

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**FOUNDATIONS FOR LEARNING**  
**The Gateway to Critical & Creative Thinking and Student Success at EKU**  
**GSD 101**  
**Three Credit Hours**  
**Fall 2008**

**Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class Days & Times:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Office Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class Location:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Office Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Section CRN#:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Purpose:**

The purpose of *Foundations for Learning* is to serve as an introduction to the college experience where you will build skills, competencies, and values reflective of an educated individual. The course is designed to promote success skills for college and life and to help you adjust to the college environment. *Foundations for Learning* is intended to develop learners holistically through activities that promote personal, intellectual, emotional, social, physical, and vocational development. In addition this course will develop communication skills and enhance critical and creative thinking skills. It is expected that you will become more fully engaged in the learning process and the EKU community through this course.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

As a result of your full participation in the course, you will be able to:

- Articulate how EKU's General Education Program contributes to being a liberally-educated person.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the Elder & Paul Elements of Thought and Intellectual Standards of critical thinking.
- Demonstrate the ability to find, evaluate and use information, utilizing technology and library resources.
- Identify academic resources and support services important for academic success.
- Identify individual learning style and abilities.
- Engage in activities that promote connection to the university.
- Develop and articulate academic and life goals.
- Articulate the value of diverse perspectives

**Course Overview:**

In this course, you will be asked to take an active role in your educational development, such as participating in classroom discussions, attending campus events, online readings, writing projects and presentations as assigned. You will be asked to interact with peers, faculty, staff, campus organizations, and the community.

In this course, it is expected that you will develop your higher-level thinking skills (critical thinking and creative thinking skills) by:

- Exploring and using relevant information in order to gain knowledge and solve problems;
- Evaluating information and ideas using appropriate methods;
- Expanding (developing) and generating your own ideas and;
- Expressing a point of view, developing it with awareness of alternatives.

**Textbook/Learning Materials:**

- Cuseo, J. B., Sox Fecas, V. and Thompson, A. (2007). *Thriving in College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success & Personal Development*. Dubuque: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company
- Elder, L. and Paul, R. (2007). *Analytic Thinking: How to Take Thinking Apart and What to Look For When You Do* (provided in class)
- Student Planner (provided at EKU New Student Days or available for purchase at Bookstore)
- *EKU Reads* Summer Reading Book: Suskind, R. (1999). *A Hope in the Unseen* (provided at summer orientation day, or available for purchase at Bookstore)
- *2008-09 EKU Undergraduate Catalog*
- BlackBoard: <http://learn.eku.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp> (Check announcements and homework assignments on BlackBoard)
- Online Resources:
  - EKU Student Handbook
  - EKU Colonel's Compass

**Course Requirements & Policies:** [these are subject to instructor editing]

1. You are responsible for your own learning and education. All work submitted by you must be your own.
2. Attend all class meetings, phoning or e-mailing **in advance** when an absence cannot be avoided.
3. Arrive to class on time. If you are late for class or leave early you may be considered absent.
4. No make-up assignments will be provided. If you are absent from class you are expected to obtain any class information missed.
5. Respect and abide by all mutually agreed upon aspects of classroom decorum.
6. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, two-way radios and music devices prior to the start of class.
7. Actively participate in classroom activities and discussions.
8. Establish and regularly monitor an ECU e-mail account in order to have access to campus computers, e-mail and BlackBoard course support software.
9. Complete all assignments, final project, and all exams.
10. Assignments more than one-week late will not be accepted. Assignments less than one-week late will be accepted but will be penalized.
11. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class.
12. All writing assignments must be double spaced, 12 point with Times New Roman font (or a similar font), and one-inch margins.

**Evaluation & Grading:**

**Attendance and Participation**

Students are expected to attend class and actively participate in all aspects of the learning process. This includes class discussions, written work, and class activities. National and local studies have shown a direct correlation between attendance and grade performance. This is particularly important in the *Foundations for Learning* course where learning takes place through classroom activities and group interaction.

