



Fall ID108 Course Basics

Instructor: Christof Demont-Heinrich
Section 323, T, 9:05-9:55 a.m., Michener L68
Section 254, T, 10:10-11:00 a.m., Ross 0350
Office: Michener L144
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed., 1:15-3:15 p.m.; Tues.,
11:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m.; also by appointment
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Required Books:

*Staying on Track: The Four-Year Graduation Guide for New Students at UNC
UNC Catalog 1999-2000
(Staying on Track is available at the Book Stop at 931 16th Street in Greeley)*

Materials:

- Three-ring notebook (for in-class note taking)
- One two-pocket folder to be devoted exclusively to daily in-class and homework journal entries
- Two high-density computer disks to be used in computer classroom (these can be the same disks you use for E122)

Course Objectives:

- To provide support, advice, feedback, advising, and tutoring for you, the new UNC student
- To learn about the university culture and expectations
- To practice critical thinking, problem solving, and oral communication skills
- To formulate a four-year plan for a major of your choice
- To help you with your transition into the university environment – both socially and academically
- To help you establish connections and/or friendships with other students and with faculty at UNC
- To help you find, and get involved in, activities you enjoy here at UNC
- To help you become, through hands-on and self-directed individual and group learning activities, familiar with key campus resources, services, and agencies
- To help you have a positive experience your first semester on campus

Grading Nuts and Bolts:

Attendance (5 points for each class) = 70 points
In-class and homework Journal = 70 points
Campus events write-ups (4 x 20 points) = 80 points
Four-year plan = 100 points
Essay on your major/professional field of interest = 75 points
Interview with professional in your field of interest = 25 points
Group project = 80 points

Total = 500 points

Attendance (70 points):

*You lose five points for every class you miss.

*You are expected to make every effort to get to class on time and are expected to remain for the *full* 50-minute period. Students who are excessively and consistently late (more than 5 minutes) and/or whose late entrances are disruptive both to the instructor and fellow students risk a significant reduction in their attendance grade.

*Rude or abusive behavior such as talking excessively while the instructor or fellow students are addressing the class and/or personal verbal attacks on another student, groups of students, or the instructor will not be tolerated.

In-Class/Homework Journal (70 points):

The idea behind this assignment is a simple, two-fold one: to make sure that you pay attention in class AND to give you a chance to work through, on paper, some of the social and academic challenges you're facing as a new student at UNC. We will periodically have speakers come to class and/or we'll go to various offices and places on campus during class (the computer lab, library, the career center, etc.). For the in-class part of your journal, you will be required to write up a short, 150- to 250-word entry in your journal describing what knowledge you gained (and/or wished you had gained but didn't) from the in-class speakers or from the people who introduced the class to the library, etc. OR you may be asked to complete a specific assignment sheet.



For the out-of-class part of your journal, you'll need to write two entries per week (for a total of 28 entries). One entry will be about a positive experience you had at UNC that week. The other entry will be about a negative experience you had at UNC that week. Each entry should be between 150 and 250 words. Some key questions you might ask yourself as you complete these entries:



- Why, specifically, was this a positive/negative experience? What about it made it seem good and/or bad?
- If it was a negative experience, what might I be able to do to make it less negative, or even positive next time? With whom might I speak to get some help making it a less negative experience?

You may wish to use this part of your journal to practice some of the observing and describing techniques discussed in E122: try and bring your entries to life with vivid and detailed prose that puts the reader in your shoes!

I will collect your journals on Oct. 5 and Nov. 30. If you want your journal back after the semester is over, please stop by my office during finals week. In fact, the ID 108 journal might be very interesting for you to read next year -- or even 10 years from now.

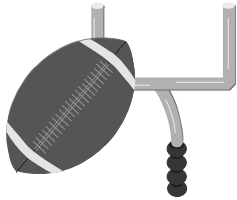
*Please note: I am a caring individual concerned about your welfare and well-being. Thus, if I come across a journal entry that seems to indicate that you may be dangerously depressed/angry/upset, I will contact appropriate mental health professionals at UNC.

Journal collection dates:

10/5 and 11/30

Campus Events Write-Ups (4x20 points = 80 points):

You must attend four UNC events – one athletic, one cultural/social, one educational, and one political -- during the semester and type a short, 250-word review of each one. The review should include, but must not necessarily be limited to, the name of the event, the location, time, and date, who sponsored the event, why you chose to attend the event, how you heard about the event, and finally (and this will be the most fun) an evaluation of the event – was it worthwhile/would you recommend it to a friend, why or why not?



Athletic events → These are pretty self-explanatory. UNC football games, volleyball games, soccer games, cross-country meets, tennis matches, etc. Official intra-mural sports games are also an option. The only stipulation here, really, is that you cannot write about an athletic event in which you participated.

