



## ISC 2054: STEM Seminar I

Course Syllabus: Sections 301 and 302

Fall 2019

**Instructor:** Arielle Gaudiello

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**Office Hours:** TR 10:30am - 12:00pm

**Office:** MSB 231B

**Meeting Days:** Section 301: CB1 104

**Course Credits:** 1 credit hour

Section 302: HEC 125

**Meeting Time:** Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-4:15 PM

**GTAs:** David Fairchild – Chemistry

**Email:** [David.Fairchild@ucf.edu](mailto:David.Fairchild@ucf.edu)

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### 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 the EXCEL office immediately at (407) 823-6230 or email [EXCEL@ucf.edu](mailto:EXCEL@ucf.edu).

### 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. You will need to purchase the iClicker system from the bookstore. **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.** Please do not purchase REEF for iClickers. This system does not allow TA's

to run multiple sessions from different classrooms simultaneously. **The iClicker registration deadline is September 6, 2019 at 11.59pm.**

**VI. Grading:**

Participation will be assessed through the use of iClickers and in-class activities. A team project and seven written assignments will be given throughout the semester on various topics. Students will take a syllabus quiz during week one and will participate in several surveys regarding class activities. **Syllabus Quiz is due by August 29, 2019 at 11:59pm.** There is no final exam for STEM Seminar I.

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Written Assignments (6) Syllabus Quiz, and Class Surveys	34%
Participation	33%
Team Project	33%
Total	100%

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

Grading Scale %	Grade
70 – 100	S
< 70	U

**Participation (33%):**

Participation is a very important part of STEM Seminar. Course meetings, guest speakers, math reviews, study sessions, and academic advising will be important opportunities for study and making connections with students and professors. Participation will be assessed using iClickers, which can be purchased at the UCF bookstore. Students will be expected to have their iClickers for **every course meeting starting Tuesday, 9/10/2019 by class time at 3:00pm.** During the scale-up period between 8/27/2019 and 9/5/2019, you will be expected to purchase your iClicker, register it, and try it out in class. If you attend STEM Seminar I after **9/10/2019** and do not bring your iClicker, you will not be given credit for participation for that class session. **If you feel that there is an error in your participation grade, you have two weeks from the absence or error to dispute your participation grade.**

- **Math Reviews:** Math reviews are required as part of your participation grade in STEM Seminar. Attendance will be taken through iClicker responses in math reviews.
- **Study Sessions:** Study sessions in STEM seminar are intended to assist you in logging your required study hours in the EXCEL/COMPASS lab and to reduce traffic in the lab. These sessions are mandatory prior to the first math test and will depend on your math grade after the first math test. Although study sessions will be held in STEM Seminar, they do not count toward participation points in STEM Seminar.

### **Written Assignments (34%):**

Students will be required to write **six 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 as well as hone your written communication skills. 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.

### **Team Project (33%):**

Students will work in teams to develop or choose a topic in STEM to research. They will be asked to create a presentation to illustrate what they learned about their topic. Students will then convert the presentation into a downloadable video file, upload and submit their project by **Thursday 11/14, 11:59pm**. Following submission, teams are required to conduct three peer-reviews of other team's projects by watching their video, discussing the content, and giving feedback. Peer reviews will be due on **Thursday, 11/21, 11:59pm**. More information including project rubric will be given in class.

### **Course Surveys:**

Because the EXCEL/COMPASS program is a grant-funded program at UCF and research is conducted on your experiences and participation in the program, you will be given a number of surveys throughout the course to assess your experience and solicit feedback. Your candid, appropriate responses to these surveys help us not only to determine the efficacy of the EXCEL/COMPASS program, but to make changes based on your feedback.

