



ISC 2054: STEM Seminar I

Course Syllabus: Sections 300 and 301

Fall 2015

Instructor:	Andrea Rediske	Class Meeting Days:	Monday/Wednesday
Office:	MSB 231B	Class Meeting Hours:	3:00 – 4:15 pm
Email:	Andrea.Rediske@ucf.edu	Class Locations:	Section 300: CB1 121 Section 301: MSB 260
Office Hours:	Wednesday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm or by appointment	Course Credits:	1 credit hour

I. Welcome EXCEL/COMPASS Students!

As a member of the EXCEL/COMPASS community, it is expected that you will actively participate in the EXCEL/COMPASS Seminar course as well as other co-curricular activities sponsored by the EXCEL/COMPASS program. In addition to this course, you should also be registered for your appropriate EXCEL/COMPASS math course. If this is not the case, please contact your FYAE advisor immediately.

II. Course Description:

Lectures and activities supporting the EXCEL/COMPASS community, including exploration of STEM fields and majors, research opportunities, application of fundamental mathematics and science concepts.

III. Course Objectives:

In this course, students will:

- Discover and analyze learning styles and strategies.
- Explain fundamental mathematics concepts in relation to STEM majors.
- Compare and contrast STEM fields
- Explore professional opportunities for STEM majors.
- Evaluate rationale for chosen major
- Explore undergraduate research opportunities in STEM
- Build a EXCEL/COMPASS learning community

IV. Course Prerequisites:

First year students in the UCF EXCEL/COMPASS program.

V. Required Texts and Materials:

No text required. Class materials will be provided through UCF WebCourses.

VI. Grading:

Participation will be assessed through the use of iClickers and in-class activities. Seven written assignments will be given throughout the semester on various topics.

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Written Assignments (7) and Syllabus Quiz	50%
Participation	50%
Total	100%

Grades for this course are assigned as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U).

Grading Scale %	Grade
70 – 100	S
< 70	U

Participation:

Participation is a very important part of STEM Seminar. Course meetings, math reviews, study sessions, academic advising and guidance will be important opportunities for study and making connections with students and professors. Participation will be assessed using iClickers. Students will be expected to have their iClickers for **every course meeting starting 9/9/2015**. During the scale-up period between 8/24/2015 and 9/2/2015, you will be expected to purchase your iClicker, register it, and try it out in class. If you attend STEM Seminar I after 9/9/2015 and do not bring your iClicker, you will not be given credit for participation for that class session.

Written Assignments:

Students will be required to write **seven one-page reflections papers** about their experiences with course activities. These papers are important opportunities to reflect on what has been learned from these experiences. Details about paper length and formatting will be posted on WebCourses. All assignments must be submitted as Word documents (.doc or .docx) files and each assignment will be checked for plagiarism using Turnitin.com via WebCourses.

VII. Grade Dissemination:

Graded materials in this course will be returned individually only by request. You can access your scores any time using the Grade Book function of WebCourses. Please note that scores returned mid-semester are unofficial grades. Students are expected to check their grades often. Participation grades, such as iClicker responses, will be posted weekly. **Students have two weeks from the date of the posting to dispute these grades.**

VIII. Course Policies: Late Work and Attendance

Late Work Policy: Written assignments turned in late will be assessed a penalty: 10-point deduction if it is one day late, and 20-point deduction if it is two days late. **Assignments will not be accepted if overdue by more than two days and will receive a zero grade.**

Attendance Policy: There are no make-ups for missed classes. Students are expected to have their iClickers with them for every class meeting. **If you are in attendance but do not have your iClicker, you will not be given credit for participation.** If you feel there was

an error with your attendance recording through iClicker you must contact the professor within **two weeks of the missed class or iClicker error** in order for adjustments to be made.

IX. Course Policies: Technology and Media

WebCourses: All course communication will be through WebCourses. Emails to the instructor or GTAs should be through WebCourses and will be responded to within 48 hours, M-F. Grades for each in-class activity and writing assignment will be released in WebCourses, along with the final grades. Class materials such as PowerPoint presentations, assignments, grading rubrics, etc. will be posted on WebCourses as well.

Students are expected to log in at least once a week to check for class announcements, emails, and to receive updates on their grade.

Classroom Response Clickers: We will be using iClickers in class on a regular basis. You will need to purchase an iClicker remote (commonly called a “clicker”) from the bookstore or computer store and bring it with you to **every class session**. It would be wise to bring extra batteries as well, as we will be using the remotes in activities that count for class points. The purchase of a clicker is NOT optional; it will be used as an integral part of this course. I will provide a short demonstration of how to register your iClicker use it in class. Note: the clicker can be used in other classes if it is the same version/generation. Check with your other instructors to be sure. After you purchase your clicker, **you must register your iClicker via Webcourses for this class**. It is imperative that every student registers their unit no later than **9/9/2015**. Please note that your iClicker data will be saved regardless of any changes or technology upgrades to iClicker or WebCourses during the semester.