Cultural/social events → Some examples of university cultural/social events include art exhibits, ethnic organization open houses, international food festivals sponsored by residence life, a concert by the UNC orchestra or band, a rock-band concert sponsored by a university organization, plays, a dance recital, speakers, and films shown during special UNC film series. The main stipulation is that the events be sponsored/held by UNC and be open to all UNC students.

Educational events → There's not necessarily a clear line between these events and some cultural/social events. Some examples include poetry readings, lectures, tutoring sessions you've had at the writing center, and any Residence Life College Success Seminar. Please do not write-up a review of one of your classes here at UNC. This write-up requires that you attend an out-of-class event.

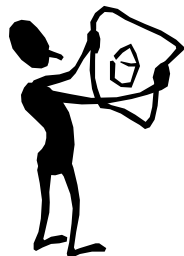
Political events → These might include attending a UNC student government meeting, a university rally held by a national political party, and lectures concerning social, ethnic, environmental, and/or cultural issues.



Event write-ups must be turned in on the day they are due or you will receive a zero for that write up. You do not necessarily need to follow any particular order. You may start with a cultural event and end with an athletic event, or vice versa. To find events to meet this assignment, check the UNC newspaper, *The Mirror*, read bulletin boards around campus, and ask friends and classmates for information. I will also do my best to help you find events of interest to you.

Campus event write-up due dates:

9/28 – First event write-up due
10/12 – Second event write-up due
10/19 – Third event write-up due
10/26 – Fourth event write-up due



The Four-Year Plan (100 points):

Planning for the future can sometimes seem overwhelming – especially when everything seems so new and unfamiliar. Sitting down and putting together a road map for your future at UNC, which is essentially what the four-year plan entails, will make you feel more secure and confident about what’s to come in your college career – and beyond.

First, you’ll need to determine your major. As this can be a daunting task, several in-class activities will be aimed at helping you make this decision. Career services and/or the Arts and Sciences Advising Center staff can also provide invaluable help and support in deciding what major and field of interest is best for you.

Second, you’ll need to see your advisor in your major. You’ll need to call your major department and schedule an appointment. You’ll probably want to draw up a list of questions to ask your advisor, including questions about course requirements, prerequisites, suggested courses of study, special programs offered, GPA requirements, financial aid and scholarships, internships, and deadlines. You may also wish to ask your advisor about career possibilities for people with your major.

Third, you’ll need to fill out the four-year plan worksheet. The staff in the Arts and Sciences Advising Center will be more than happy to help you fill out this worksheet. In fact, you’ll need to have your completed four-year plan worksheet signed either by an Arts and Sciences advisor or an advisor in your major.

Four-Year Plan Due:

Nov. 2

Essay on your Major (75 points):

In this 500-word essay, you’ll explore a possible major. You’ll need to review the requirements for your major (which you’ll know all about, thanks to your hard work on the four-year plan!☺). More important will be research on what kinds of jobs your major might qualify you for, what other UNC students have gone on to do after majoring in your field, whether or not some jobs for which your major might qualify for you might be a better fit for you than others and why. The best essays (and probably the ones that will be most helpful to you, the writer) will most likely be those that do a good job of integrating information gained from interviewing a professional in your field of interest for the assignment listed below. Good essays might also include quotes/observations/comments from upper-classmen about what they think one must do in order to succeed within your major.

Essay on Major Due:

Nov. 23

Interview With a Professional in Your Field/Major:

You'll interview either a faculty member or a professional working in your field of interest for first-hand insight into your major and professional arena of interest. If possible, spend some time shadowing the person you interview on the job so that you might get a better sense of his or her job. Please be sure to follow proper interviewing etiquette when completing this assignment. (I'll talk about things to do before, during, and after interviewing someone and provide you with a handout prior to this assignment's due date). You will need to type up a transcript of your interview to hand in to me. It's perfectly OK to interview a parent, a relative, a parent of a friend, an academic advisor, etc. if that person works within a field in which you're interested.

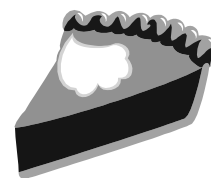
Typed Interview Transcript Due:

Nov. 23



Group Projects/Checking Out a UNC Slice of Life (80 Points):

The idea behind this assignment is two-fold: to help you get to know UNC better and to help you help your classmates get to know the campus and its many and varied offerings. You will be assigned to one of five groups. As part of the group, you'll investigate and research a specific social and/or cultural Slice of Life at UNC. You'll also learn to work together on a project, an important skill that virtually all "real-world" employers seek in potential employees. Probably the best way to approach this project is to think about what you'd like to know and, more important, really need to know, in order to get involved in the cultural/social slice of life your group is assigned to cover. The group project, which will definitely require some out-of-class preparation and coordination, will consist of the following components:



