

SYLLABUS

Course title and number Honors Family Meeting UGST 181 – sections 528-572
 Term Fall 2016
 Meeting times and location Varies by section. See Howdy for details

Course Description and Prerequisites

The Honors learning community seminar class provides you an opportunity to grow personally, professionally, and academically through intellectually-stimulating small group discussion and personal reflection on the kind of impact you want to make in your life.

To be registered for this course, you must have applied and been accepted to the University Honors Program as a freshman or be participating as a student leader.

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

You will articulate a goal for life after college and identify the courses, extra-curricular experiences, and leadership roles you want to pursue in order to work toward that goal. Regular journal assignments will demonstrate your reflection and critical thinking, while also serving as opportunities to improve your writing.

Contact Information

Name	Dr. Jonathan Kotinek Associate Director for Honors	Dr. Suma Datta Exec. Director and Assistant Provost	Mr. Wallace Fanning Program Coordinator
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Telephone number 979-845-1957

Office location Henderson Hall

Appointments may be made by phone, in person, or online at <http://swan.tamu.edu/launch>

Textbook and/or Resource Material

There is not a textbook for this course. Assignments, readings, and short videos will be distributed in Google Classroom.

To subscribe to your Honors Family Meeting in Google Classroom, log in at <http://classroom.tamu.edu> with your TAMU Google account (visit http://hdc.tamu.edu/connecting/Google_Apps/ for help with Google accounts). Click the "+" at the top of the screen and choose "Join Class." You will need a class code from your Sophomore Advisor. If you have to change families for any reason, be sure to unsubscribe from your original Google Classroom and join the new one to ensure your work is properly accounted for.

Grading & Attendance Policies

This course is non-credit-bearing and will be graded "S" for satisfactory or "U" for unsatisfactory work. Earning a grade of "S" in this course is a program requirement for first-year students in the University Honors Program.

In order to receive an "S" for the course, you must earn at least 80% of the participation points possible from assigned work and have no more than 3 unexcused absences.

Unless otherwise noted in the assignment, all work is due by 11:59 PM the Sunday at the end of the week in which it is assigned. 10% will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. Work submitted more than two weeks late will not be accepted for credit. All work is due by the last class day of the semester. If you miss family

meetings for reasons other than those listed for excused absence in the [TAMU Student Rules](#) (1:7), or do not complete assigned work, you may be subject to probation for the University Honors Program. Please plan accordingly.

Course Expectations

You will be alerted in Google Classroom of readings or other advance work needed before each family meeting. Please establish a habit of checking your TAMU mail, as this is our official means of communication. I will make every effort to respond to class emails within one business day.

You will be expected to participate in small-group “family” discussions on a weekly basis and respond to writing prompts in Google Classroom. These reflections will be checked by your SA and the instructors and count as part of your participation requirement.

Week	Dates	Discussion Topic	Assigned Work
1	8/29 – 9/2	Introductions	Information Literacy
2	9/5 -9/9	Current Events	Who are you?
3	9/12 -9/16	Personal/Learner Identity	Thank you letters
4	9/19 – 9/23	LAUNCH Staff	Learning experiences
5	9/26 – 9/30	ePortfolio	ePortfolio Link
6	10/3 – 10/7	No Family Meeting. Undergraduate Research Expo 10/5	<i>Plan to attend expo for at least 30 minutes between 4-6 PM on Wednesday</i>
7	10/10 – 10/14	UScholar Panel	Brené Brown Video
8	10/17 – 10/21	SA Stories	Development gaps
9	10/24 – 10/28	Personal Well-Being	
10	10/31 – 11/4	Howdy Portal - How-to	Time infographic
11	11/7 – 11/11	Current Events	Bridge essay topic
12	11/14 – 11/18	Library instruction	
13	11/21 – 11/25	No Family Meeting. Thanksgiving Week	Undergraduate Degree Planner
14	11/28 – 12/2	Holiday Farewells	Thinking in my discipline
15	12/5 – 12/9	No Family Meeting. Redefined Days.	Stretch Yourself

Bridge Essay

The purpose of this assignment is to help you connect your major/disciplinary interest to real-world issues that may impact your career. Researching and writing about one of these issues will help you gain a better understanding of what your intended career will be like.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

For additional information please visit: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”