Purchasing a used iClicker is **not** recommended because it has been registered previously to another student. If you purchase a used iClicker, you must register it on both WebCourses and the iClicker website and pay the registration fee to transfer the registration to your name. Instructions for the registration process can be found on WebCourses and will be demonstrated on the first day of class. It is advised that students retain ownership of their iClicker for both semesters as these devices will be used again in the Spring semester. *Note: This course requires an iClicker+ but an iClicker2 will also work. So, if you have a class that requires an iClicker2, it can be used for both classes.*

Technology and Media Devices: Personal technology such as mobile phones and laptops should not be used during class for anything other than interacting with the course through iClicker technology. These devices not only detract from the seminar presentations, but use of devices during presentations is disrespectful to the presenter, whether it is the professor or faculty guest lecturers. Students will be warned to put these devices away, but **repeat offenders can be asked to leave and will forfeit the participation points for that class.**

X. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disability Access: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Attendance Policy: Participation counts for one half of the total course grade, therefore, it is imperative that students attend class. Students attending class without their iClicker will not receive participation credit for that class period. iClickers must be purchased and registered by **9/9/2015**, and students must have their iClickers with them for every class meeting. Students with an excused absence should contact the instructor within **two weeks** of the missed class.

Professionalism Policy: Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade. I am happy to respond to student emails and questions, but I have a “three before me” policy regarding student questions that can be easily answered by reading the syllabus or visiting WebCourses. Before you communicate with me via email you must check three sources that can include, but are not limited to: a) the syllabus, b) WebCourses announcements, c) weekly emails, and d) GTAs in the lab. Other students are not necessarily the best sources of information, so be sure to check reliable source for information.

Academic Honesty: iClickers

When selecting iClicker answers to in-class questions, it is expected that you are doing the work on your own. Students possessing more than iClicker in class will be given a failing grade for the course. 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>.

Academic Honesty: Reflections Papers

All reflections papers should be original and unique work produced by each individual student. Plagiarism and self-plagiarism are not tolerated. Turnitin.com is enabled for every writing assignment via WebCourses, and students are not required to register for this service. Students must turn in work that is at least **85% original or greater** or they will receive a zero for the first offense. If a second breach of ethics is noted, the student will be referred to the Office for Student Conduct and will risk receiving a “U” grade for the course.

XI. Important Dates:

iClicker Deadline:	Monday, September 7, 2015
Withdrawal Deadline:	Monday, November 2, 2015 11:59 pm
Labor Day:	Monday, September 7, 2015
Veteran’s Day:	Wednesday, November 11, 2015
Thanksgiving Break:	Thursday, November 26 – Saturday November 28, 2015

Section 300: Class **Monday**, Study Session **Wednesday**

Week	Dates	Topic	Information
1	8/24	Welcome to EXCEL/COMPASS CB1 121	
	8/26	Study Session CB1 121	
2	8/31	Math Pre-Test: CB1 121 **iClicker Deadline** and iClicker/REEF Walkthrough	
	9/2	Study Session: CB1 121	Assignment #1 due 9/3, 11:59 pm
3	9/7	No School – Labor Day	
	9/9	Speakers: Service Learning and CTI Assessment CB1 121	
4	9/14	Study Session: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus: CB1 121 EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel: Calc I, Calc II, and Calc III students: CB2 201	
	9/16	Math Review: College Algebra: MSB 260 Pre-Calculus: CB1 121 Study Session: Calc I, Calc II, and Calc III students: VAB 132	Assignment #2 due 9/17, 11:59 pm Start Assignment #3
5	9/21	Speaker: Dr. Parkinson, Undergraduate Research in STEM for Calc I and Calc III students: CB1 121 Math Review: Calculus II: MSB 260	
	9/23	EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus students: CB1 121 Study Session: Calc I, Calc II, Calc III students: VAB 132	
6	9/28	Speaker: Time Management and Study Skills CB1 121	
	9/30	Study Session: CB1 121	
7	10/5	Study Session: CB1 121	
	10/7	Math Review: Pre Calculus: MSB 260 Calculus I: CB1 121 Calculus III: Room TBA	Assignment #4 due 10/8, 11:59 pm
8	10/12	Speaker: Dr. Parkinson, Undergraduate Research in STEM for College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus II students: CB1 121	**Midterm** Check your grades in WebCourses
	10/14	Advising: CECS CB1 121 Advising: COS/COM MSB 260	

