must be spaced such that one event is completed every 2-4 weeks. Do not wait until the last minute. Your write-ups must be at least one paragraph in length and be submitted to your PA. 
Your write ups must answer the following questions:
1) See instructions for write up in appendix of reader under “campus events”

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of Science 2, Success in Science, is to assist students in becoming successful scholars at San José State University. Science 2 introduces students to University faculty, SJSU campus administrators, and campus resources. It also provides students with a wide range of information regarding various university policies and procedures as well as practical time management strategies and study skills to prepare them for the successful completion of their courses at SJSU. This course has a proven track record of improving student GPA and retention.
Why does this course help students succeed?
The transition from high school to university is not easy for many students. Science 2 focuses on the development of the study skills, time management, and personal growth needed for this transition. Consideration of the influences of “Nature & Nurture” frames the practical content of the course by placing it in the larger context of learning across the lifespan, particularly as applied to fresh(wo)men. Students are subject to physiological, psychological, and social/cultural changes that are inherently a part of the high school to university transition. Science 2 examines these changes to help you understand where you have been, where you are now, and especially where you are going.

Guest lecturers throughout the course donate their time to present information and answer your questions. Students will be given opportunities to ask questions about grading, faculty attitudes, career opportunities, learning resources available at the university, etc. Other guests will lecture on the influences of your genes and your environment (Nature & Nurture) on who you are, and how you learn about yourself, others, and the world around you.

Science 2 is an integrated course consisting of a main lecture, activity sections, and peer mentor contacts. The Monday/Wednesday lectures will introduce a wide variety of topics. Activity sections (no separate green sheet) meet once a week for 2 hours and introduce new material as well as reinforce lecture topics. An instructor and a peer advisor are assigned to each activity section. Additionally, students are required to meet regularly (typically once per week) with their peer advisors outside of activity section to help stay on track in ALL courses. Success teams will be organized in activity sections; these will meet outside of class time. Attendance and participation in all portions of the course are crucial to passing the course. You will be responsible for your own learning and development. You will also be held accountable for all information taught in each and every lecture class and activity session.

SCIENCE 2 satisfies the Core General Education Requirement for
HUMAN UNDERSTANDING AND DEVELOPMENT (E); from the Fall 2005 GE Guidelines:

A. Goals: Students will understand themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological entities that are able to formulate strategies for lifelong personal development. Courses shall address challenges confronting students who are entering the complex social system of the university, so that students can employ available university resources to support academic and personal development.

B. Student Learning Objectives:
1. Students shall recognize the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological influences on their well-being. [This objective is met primarily through the activities and guest lectures identified as Nature/Nurture on the schedule, and the final oral presentation; secondarily through readings, discussions, and assignments related to A Primate’s Memoir.]
2. Students shall recognize the interrelation of the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological factors on their development across the lifespan. [This objective is met primarily through the activities and guest lectures identified as Nature/Nurture on the schedule, and the final oral presentation; secondarily through readings, discussions, and assignments related to A Primate’s Memoir.]
3. Students shall use appropriate social skills to enhance learning and develop positive interpersonal relationships with diverse groups and individuals. [This objective is met primarily through the “Success Team” assignments, e.g., the final oral presentation; secondarily through student-led discussions of A Primate’s Memoir during the weekly activity sections]
4. Students shall recognize themselves as individuals undergoing a particular stage of human development, how their well-being is affected by the university’s academic and social systems, and how they can facilitate their development within the university environment. [This objective is met through a variety of assignments, including the “Campus Events”, the “Scavenger Hunt,” the “Letter to Your Future Self.”]

C. Content:
Diversity. Courses shall incorporate issues of diversity in an appropriate manner. [This objective is met primarily through the “Diversity Assignment.”]
Writing. The minimum writing requirement is 1500 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline. Writing WILL be assessed for grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence. [This objective is met through the variety of writing assignments listed on page 4 of this green sheet.]

