Ramapo College of New Jersey, School of Contemporary Arts
First Year Topics CNTP 101
Fall 2013

College Website: http://www.ramapo.edu
Course Website: http://phobos.ramapo.edu/~hshamash/
College Closing/Special Announcement Number: (201) 236-2902
Time: Mon/Thurs 9:45-11:15 AM
Fulfills the first year seminar general education requirement

Room: H-Wing Auditorium

Section Instructors Information

CNTP 101-01
Instructor: Beba Shamash
Classroom: TC 004
Office Location: BC 148 or BC 201 (Costume Shop)
Phone: x7146
Email: hshamash@ramapo.edu
Office Hours (BC 148): 1:00-2:00, W by appointment.

CNTP 101-03
Instructor: Pat Keeton
Classroom: ASB 522
Office Location: C-109
Phone: x7361
Email: pkeeton@ramapo.edu
Office hours: M 1:00–3:15  R 5:15-6:00

CNTP 101-04
Instructor: Lisa Lutter
Classroom: BC 301
Office Location: BC 322
Phone: x6365
Email: llutter@ramapo.edu
Office hours: M 11:15-12:45 R 11:15-12:45

CNTP 101-05
Instructor: John M. Peffer
Classroom: BC 142A
Office Location: A-201
Phone: x6223
Email: jpeffer@ramapo.edu
Office hours: M 11:15-12:45 R 11:15-12:45

CNTP 101-07
Instructor: Sarah Stackhouse
Classroom H 204
Office Location: H108
Phone: x7233
Email: sstackho@ramapo.edu
Office hours: TBA
Common Course Description
Designed for first-time, full-time, first-year students, First-Year Seminar (FYS) provides a comprehensive introduction to college-level learning. Seminar courses are developed around an academic theme or topic that is based on one of Ramapo College’s academic pillars. First-Year students will have the opportunity to select a seminar that best suits their interests while learning about Ramapo’s academic foundation. The First-Year Seminar course helps students in their transition from high school to college life both in and out of the classroom. The common learning outcomes of FYS are: critical and creative thinking, college-level writing, oral communication, information literacy, and technological competency. FYS classes are small to emphasize open discussion and experiential learning within the context of the theme of the seminar course. Peer facilitators play an essential role in each FYS class ensuring that first-year students have guidance from a more experienced student. FYS is also the home of the Ramapo Summer Reading Program; all first-year students read the same book and discuss and write about it in their seminars. FYS encourages new students to participate in a community of learners, to strengthen their critical thinking skills, and to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

CA Course Description
This year’s theme is *Vox Populi* that literally means “the voice of the people” in Latin. In this course, we will explore the relationship of the arts in politics in this presidential election year. Required of all incoming first year students in the School of Contemporary Arts, this course introduces students to Ramapo College through an exploration of the disciplines of the School: Communication Arts, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. While these disciplines cover a broad swath of creative experience, they share at their core the creative exploration of the human condition. Through readings, lectures and visits to galleries, shows, concerts and other cultural activities, students will begin to discuss some of the fundamental questions of these mediums. This course will prepare students for the rigors of college-level academics while also exposing them to the resources that the College has to offer. It focuses on the basic skills of college: reading/reading notes; writing; discussion; creative production and analysis. Each faculty member will present lectures on their area of expertise, supplemented by discussions in section classrooms and guest lectures.

Course Goals
This course has as its focus the development of critical thinking skills in the student. By the end of the term, students will be able to:
• Read and understand college-level texts; take useful notes (measured by Section-based assignments)
• Analyze works of art using the language of the discipline; understand context (Papers, participation)
• Conduct effective research using library resources such as online and print holdings; evaluate the accuracy of online sources (Papers)
• Write clear and effective papers (Papers)
• Use College resources such as the Center for Academic Success and library (Section-based)
• Express well-informed opinions in classroom discussions (Participation)
• Understand the basic workings of the college environment; reading/reading notes a syllabus; how and where to get advisement; how to use various information systems at the college; interaction with faculty; acting in a professional manner. (Section-based)
Measureable Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will:</th>
<th>Research Paper</th>
<th>Class discussions and essays</th>
<th>Final Project</th>
<th>Course Enrichment Component</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>demonstrate the ability to think critically and creatively</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>demonstrate proficiency in written communication</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>demonstrate proficiency in oral communication</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>demonstrate information literacy and technological competency</td>
<td>x</td>
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General Education

CNTP-101 satisfies the First Year Seminar (FYS) General Education Requirement for Ramapo College. This course fulfills the First-Year Seminar category of the general education curriculum at Ramapo College. Common to all First-Year Seminar (FYS) courses, you will develop critical thinking skills that are basic to college level study, regardless of your area of interest. You will be reading, writing, and participating in thoughtful group discussions with the aim of developing the skills of a scholar. You will learn to support your arguments using a foundation of knowledge and facts rather than simply using personal opinions and experiences.

