I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

A skills-centered seminar which introduces students to the University Studies program and the value of liberal education while addressing one of a variety of themes. See Advising and Enrollment booklet for themes. Required of all students entering the university with 23 or fewer credit hours (University Studies course) (3 hrs.)

II. Prerequisite (s):

None

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

1. To introduce students to the concept and value of liberal education. (University Studies Objectives 1, 2, 6, 7, 9)

2. To introduce students to the University Studies program goals and structure. (University Studies Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

3. To develop student skills in locating and gathering information. (University Studies Objective 1)

4. To develop student skills in critical thinking (University Studies Objective 2)

5. To develop student skills in oral and written communication. (University Studies Objective 3)

6. To help students connect academic and career planning. (University Studies Objective 1, 2)

7. To develop student skills necessary for successful participation in our university community. (University Studies Objectives 1, 2)

8. To develop lifelong skills in managing resources, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and meeting the responsibilities of citizenship. (University Studies Objectives 1, 2, 9)

IV. Student Learning Outcomes (Minimum of 3)

1. Students will identify a variety of types and formats of sources of information.

2. Students will differentiate between facts and opinions.

3. Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills.
V. Expectations of Students:

Students are expected to participate in all class activities and complete all assignments and examinations.

VI. Course Content or Outline (Indicate number of class hours per unit or section):

A. To introduce students to the concept and value of liberal education (3 hrs.)
B. To introduce students to the University Studies program goals and structure. (3-6 hrs.)
C. To develop student skills in locating and gathering information. (6-9 hrs.)
D. To develop student skills in critical thinking (6-9 hrs.)
E. To develop student skills in oral and written communication. (6-9 hrs.)
F. To help students connect academic and career planning. (3 hrs.)
G. To develop student skills necessary for successful participation in our university community. (3-6 hrs.)
H. To develop lifelong skills in managing resources, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and meeting the responsibilities of citizenship. (3-6 hrs.)

VII. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:

Custom Textbook for Southeast Missouri State University Students, by Pearson

VIII. Academic Honesty & Civility:

Students can review the official statement on academic honesty here: http://www.semo.edu/facultysenate/handbook/5d.html. Information on civility may be found here: http://www.semo.edu/stuconduct/

IX. Disabilities:

Students can review the official statement on disability services here: http://www.semo.edu/ds/

X. Statement of Non-Discrimination

Missouri’s public universities are equal-opportunity educational institutions and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, or sexual orientation for programs, activities, or employment, in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Educational Amendments.

XI. Basis for Student Evaluation:

1. Value of a liberal education. (10-20%)
2. University Studies program goals and structure. (10-20%)
3. Locating and gathering information. (10-20%) Searchpath required; Walking Tour of Kent Library suggested

4. Critical thinking. (10-20%) students will complete one or more of the following: critique & rebuttal argument; expository and persuasive paper; self-reflective essay. Searchpath required.

5. Oral and written communication. (10-20%) Students will perform at least one oral presentation and at least one formal written paper which include documented sources and at least one informal written paper.

6. Academic and career planning. (10%) Career Assessment [CL001] is required.

7. Student skills necessary for successful participation in our university community. (10%)

8. Lifelong skills in managing resources, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and meeting the responsibilities of citizenship. (10%) Sexual Violence Prevention video and quiz required.