

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

## **FYEX-100**

### **First Year Experience**

**2 Semester Hours**

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

First Year Experience 100 engages students in a highly interactive, critical thinking experience and in a meta-cognitive pursuit to understand themselves as intentional learners and as civic and global citizens. Through self-assessment, reading, writing, and reflection, students develop habits of mind necessary to engage in academic inquiry, creative and critical thinking, and scholarly discourse with integrity and civility; develop their ability to articulate their long-term goals as related to their own beliefs and values; and strengthen their capacity to appreciate diversity and effective intercultural and interpersonal communication. ESL sections of the course provide international students with an essential and unique orientation to and understanding of the American higher education system, culture, and technology. (2 hours weekly)

### **Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning**

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate significant progress in their transition as independent learners to initiate and sustain relevant campus connections and use of resources.
2. Identify individual learning styles and analyze their impact on academic success.
3. Analyze their own values and set short, mid- and long-term value-related goals.
4. Assess their own interests and values towards exploration of related career options.
5. Apply techniques for memory enhancement, time management, effective reading, note-taking, and test-taking to college-level texts and material.
6. Demonstrate enhanced financial literacy.
7. Apply creative and critical thinking techniques in problem solving and decision making.
8. Apply principles of academic integrity and civility to express ideas effectively both orally and in writing.
9. Demonstrate enhanced global awareness, appreciation for diversity, and understanding of self as civic and global citizens.
10. Demonstrate enhanced awareness of the connection between physical and emotional wellness and academic success.
11. Demonstrate enhanced understanding of effective interpersonal and intercultural communication.

### **Major Topics**

- I. College resources and connections
- II. Learning styles and values assessment
- III. Goal-setting, career and academic planning
- IV. Successful learning strategies

- V. Financial literacy
- VI. Creative and critical thinking
- VII. Academic integrity and civility
- VIII. Global awareness, communication, and diversity
- IX. Wellness
- X. Effective communication

### **Course Requirements**

Grading: Student learning is regularly assessed through a series of written assignments, in-class activities, and presentations as assigned by the individual instructor. Self-assessment instruments such as learning styles inventories, challenging readings on topics like multiple intelligences, and connective activities, such as attending a campus piano recital or physics lecture, help students customize the course material and guide the development of their semester portfolios. Portfolios may include journal entries, essay assignments, maps, graphs, and charts demonstrating mastery of the course objectives and are submitted at the end of the semester along with a substantial reflective assessment of students' own engagement with the learning fields and their contributions to their learning community.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is an Interdisciplinary/Emerging Issues core, and an Arts and Sciences elective.