Section 300: Class **Monday**, Study Session **Wednesday**

Week	Dates	Topic	Information
9	10/19	Speaker: Astronaut Program Location: Pegasus Ballroom, Student Union All students attend this session!	
	10/21	Study Session: CB1 121	Assignment #5 due 10/22, 11:59 pm
10	10/26	Math Review: Pre Calculus, MSB 260 Study Session: All other math courses, CB2 201	
	10/28	Study Session: Pre Calculus, MSB 260 Student Panel: Participating in URE: All other math courses, VAB 132	
11	11/2	Student Panel: Participating in URE: Pre-Calculus and Calc II: MSB 260	
	11/4	Speaker: Career Services/Experiential Learning Algebra and Calc I students VAB 132 Study Session: Pre-Calculus, Calc II, Calc III students CB1 121	
12	11/9	Speaker: Career Services/Experiential Learning Pre-Calculus, Calc II, Calc III students CB2 201 Math Review: Algebra: MSB 260 Calc I: CB1 121	
	11/11	No School – Veteran’s Day	
13	11/16	Industry Speakers: Algebra, Calculus I, Calculus II, and Calculus III students CB1 121 and Room TBA Study Session: Pre-Calculus and Calculus II MSB 260	
	11/18	Math Review: Pre-Calculus: CB1 121	Assignment #6 due 11/19, 11:59 pm
14	11/23	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA	
	11/25	Thanksgiving Holiday Begins – No class	
15	11/30	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA Math Review: Calculus II: MSB 260	
	12/2	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA	Assignment #7 due 12/3, 11:59 pm
16	12/7	Final Course Evaluations and CTI Re-Assessment CB1 121	Assignment #3 due 12/7, 11:59 pm
	12/9	Final Exams Begin: No STEM Seminar final, no class meeting on this date.	

Section 301: Class **Wednesday**, Study Session **Monday**

Week	Dates	Topic	Information
1	8/24	No Class	
	8/26	Welcome to EXCEL/COMPASS: MSB 260	
2	8/31	Study Session: MSB 260 **iClicker Deadline**	
	9/2	Math Pre-Test: MSB 260	Assignment #1 due 9/3, 11:59 pm
3	9/7	No School – Labor Day	
	9/9	Speakers: Service Learning and CTI Assessment MSB 260	
4	9/14	Study Session: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus: CB1 121 EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel: Calc I, Calc II, and Calc III students: CB2 201	
	9/16	Math Review: College Algebra: MSB 260 Pre-Calculus: CB1 121 Study Session: Calc I, Calc II, and Calc III students: VAB 132	Assignment #2 due 9/17, 11:59 pm Start Assignment #3
5	9/21	Speaker: Dr. Parkinson, Undergraduate Research in STEM for Calc I Calc III students: CB1 121 Math Review: Calculus II: MSB 260	
	9/23	EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus students: CB1 121 Study Session: Calc I, Calc II, Calc III students: VAB 132	
6	9/28	Study Session: MSB 260	
	9/30	Optional Study Session: MSB 260	
7	10/5	Speaker: Time Management and Study Skills MSB 260	
	10/7	Math Review: Pre Calculus: MSB 260 Calculus I: CB1 121 Calculus III: Room TBA	Assignment #4 due 10/8, 11:59 pm
8	10/12	Speaker: Dr. Parkinson, Undergraduate Research in STEM for College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, and Calc II students: CB1 121	**Midterm** Check your grades in WebCourses
	10/14	Advising: CECS CB1 121 Advising: COS/COM MSB 260	

Section 301: Class **Wednesday**, Study Session **Monday**

Week	Dates	Topic	Information
9	10/19	Speaker: Astronaut Program Location: Pegasus Ballroom, Student Union All students attend this session!	
	10/21	Study Session: MSB 260	Assignment #5 due 10/22, 11:59 pm
10	10/26	Math Review: Pre Calculus, MSB 260 Study Session: All other math courses, CB2 201	
	10/28	Study Session: Pre Calculus, MSB 260 Student Panel: Participating in URE: All other math courses, VAB 132	
11	11/2	Student Panel: Participating in URE: Pre-Calculus and Calc II: MSB 260	
	11/4	Speaker: Career Services/Experiential Learning Algebra and Calc I students VAB 132 Study Session: Pre-Calculus, Calc II, Calc III students CB1 121	
12	11/9	Speaker: Career Services/Experiential Learning Pre-Calculus, Calc II, Calc III students CB2 201 Math Review: Algebra: MSB 260 Calc I: CB1 121	
	11/11	No School – Veteran’s Day	
13	11/16	Industry Speakers: Algebra, Calculus I, Calculus II, and Calculus III students: CB1 121 and Room TBA Study Session: Pre-Calculus: MSB 260	
	11/18	Math Review: Pre-Calculus: CB1 121	Assignment #6 due 11/19, 11:59 pm
14	11/23	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA	
	11/25	Thanksgiving Holiday Begins – No class	
15	11/30	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA Math Review: Calculus II: MSB 260	
	12/2	Industry Speakers: Locations and topics TBA	Assignment #7 due 12/3, 11:59 pm
16	12/7	Final Course Evaluations/CTI Re-Assessment MSB 260	Assignment #3 due 12/7, 11:59 pm
	12/9	Final Exams Begin: No STEM Seminar final, no class meeting on this date.	