This course is an Interdisciplinary Studies because it introduces students to different disciplines in the arts; Theater, Music, Communication Arts and Visual Arts and shows how they interrelate.

Peer Facilitators

As an added resource for first-year students, each section of First-Year Seminar (FYS) will have a peer facilitator. These upper-level students will attend FYS classes and assist the instructor with the academic topics covered in this seminar. They will serve as discussion leaders on issues that pertain to your personal and social development and they will facilitate weekly discussions on the class readings. Your peer facilitator will be your mentor and will be available to you to provide guidance on navigating the different personal and social hurdles that you may encounter in your first year at Ramapo.

First-Year Academic Advising

Each First-Year Seminar course is assigned a professional Academic Advisor from the Center for Academic Advising and First-Year Experience (CAAFYE) who serves as your Academic Advisor during your first year. This advisor will attend your First-Year Seminar class for a group advisement session to review general academic advising policies and procedures. They will also be available to answer any general questions regarding college policies/practices. Students are encouraged to schedule individual appointments with their CAAFYE Advisor for assistance with course selection and the development of a personal academic plan. If you have any questions regarding Academic Advisement please call CAAFYE at (201) 684-7441 or via email at: caafye@ramapo.edu

Texts


--Additional materials will be available through the course website:
http://phobos.ramapo.edu/~hshamash/
Library page for First Year Seminar:
http://libguides.ramapo.edu/content.php?pid=97855&sid=999340

Course Requirements
Classroom participation: includes: attendance, active participation, commitment throughout and final Vox Populi activity 30%
5 short papers/projects based on lectures (section based assignments) 50%
5 page research paper with revisions 20%

Final Grade Determination

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>&gt;95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>95-91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>90-87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>83-81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>80-78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>74-70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65-61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60%</td>
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Assignments
Written assignments should be printed out and handed to your section leader at the start of the class they are due. If we are meeting as a group in the auditorium, please hand in directly to section leader.

Print out your paper on a decent-quality printer. It should have a cover sheet that includes: course name, section number, section leader, assignment, date and your name. Don’t include your name on any other pages. I like to grade papers without knowing who wrote them in order to eliminate any bias. You must staple papers yourself. I do not accept late assignments - any work not turned in by the due date will be given a grade of 0.

Attendance and Participation
All absences deduct from learning, since significant in-class material and discussion will be missed. After one absence, for any reason, the final grade will be reduced by one half-letter for each subsequent miss. Excessive lateness, early leaving or packing up, use of cell phones or computers during class, excessive eating and drinking, or any other forms of disruptive behavior will also be marked as an absence. College policy states that students must notify faculty within the first three weeks of the semester if they anticipate missing any classes due to religious observance.

Use of Cell Phones, Computers and other electronic devices is not permitted during the class period. Cell phones, iphones and other communications equipment must be shut off prior to entering class. Use of these devices is regarded as distractions and obstruction to class participation and will be treated as a serious violation of classroom ethics.

Electronic Communication
Your Ramapo College email address (@ramapo.edu) will be used to communicate with you about all course-related matters. Please check it regularly.
Students with Disabilities
If you need course adaptation or accommodations because of a documented disability, please make an appointment during your section leader’s office hours.

Writing Intensive (WI) Course
Writing will be integrated into the life of this course. You will receive comments, direction, and support as you work on strengthening your writing skills. Your writing will be evaluated and returned in a timely fashion, allowing you to incorporate my comments into your future work. For help outside the classroom, please see me during my office hours and/or work with a writing tutor in the Center for Reading and Writing (CRW).

General Education Program Course
This course fulfills the First-Year Seminar category of the general education curriculum at Ramapo College. It also fulfills the lower-level core for the School of Contemporary Arts. Common to all First-Year Seminar (FYS) courses, you will develop critical thinking skills that are basic to college level study, regardless of your area of interest. You will be reading/reading notes, writing, and participating in thoughtful group discussions with the aim of developing the skills of a scholar. You will learn to support your arguments using a foundation of knowledge and facts rather than simply using personal opinions and experiences.

