ISC 2930: Section 301 **EXCEL SEMINAR I** **Fall 2012**

Instructor: Dr. A. Islas MAP 202A **(407) 823-3961** aislas@ucf.edu

GTAs: D. Passeri, S. Novaes-Card, M. Bilskie and K. Alizad Tutoring center at CC-II 223

Classroom and Time: BA 0119, Wed 4:30 - 5:45 PM

Course Description: Lectures and activities supporting the EXCEL community, including exploration of STEM fields and majors, research opportunities, application of fundamental mathematics and science concepts. Open to students in the EXCEL program.

Prerequisite: First year students in UCF EXCEL program.

Course Objectives: Discover and analyze learning strategies and styles; compare and contrast STEM fields; explore professional opportunities for STEM majors; explain fundamental mathematics concepts in relation to STEM majors; evaluate rational for chosen major; explore UG research opportunities in STEM; build an EXCEL learning community.

Required Text: NA. Instructor's power point slides will be provided previous to lecture.

Supplemental Texts: Applications of Calculus I text plus current and seminal research articles from STEM disciplines.

Assessment: iClicker participation including class attendance and discussions (50%) and five (5) reflection papers (50%).

Grading: Satisfactory if assessment score is above 60%. **Unsatisfactory** otherwise.

Academic Honesty: When selecting iClicker answers to in-class questions, it is expected that you are doing the work on your own. No one should share her/his iClicker answers with any other student. Academic dishonesty is strictly forbidden and disciplinary action in accordance with University policy will be taken in response to such behavior. For more information please visit http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule.

Important Dates:

Withdrawal Deadline:	Monday, October 29
Labor Day:	Monday, September 3
Veteran's Day:	Monday, November 12
Thanksgiving Break:	November 22 - 24

Week	Date	Topic	Presenter (Assignment)
1	8/22	Introduction and Getting Ready	Islas (Reflection Paper)
2	8/29	Pretest	Islas
3	9/5	Return, Review Test & CDS/CTI	Islas & Daire
4	9/12	Math Review	GTAs
5	9/19	Metacognition	Dagley (Reflection Paper)
6	9/26	Time Management and/or Testing Strategies	Dagley (Reflection Paper)
7	10/3	Math Review	GTAs
8	10/10	Academic advising and guidance	Advisors
9	10/17	Math Review	GTAs
10	10/24	UG research in STEM fields	Parkinson (Reflection Paper)
11	10/31	UG EXCEL researchers	UG student panel
12	11/7	GA researchers	Faculty& GRAs (Reflection Paper)
13	11/14	Math review	GTAs
14	11/21	Discussion of reflection papers	Islas
15	11/28	Evaluations & Final Exam Review	GTAs
16	12/5 - 12/11	Final Exam Period	