## **VII. Grade Dissemination:**

Students can access their 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 and stay updated on their progress in the course. 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. No make-up work will be accepted.**

**Attendance Policy:** There are no make-ups for missed classes and no excused absences in this course. Students are expected to have their iClickers with them for every class meeting. At least four iClicker questions will be given throughout the duration of the course meeting, and students must click in for a majority (i.e. 3 of 4, 4 of 6, etc.) of clicker questions to receive credit for the day. If you click in for less than the majority of questions, you will not be given credit for the day. **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 and email. Emails to the instructor or GTAs should be through email and will be responded to within 72 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 twice a week to check for class announcements, emails, and to receive updates on their grade.**

**iClickers:** You will need to purchase the iClicker system 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, because often batteries die during class sessions and students are unable to click in for course participation points. The purchase of the iClicker system is NOT optional; it will be used as an integral part of this course. It is imperative that every student registers their unit no later than **9/6/2019 by 11:59pm**. Please note that your iClicker system data will be saved regardless of any changes or technology upgrades to iClicker system 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 system for both semesters as these devices will be used again in the Spring semester. **Note: Please remember to not purchase the REEF app for iClickers. 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, tablets, and laptops should **not** be used during class. These devices not only detract from the seminar presentations, but use of devices during presentations is disrespectful to the presenter, whether it is the instructor, faculty guest lecturers, or industry speakers. 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 third 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 **9/6/2019, 11:59pm**, and students must have their iClickers with them for every class meeting. There are no excused absences in this course.

**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. Your instructor is 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:	Friday, September 6, 2019 no later than 11:59 pm
Withdrawal Deadline:	Friday, November 1, 2019 at 11:59 pm
Thanksgiving Break:	Wednesday, November 27 – Saturday, November 30, 2019

## Fall 2019 STEM Seminar I Class Schedule

Class will meet in CB1, 104 or HEC 125 on T/TH from 3-4:15  
determined by the schedule below:

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments	
			Assigned	Due
1	8/26	Welcome to EXCEL <b>CB1, 104: College Algebra/Pre-Calc Students</b> <b>No CLASS: Calculus I, II, III Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 1</li> <li>• Metacognition videos 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Syllabus Quiz</li> </ul>	
	8/29	<b>No CLASS (everyone)</b> – UCF Football Game		Syllabus Quiz Due 8/30, 11:59 pm
2	9/3	Welcome to EXCEL <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, II, III Students</b> Study Session <b>HEC 125: College Algebra/Pre-Calc</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 2</li> </ul>	
	9/5	<b>Math Pre-Test</b> <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, II, and III</b> <b>HEC 125: College Algebra/Pre-Calculus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 3</li> <li>• Team topic</li> </ul>	Metacognition Quiz and <b>iClicker Registration</b> on 9/6 @ 11:59pm
3	9/10	Time Management & Study skills ( <b>Evans</b> ) <b>HEC 125: College Algebra and Pre-Calculus</b> Welcome to EXCEL <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, II, III</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 2</li> <li>• Team Topic</li> <li>• Metacognition Videos 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul>	
	9/12	Time Management & Study skills ( <b>Evans</b> ) <b>HEC 125: Calculus I, II, III</b> Study Session <b>CB1, 104: College Algebra/Pre-Calculus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 1 comments</li> <li>• Assignment 3</li> </ul>	A#1 and <b>Team Topic</b> and <b>iClicker Registration</b> on 9/13 @ 11:59pm
4	9/17	EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, Calculus II and III</b> <b>HEC 125: Math Review Pre-Calculus</b> <b>MSB 359: Math Review College Algebra</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team Project</li> <li>• Assignment 4 (part 1)</li> </ul>	A#2 (2 parts) and Metacognition Quiz due by 9/17, 11:59pm
	9/19	EXCEL/COMPASS Student Panel <b>CB1, 104: College Algebra and Pre-Calculus</b> <b>HEC 125: Math Review Calculus I</b> <b>MSB 359: Math Review Calculus II</b>		

