

Coll 0171: Strategies for Success  
Course Syllabus  
Summer I 2013



**Course Instructor:** Jordan O'Connell

**Email:** [joconnell@odessa.edu](mailto:joconnell@odessa.edu)

**Text:** 970 458 5783

**Office:** SUB 205 ([OC Help Center](#))

**Office Hours:** Available most days by appointment – email or text me to schedule

**Twitter:** @straydogfree

**Accountability Partner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Description**

Coll 0171 – Strategies for Success is a one credit, five-week hybrid summer course designed to provide students with the tools needed to persist and succeed at Odessa College. Topics covered in the course include: college-level organization, study techniques, note-taking and test-taking strategies, personal wellness, effective writing and reading, time management, career and educational planning, and interpersonal skill development. We will be using a collection of journal articles and book chapters as our reader for this course. Familiarize yourself with all of the Google applications available to you through your student Gmail account (Calendar, Voice, Drive, etc); you will use many of these during your time at Odessa College. We will also be using Blackboard to supplement course material. Quizzes and Discussions be administered through Blackboard and your grades will be regularly updated in WebAdvisor. New and current Odessa College students with fewer than 12 hours are required to pass COLL 0171. The course does not satisfy requirements for any degree plan at Odessa College, has no prerequisites, is non-transferable, and satisfies one credit toward your total semester credit hours.

**Supplies**

You are expected to bring paper and writing implements, a schedule/planner, and your cell phone/tablet/laptop (if you own one).

**Method of Evaluation**

Your final grade will be determined by scores awarded on homework and in-class assignments, Blackboard journal entries, organizational checks, your final project, as well as your active attendance and engagement in the course.

Attendance	Participation	Assignments & Journals	Binder / Planner	Office Visit & Campus Activities	Final Project
25%	15%	10%	20%	15%	15%

I will return all graded work back to you within one calendar week and will follow the following standard score ranges:

**90-100 = A**

**80-89 = B**

**70-79 = C**

**69 and under = retake course**

Your grades should be available to you in real time through the OC Portal – meet with a tutor in the Student Success Center if you have any trouble with access.

**Course Schedule**

*Week 1 / June 11 & 12*

Class 1 – Student Success Center, OC 411, and Campus Tour

Class 2 – Time Management and Goal Setting

**Office Visit** – Sign up (in-class) for a time to meet me in the OC Help Center before the end of our course

*Week 2 / June 18 & 19*

Class 3 – College Survival: Personality and Learning Styles

Class 4 – Marking the Text and Cornell Notes

*Week 3 / June 25 & 25*

Class 5 – Academic Inquiry and Critical Thinking

Class 6 – Fearless Writing and Instructor Interaction

Week 4 / July 2 & 3

Class 7 – Library and Career Exploration

**Homework** – Students who miss class must complete the paper or [online](#) LRC Scavenger Hunt Activity individually

Class 8 – Wellness and Financial Literacy

Week 4 / July 9 & 10

Class 9 – Anxiety-Free Test-Taking and Studying Skills

Class 10 - Final Projects

## Important

### Attendance / Late Work Policy

If you miss class it is your responsibility to ask another student to help catch up. Some assignments occur in class and cannot be made up.

### Drop Policy

Students cannot drop COLL 0171 because it is an institutional requirement.

### Academic Dishonesty

You are expected to do your individually-assigned work independently. Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade in the course.

### Student Success at OC

As part of the Design for Completion initiative, your Odessa College Student Success Coach and faculty mentor will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert. Your Student Success Coach or faculty mentor will contact you to work toward a solution.

### Statement of Special Accommodations

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs of issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your accommodation options. You may also call or email the Office of Disability Services at 432-335-6861 or email Becky at [brivera@odessa.edu](mailto:brivera@odessa.edu) to request accommodations.

### Student Success Center

Free group and one-to-one tutoring, use of the computer lab, help with online courses, and more is available at 432-335-MORE (6673).

### Crisis Intervention

Odessa College cares about the health and safety of all members of our campus community. Contact me directly or contact Student Success Coach Katherine Phillips, member of our Behavioral Intervention Team, at 432-335-6478, if you are concerned about your own well-being or the well-being of a fellow student.

## Course Learning Objectives

Coll 0171 will improve academic skills, empower positive decision making, and assist with educational and career planning

### Motivation

- Use motivation techniques to persist in college
- Set up an effective study environment
- Complete a behavior modification project to establish habits that lead to success
- Form positive, collaborative relationships with other course instructors

### Personality and Learning Styles

- Learn about your personality type and find a program of study to match
- Identify your ideal work environment
- Discover how personality type affects decision making and time management styles
- Utilize learning strategies that match your learning style and personality type

### Managing Time and Money

- Select time management strategies to accomplish lifetime goals
- Learn to effectively utilize a planner or scheduling system
- Use money management techniques that lead to financial security

### Studying and Test Taking

- Use preparation techniques to prepare for tests
- Apply techniques to deal with test anxiety
- Use study techniques to improve academic performance

### Health

- Incorporate healthy nutrition, exercise, sleep habits into the student lifestyle
- Minimize stress and practice relaxation

### Reading, Writing, and Note Taking

- Apply marking-the-text techniques to academic reading
- Apply listening techniques and the Cornell Notes note-taking system to course lectures
- Use preparation, organization, writing, editing and revising for college writing projects

### Career and Education

- Research a career and create an educational plan that matches your interests, abilities, and values
- Formulate a list of lifetime goals and priorities that aligns with your educational and career plan