1. Oral presentation: Each group will give a 15-minute oral presentation with each member of the group speaking. You will be required to use some kind of visual aid – a poster, pictures, a video, an overhead, etc. You'll need to submit a request for a.v. equipment at least three days before you're scheduled to present.
2. Typed handout(s) for classmates: The se should include all key information (phone numbers, fees, office hours, registration deadlines, contact people, etc.) fellow students might need in order to begin to immerse themselves in your group's assigned UNC Slice of Life. You'll need to get the original copy to me at least three days before you're schedule to present so that I can make the appropriate number of photocopies.
3. Typed summary of group presentation & group member evaluation sheets: Each group must prepare a 300-word summary of its presentation. Also, group members must evaluate each others' contribution to the group project

Group 1: Recreation and Sports Opportunities at UNC and in Greeley

This group's task will be to investigate and research the many recreational and sporting opportunities potentially available to all UNC students (not scholarship athletes), both on campus and in the Greeley area. This might include information on the student recreation center, intra-mural sports opportunities, area road and bike races, a university outdoors club, etc. Remember, your mandate is to help make it as easy as possible for classmates interested in these kinds of opportunities to be able to follow up on them!



Group 2: Cultural and Social Clubs at UNC – Getting Involved

This group's task will be to investigate and research the many cultural and social clubs, groups and opportunities at UNC. Clearly, you won't be able to cover it all, so you'll need to focus on the part, or parts, of this UNC Slice of Life that you think your classmates might be most interested in. Please stay away from issues such as drinking and drugs, sex, and peer pressure as that is group number four's assigned Slice of Life. Again, remember your mandate: make it as easy as possible for classmates interested in this UNC Slice of Life to take advantage of it.

Group 3: What's to do in Greeley?

Your task will be to investigate and research social and cultural opportunities in Greeley and the surrounding area. What's to do in Greeley? After all, a new UNC student can't live in his or her dorm room forever! What are the best/worst restaurants, pizza joints, night clubs, the best place to take a first date, etc in Greeley. You could even turn this into a Greeley best/worst list. Again, your mandate: make it as easy as possible for your classmates to follow up on your suggestions and advice.

Group 4: The Freshman Challenge – Social Pressures at UNC

Your task will be to investigate and research avenues UNC students have available to them when it comes to dealing with issues such as drinking, drugs, sexual disease, pregnancy, and peer pressure in general. Where/to whom might I go for support if I'm a UNC student struggling with alcohol addiction, or having difficulty with peers pushing me to do things I don't really want to do. Again, your mandate: make it as easy as possible for your classmates to follow up on your suggestions and advice.

Group 5: Finding the Best Part-Time Job and/or Internship for You

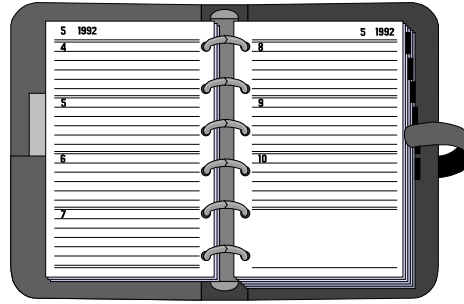
Your task will be a practical one – investigate and find out about how to find good part-time jobs that you can work to help you get through school. Your group might also investigate how to land the perfect internship that will help land you the best job as well as the best summer jobs in the area. In fact, you could turn your project into a best/worst piece in which you help your fellow classmates discover the best places to work (for the best wages), on and off-campus, and the places to stay away from (this could include work study jobs – the cushiest, the most coveted and the least, etc.). Again, your mandate: make it as easy as possible for your classmates to get that “best” summer job, etc.

Group Project Presentation Dates:

Groups 1, 2 & 3 will present on Nov. 9

Groups 4 & 5 will present on Nov. 16

Tentative ID108 Class Schedule:



- Aug. 31 – Course introduction/life as a freshman discussion
- Sept. 7 – Section 254 (10:10 class) → In-class quiz/visit Arts & Sciences Advising Center
Section 323 → Guest speaker from Advising Center on four-year plan
- Sept. 14 – Section 323 (9:05 class) → In-class quiz/visit Arts and Sciences Advising Center
Section 254 → Guest speaker from Advising Center on four-year plan
- Sept. 21 – Computer classroom, e-mail
- Sept. 28 – Trip to Michener Library/library research day (*first event write-up due*)
- Oct. 5 – Living and dealing with roommates (*collect journals for first time*)
- Oct. 12 – Time/stress management (*second event write-up due*)
- Oct. 19 – Managing your cash flow in college (*third event write-up due*)
- Oct. 26 – Career Center visit (*fourth event write-up due*)
- Nov. 2 – UNC grads on the relationship between their major and their job (*four-year plan due*)
- Nov. 9 – Group 1, 2 & 3 presentations
- Nov. 16 – Group 4 & 5 presentations
- Nov. 23 – Effective and efficient studying/studying for finals (*essay on major/interview transcript due*)
- Nov. 30 – We made it! Advice for the next class of UNC freshmen (*collect journals for second time*)