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments	
			Assigned	Due
5	9/24	<b>NASA – ASF recognition (everyone)</b> Student Union, Pegasus Ballroom		A#2 Reflection and <b>Pick Team/Topic</b> on 9/24 @ 11:59pm
	9/26	Time Management follow-up <b>CB1, 104: College Algebra &amp; Precalculus</b> <b>HEC, 125: Calculus I, II, and III</b>		A#1 Comments and A#4 (Resume part 1) on 9/26 @ 11:59pm
6	10/1	Career Services/Experiential Learning, <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, II and III</b>	• Assignment 4 (part 2)	
	10/3	Career Services/Experiential Learning, <b>CB1, 104: Pre-Calculus and College Algebra</b>		
7	10/8	<b>Math Review Pre-Calculus CB1, 104</b>		A#4 (Handshake registration part 2) on 10/8 @ 11:59pm
	10/10	<b>Advising Session in CB1, 104:</b> Colleges of Sciences and Medicine Students		A#4 Comments on Resume on 10/10 @ 11:59pm
8	10/15	<b>Advising Session in CB1, 104:</b> College of Engineering and Computer Science Students		
	10/17	<b>CB1, 104: Math Review College Algebra</b> <b>HEC 125: Math Review Pre-Calculus</b>		
9	10/22	<b>CB1, 104: Math Review Calculus I</b> <b>HEC 125: Math Review Calculus II</b>		
	10/24	<b>Industry Speaker (Engineering): CB1, 104</b> <b>Industry Speaker (Science): HEC 125</b>	• Assignment 5	A#4 Final Resume on 10/24 @ 11:59pm
10	10/29	Entrepreneurship/Blackstone, <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I, II, and III Students</b>	• Assignment 6	
	10/31	Entrepreneurship/Blackstone, <b>CB1, 104: Pre-Calculus and College Algebra Students</b>		<b>Withdrawal Deadline: 11/1</b>
11	11/5 (4)	<b>Industry Speaker (Engineering): CB1, 104</b> <b>Industry Speaker (Science): HEC 125</b>		
	11/7 (4)	<b>Industry Speaker (Engineering): CB1, 104</b> <b>Industry Speaker (Science): HEC 125</b>		A#6 on 11/7 @ 11:59pm

12	11/12	<b>Industry Speaker (Engineering): CB1, 104</b> <b>HEC 125: Math Review College Algebra</b>		
	11/14	<b>Industry Speaker (Science): HEC 125</b> <b>CB1, 104: Math Review Pre-Calculus</b>	• Industry Speaker Feedback Survey Opens	<b>Post Team Project</b> on 11/14 @ 11:59pm
13	11/19	Dr. Bill Self, Undergraduate Research in STEM <b>CB1, 104: College Algebra, Precalculus, Calculus III</b>  <b>HEC 125: Math Review Calculus I</b> <b>MSB 359: Math Review Calculus II</b>		
	11/21	<b>HEC 125: Math Review Calculus III</b>		<b>A#3 and Team Project Comments</b> on 11/21 @ 11:59pm
14	11/26	<b>Industry Speaker (TBA): CB1 104</b>		<b>A#5</b> on 11/26 @ 11:59pm
	11/28	<b>Thanksgiving break begins – no class</b>		
15	12/3	<b>Mandatory Session:</b> Final Course Evaluations <b>HEC 125: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus III</b>  <b>Mandatory Session:</b> Final Course Evaluations/Dr. Bill Self, Undergraduate Research in STEM <b>CB1, 104: Calculus I and II</b>		Industry Speaker Feedback Survey on 12/3 @ 11:59pm
	12/5	<b>Finals Week: No classes</b> <b>No final exam for STEM Seminar</b>		
16	12/10	<b>Finals Week: No classes</b> <b>No final exam for STEM Seminar</b>		

*This schedule is subject to revision by the instructor. Students are expected to check WebCourses at least twice a week for course information and updates.*

**All assignments are due at 11:59pm on the day associated on the schedule unless otherwise noted.**

**Assignment 1 (A#1) – Get to know you**

**Assignment 2 (A#2) – Time Management & GAMES Survey**

**Assignment 3 (A#3) – Volunteer Activity**

**Assignment 4 (A#4) – Resume (Part 1)/ Handshake registration (Part 2)**

**Assignment 5 (A#5) – Industry Speaker**

**Assignment 6 (A#6) – Entrepreneur Speaker**