Courses shall enable students to achieve the competencies described above by including:

• a focus on the interdependence of the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological factors that contribute to the process of human development and determine the limitations, potential, and options of the individual across the lifespan; [Nature/Nurture activities and lectures; “Letter to Your Future Self” (related to guest lecture “Charting Your Life’s Course”)]
• an understanding of the university as a learning center for the integrated person, an introduction to its resources, and an appreciation for the intellectual and social vitality of the campus community; [guest lectures and “Scavenger Hunt” activities, esp. the “Campus Event” reports]
• An inventory and evaluation of university-level learning skills (e.g. methods of inquiry, critical thinking, study skills, research skills, information literacy), and an exploration of the application of these skills to the student’s academic and personal development and; [Week 3-4 activities]
• An understanding of ethics and integrity in academic and non-academic settings. [“Values & Ethics” guest lecture (week 13) and plagiarism on-line MLK Library module]

SCIENCE 2 -- Course-Specific Student Learning Objectives:
1. Students shall demonstrate skills necessary to succeed in university-level coursework, especially in science and mathematics. [Discovery-based activities, excel activity, and oral presentations]
2. Students shall demonstrate the knowledge and awareness of “what it takes” to be successful as an educated person beyond the bachelor’s degree, especially in science and mathematics. (Taking responsibility for your learning starts NOW.) [“Letter to Your Future Self”]

ASSIGNMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Science 2 Schedule: Lists most assignments for the entire semester (separate handout; distributed during 1st lecture class and available on the course website). [NOTE: APM = A Primate’s Memoir]

Science 2 Website: http://www.science.sjsu.edu/science2/. Check this website weekly for (updated) current information. You will have some assignments that need to be downloaded from this site.

Campus Event Reports: As part of the Scavenger Hunt, you will be required to attend at least four (4) campus events such as seminars, lectures, plays, student club meetings, sports, etc. (a separate handout describes this assignment in detail). To find events, you can check the SJSU home page http://www.sjsu.edu/ under “News.” You can receive a weekly email listing SJSU news and events by subscribing to SJSU This Week at http://www.sjsu.edu/lists. You will be required to write a one-paragraph minimum length description of the event, including information on who, when, where, what and your reaction to the event. Details about format, how to submit these reports to your PA, and the due dates for your reports will be given in class. Do not wait until the last minute to attend campus events.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Information literacy is an important skill set that you must master in order to successfully participate in the academic community as a successful student here at San Jose State University. Science 2 will assist you with the development of that skill by having you undergo a process of learning which entails class instruction, and a written assignment (Annotated Bibliography). In terms of learning objectives and outcomes you will have the opportunity to practice and develop the skills to accomplish the following:

I. Determine the nature/extent of information needed
i. Identify and locate appropriate background information using general reference sources
ii. Identify and differentiate scholarly and popular resources

II. Access information effectively and efficiently
i. Use keywords, synonyms, and related terms to engage in information search.
ii. Design and implement research strategies to find information via library databases
iii. Record all pertinent source information on research topic

III. Critically evaluate information and its sources
i. Select information that provides evidence for the topic
ii. Identify and represent differing viewpoints in the literature.

IV. Use information effectively to accomplish a purpose
i. Write an annotated bibliography which demonstrates your acquired knowledge and skills from gained from both your research and the process of conducting your research
ii. Develop and oral presentation that demonstrates your acquired knowledge and articulates the skills you gained from both your research and the process of conducting your research to fulfill the purpose of the assignments.

V. Access and use information ethically
i. Understand the definition of plagiarism and how to avoid such practices.
ii. Use APA citation style.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS:

Oral & Written

You must develop effective communication skills if you are to be successful in college. The ability to communicate effectively with peers, institutional support staff, academic counselors/advisors, and especially your professors can mean all the difference in the world between being able to navigate the institution successfully or getting kicked out of school, your petitions denied, loosing financial aid and/or other financial opportunities (such as scholarships and/or internships) and possible research opportunities. You must learn and use new terminologies correctly; ask questions which convey, in meaning, what you want to know and not communicate in a manner which requires you to say as a follow-up comment, “Well what I meant to say is…” or “What I meant was…” Additionally, you will be required as part of your general education experience to participate in oral presentation. You must be able to engage in intellectual discourse, informs an audience, debate effectively and convey your point of view as well as effectively listen to others as they do the same.