**Tests**

There will be two major tests during the semester, and a final exam, each worth 100 points for a grand total of 300 points.

**Quizzes & Reaction Papers**

There will be **xx** quizzes or reaction papers over the text to test your knowledge of the reading material and/or concepts learned throughout the semester.

**Final Project** (Individual instructor describes their own final project.)

**Out-of-Class Experiences**

You must attend six New Student Day events as assigned in class in addition to a minimum of **XX** (instructor fills in—minimum of 4) out-of-class activities or events on campus—(Up to individual instructor to articulate.)

**Additional Assignments:** (to be described by individual instructor to include reflections?, other?)

Other?: (Determined by instructor)

**Grading:** [Edited to reflect instructors' final project and other expectations]

<u>Value of class requirements:</u>	<u>Points Possible:</u>	<u>Points = Grade</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
2 Tests (100 points x 2)	200	900 – 1000 pts. (90-100%) = A	4.0
Final Exam	100	800 – 899 pts. (80-89%) = B	3.0
xx quizzes & reaction papers		700 – 799 pts. (70-79%) = C	2.0
Final Project		600 – 699 pts. (60-69%) = D	1.0
Xx Out-of-Class Experiences		< 600 pts. (< 60%) = F	0.0
Assignments			
Other?			
	<b>1,000</b>		

Mid-term grades will be available through EKUDirect on     (date)    .

**Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:**

Students are advised that EKU's Academic Integrity policy will strictly be enforced in this course. Each student is expected to do his or her own work. Cheating will not be tolerated. Doing so could impact your grade for an assignment or your final grade for the course. The Academic Integrity policy is available at [www.academicintegrity.eku.edu](http://www.academicintegrity.eku.edu). Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of Academic Integrity.

**Students With Disabilities:**

If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities (OSID), please obtain your accommodation letters from the OSID then present your letters to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you are not registered with the OSID, please contact the office in the Student Services Building Room 361, by email at [disserv@eku.edu](mailto:disserv@eku.edu) or by telephone at (859) 622-2933 V/TDD. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

### Tentative Class Outline

[Needs fleshing out]

Week of	Events/Key Dates	Chapter/Assignments
<b>Aug. 25</b> 1	Classes start. New Student Days has just ended. Sunday is last day to add/drop full semester class. BlackBoard training??	Ch. 1
<b>Sept. 1</b> 2	Monday – Labor Day Holiday CAT Test            BlackBoard training??	Ch. 6
<b>Sept. 8</b> 3	Course Pre-Test	Ch. 6
<b>Sept. 15</b> 4		Ch. 6
<b>Sept. 22</b> 5		Ch. 2
<b>Sept. 29</b> 6	Cedric Jennings on campus Tue. – Thur.	Ch. 7 & Time Mgmt. portion of Ch. 10
<b>Oct. 6</b> 7		Ch. 7 – Ch. 9
<b>Oct. 13</b> 8	Tue. – Major Expo Fri. - last day to submit mid-term grades.	Ch. 9 – Ch. 3
<b>Oct 20</b> 9		Ch. 4
<b>Oct. 27</b> 10	Fri. – last day to “W” from full-semester class.	Ch. 5
<b>Nov. 3</b> 11	Mon. & Tue. = Fall Break Wed. = Course Schedule Advising begins	Ch. 5
<b>Nov. 10</b> 12		Ch. 8
<b>Nov. 17</b> 13		Ch. 11
<b>Nov. 24</b> 14	Wed. – Fri. Thanksgiving break	Ch. 10 Money Mgmt.
<b>Dec. 1</b> 15	Course post-test?	
<b>Dec. 8</b> 16	Pre-Final Exam (aka “Dead”) Week Friday – Classes End	
<b>Dec. 15</b> 17	Final Exam Week Grades must be posted by 12/22 @ 1:00 p.m.	