Course Enrichment Component
This course will include five hours of unmonitored appropriate activity outside the classroom which will be announced in class and posted on the website. All sections will be required to see The Tempest, a fall Theater Program Production in the Sharp Theater. There will be a written analysis on the production that will be graded. A second arts related CEC will be required with a paper and/or project due.

Important Dates
First Day of Classes: Wednesday, September 4th
Last day for Schedule Adjustments (on the Web): September 13th
Last day to withdraw from courses with “W” grade: October 23rd
Thanksgiving Recess: Nov 27th – 30th
Reading Day (no classes): December 15th
Final Exam Week: December 16th – 21st
Common Finals: December 21st
Last day to request “I” grades: December 20th
Residence Halls close (6pm): December 21st
Final Exam Snow Make-Up Day: December 23rd

Policy on Academic Integrity
All members of the Ramapo community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. Since violations of academic integrity erode community confidence and undermine the pursuit of truth and knowledge at the College, academic dishonesty must be avoided.

Procedure
The Office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs has the responsibility for the oversight and enforcement of the academic integrity policy and for making the policy an institutional priority. The Office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs is also responsible for publishing the policy and for educating both faculty and students about the policy. Faculty members play a crucial role in the academic integrity policy. They are responsible for educating their students about the importance of academic integrity and for communicating to
students their expectations with respect to academic integrity in course work. Students have the responsibility to understand the College academic integrity policy and to comply with the policy in all their academic work.

Criteria
There are four broad forms of academic dishonesty:

1. **Cheating.** Cheating is an act of deception by which a student misrepresents his or her mastery of material on a test or other academic exercise. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to:
   - copying from another student's work;
   - allowing another student to copy his/her work;
   - using unauthorized materials such as a textbook, notebook or electronic devices during an examination;
   - using specifically prepared materials such as notes written on clothing or other unauthorized notes, formula lists, etc., during an examination;
   - collaborating with another person during an examination by giving or receiving information without authority;
   - taking a test for another person or asking or allowing another to take the student’s own test.

2. **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism occurs when a person represents someone else's words, ideas, phrases, sentences, or data as one's own work. When a student submits work that includes such material, the source of that information must be acknowledged through complete, accurate, and specific footnote references; additionally, verbatim statements must be acknowledged through quotation marks. To avoid a charge of plagiarism, a student should be sure to include an acknowledgment of indebtedness:
   - whenever he or she quotes another person's words directly;
   - whenever he or she uses another person's ideas, opinions, or theories, even if they have been completely paraphrased in one's own words;
   - whenever he or she allows another individual to contribute to the work in some significant fashion (for instance, through editing, or sharing of ideas);
   - whenever he or she uses facts, statistics, or other illustrative material taken from a source, unless the information is common knowledge.

Examples of standard citation formats can be found on the Library Website: Citation Manuals and Style Guides.
http://ww2.ramapo.edu/library/index2.aspx?id=19629

3. **Academic Misconduct.** Academic Misconduct includes the alteration of grades, involvement in the acquisition or distribution of unadministered tests, and the unauthorized submission of student work in more than one class. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:
   - changing, altering, falsifying, or being the accessory to the changing, altering, or falsifying of a grade report or form or other academic record, or entering any computer system, College office or building for that purpose;
   - stealing, buying, selling, giving way, or otherwise obtaining all or part of any unadministered test or entering any computer system, College office or building, for the purpose of obtaining an unadministered test;
   - submitting written work (in whole or in significant part) to fulfill the requirements of more than one course without the explicit permission of both instructors;
   - disregarding policies governing the use of human subjects or animals in research;
• sabotaging another student’s work through actions designed to prevent the student from successfully completing an assignment.

4. Fabrication

Fabrication refers to the deliberate use of invented information or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive. Examples of fabrication include, but are not limited to:

- citing information not taken from the source indicated;
- citing of sources in a “works cited” that were not used in that project;
- altering, stealing, and/or falsifying research data used in research reports, theses, or dissertations;
- submitting as one’s own any academic work prepared in whole or in part by others, including the use of another’s identity;
- falsifying information or signatures on registration, withdrawal, or other academic forms and records.

Reporting Violations

To ensure due process, any member of the Ramapo community who is aware of violations of the College's academic integrity policy is expected to report the incident to the Office of the Provost.

Faculty members who choose to resolve the matter themselves are urged also to report the incident to the Office of the Provost, since the incident may be a repeat offense, or there may be a subsequent grade appeal.

More details on Ramapo College’s academic integrity policy can be found here: [http://www.ramapo.edu/catalog_13_14/academic-policies.html](http://www.ramapo.edu/catalog_13_14/academic-policies.html)