In Science 2 we will be working with you to hone and sharpen both your oral communication skills and your written communication ability. You will have a series of oral communication and written exercises. The speeches are a required part of the course and attendance at the speeches is likewise mandatory. It is our expectation that you demonstrate ability to:

i. Identify and assess socially significant and intellectual topics, then compose and deliver extemporaneous oral presentations on these topics;

ii. Engage in critical and analytical listening;

iii. Analyze audiences, adapt oral presentations to audiences and use that information to accomplish the purpose of the speech; and

iv. Assume the ethical responsibilities of the public speaker, including basic understanding of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the access and use of the information.
Oral communication assignments also include leading at least two of the 20-30 minute weekly activity section discussions on your text, and a culminating group oral presentation, also done in your activity section.

Writing and oral communication are integral parts of this course. You cannot be successful in this course, in your major, or in a career in science or mathematics without excellent communication skills.

**ACTIVE LEARNING:** This occurs in EVERY activity section. You are also expected to meet outside of class time with your “Success Team” in order to demonstrate well-prepared and well-rehearsed presentations when it is your turn to lead discussion or give your final oral presentation. Grades on most such assignments will require cooperative group learning and active participation.

**GRADING:** Grades will be based on accumulated points. There is no curve and there are no makeup exams (except in cases of documented emergencies). Out-of-class (homework) and in-class assignments will be worth 30% the course grade, exams 30%, activity section participation (including success team participation) 10%, oral presentation 10%, a Scavenger Hunt (see note below) 10%, and weekly peer advisor meetings 10%.

Finally, **active participation and completion of all other Activity Section assignments are a requirement for a passing grade in Science 2; no points are specifically assigned to these assignments, but students not completing them will fail the course.** Likewise, you may be required to attend study halls or related outside activities (e.g., if any of your grades are below “B” when grade checks are done). You should approach all your classes with the attitude that a “C” grade is not good enough for real success in studying science. The Science 2 grading scale (5366. pts maximum):
### Detailed Table of Assignments and Grading Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments (weighted 30%)</th>
<th>points</th>
<th>due dates or week of</th>
<th>earned pts</th>
<th>Due date extended</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter to future self pt 1</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>24-Aug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Styles</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>24-Aug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In class speech 1</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>31-Aug</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal &amp; Objectives</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>7-Sep</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Time management</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>14-Sep</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st 2 Campus events</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5-Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography 1</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>28-Sep</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Diversity assignment</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography 2</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Grade check due 5pm</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2-Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd 2 Campus events</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>9-Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pathways</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>16-Nov</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/19-11/19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Grade check due 5pm</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30-Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter to future self pt 2</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>7-Dec (main lect)</td>
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<td><strong>Homework Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1610</strong></td>
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**Failure of Study Hall</-1610> (if assigned)

**Other course requirements weighted 40% of course grade competency grading pass/fail**

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>536.6</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>by 5pm in PA office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly PA sessions</td>
<td>536.6</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td><strong>11/30-12/11</strong></td>
<td>unless altered by act instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>536.6</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wkly Act sect participation</td>
<td>536.6</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Exams-weighted 30% of course grade**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/5-10/9</td>
<td>given in activity section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/16-20</td>
<td>given in activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm 3</td>
<td>210</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/30</td>
<td>in main lecture auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>800</td>
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<td>12/14 (12:15p-2:30p)</td>
<td>in main lecture auditorium</td>
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**Total exam/essay points = 1610**

**Grade scoring:** A=5366-4830, B=4829-4294, C=4293-3758, D=3757-3222, F=BELOW 3222
University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.
**Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf).

**Study hall**

*Please note the assignment of a Grade check due week of 10/13/14 to activity instructor.* Anyone with a grade below a B in ANY class (and B- is below a B) will be assigned 10hrs per week study hall for homework! *Study Hall will last until the second grade check.* Failure of this if assignment, if assigned, acts as a counter balance to the homework portion of the class (see point distribution on the previous page). If you fail to get your study hall hours in you may lose your homework points. *Good luck and have a GREAT Fall semester. We look forward to your success!*