

First Year Seminar (FYS) Course Descriptions

Fall 2023

The Student Leadership Challenge, 1-1:50pm, TuTh (N04, 91606)

Students will explore the Five Practices for Exemplary Leaders (Kouzes & Posner) and participate in the Student Leadership Challenge. Students will evaluate their own leadership skills, identify opportunities to participate in student leadership at Northern, consider and evaluate student success resources, and create a group leadership project utilizing the OKR (Doerr) framework.

Amazing Food, time TBA

Focusing on food for the mind and the body, students will be exposed to a series of articles to help them succeed at NSU and quickly become masters of the library by finding articles about food. They will work in groups to design and create the perfect dish. Students will be asked to consider their future by writing a paper on what they plan to do after they graduate from NSU.

Twenty-First Century Skills, asynchronous online (NT1, 92207)

This first year seminar is designed to help students develop their critical thinking, writing, and speaking skills by exploring the topic of Twenty-first Century Skills. Through this first year seminar course, you will be encouraged to make connections across disciplines as you explore ideal options for a twenty-first century skill set, and thereby to appreciate and enhance the relevance of your general education. The readings in this course will enable you to reflect on your personal and academic values, ethics, and goals.

Seeing Persuasion, 9:30-10:20am, TuTh (N08, 91731)

You're used to the idea that persuasive words are swimming all around you. Have you ever stopped to consider, though, that you're being persuaded by the images you see? Our seminar will center around rhetoric and visual literacy. Since all students (and all academic disciplines) are immersed in a culture of images, digital and otherwise, this is a universal topic that will incorporate students of all walks of life.

Introduction to Research Skills, 9:30-10:20am, TuTh (N06, 91721)

Students will gain an understanding of how and where to find quality information via web resources and scholarly databases. Students will also gain an understanding of the research process, including different information formats, topic development, search strategies, evaluating resources, citing sources, and academic integrity.

How to Think, 2-2:50pm, MW (N05, 91607)

In this course you will use Alan Jacob's book "How to Think" to consider various obstacles to good thinking, and then apply those lessons to reading selections from some of the world's great texts.

Motivation and Identity Development, online (NT2, 95394)

This course introduces students to theories and measurement of motivation and identity as they apply to college and their lives. Students will apply these educational psychology concepts to their own experiences through current events, self-reflection, and applied research. Students are encouraged to deeply consider their individual interests in relation to theories as they are presented in class.

Building Community, 9-9:50am, MW (N07, 91730)

Description forthcoming.