RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

SCCS 100 Pathways to College Success

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: SCCS 100 Pathways to College Success

B. New or Modified Course: Modified Course

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall   Year: 2020

D. Effective Term: Fall 2020

E. Sponsoring Department: Student Development

F. Semester Credit Hours: 2

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 2   Lecture: 2
                                      Laboratory: 0
                                      Out of class student work per week: 4

H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

I. Laboratory Fees: none

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Academic
Dean at time of approval: Dean Patrice Marks Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites/Corequisites: None This course examines ways in which students can
build the cognitive and non-cognitive skills necessary for success in college and career.
Students engage in and utilize independent and collaborative tools and exercises to
enhance reading and notetaking, writing, studying and test taking, critical thinking,
research, and reflection. Enhanced skills are applied to current and future personal,
academic and career exploration and readiness experiences**.** Students engage in the
college experience as intentional learners who are empowered to persist for personal and
collective outcomes.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. This course is intended to support all students as they transition into the college environment. This course will address social and academic development to provide a strong foundation for personal, academic, and career success. Based on local and national data, students who complete a first year seminar course during their first semester of college have higher persistence rates and success rates than students who do not complete such a course.

B. Transferability:
1. This course may transfer as a First Year Seminar course.
2. This course may transfer as a Free Elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective
B. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Acclimating to college
    1. Utilizing technological resources
        a. RV Commons and RVCC website
        b. Learning Management System (s)
        c. Campus Portal and Webmail
    2. Becoming familiar with campus resources, including but not limited to
        a. Academic Support Center
        b. Library
        c. First Year Advising
        d. Transfer Advising
        e. Career Services
    3. Expectations of college students
        a. high school vs. college
        b. Communicating with faculty, staff and students
        c. Code of conduct
        d. Self-motivation and self-reliance
B. Utilizing strategies for success
    1. Time management
        a. short and long term goals
        b. procrastination
    2. Learning styles vs. teaching styles
    3. Participating in class

    a. attendance
    b. active listening
    c. engaging in class exercises
  4. Reading and note-taking
    a. syllabi
    b. texts
    c. lecture notes
  5. Studying and test-taking
    a. managing amounts of content
    b. overcoming test anxiety
  6. Writing
    a. proofreading
    b. organization
  7. Critical thinking
  8. Information Literacy
    a. utilizing databases
    b. evaluating credibility of sources
    c. reading and analyzing scholarly sources
  9. Exploring values
  10. Living a healthy lifestyle
    a. stress management
    b. health diet and sleep habits
  11. Living in a global society
    a. developing networks
    b. enhancing oral communication skills
    c. understanding implications of personal biases
C. Planning for the future
  1. Academic Plan
    a. Curricular
    b. Co-curricular
  2. Financial Plan
    a. money management
    b. saving
  3. Career Plan
    a. FOCUS 2

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

By the completion of this course, students will develop a greater sense of positive self-efficacy by:

1. Demonstrating critical thinking, information literacy, and technological skills. (GE-4, GE-IL)

2. Practicing interpersonal and leadership skills essential in a diverse, global society. (GE-1, GE-8)

B. **Course Learning Outcomes:**

By the completion of this course, students will develop a greater sense of positive self-efficacy by:

1. Identifying and utilizing strategies and resources that promote academic success, personal growth, and resilience.

2. Reflecting on values, goals, decisions, and actions in relation to their impact on self and others.

3. Creating and presenting academic, career and financial plans using primary and secondary print and digital sources as well as presentation software and hardware.

C. **Assessment Instruments**

1. FOCUS Career Assessment and Reflection (CLO 2 and 3)
2. Passion Project/Presentation (All GE LOs and CLOs)
3. Reflection Essays/Journal Responses (GE LO 1 and CLO 1 and 2)
4. Academic Autobiography (CLO2)
5. Personal, Academic, and Financial Plans (CLO 3)
6. Quizzes (GE LO 1 and CLO 1)

VII. Grade Determinants and Modes of Instruction

A. Grade Determinants
1. essays
2. projects
3. quizzes
4. presentations
5. plan documents

B. Modes of Instruction
1. lecture/discussion
2. small-group work
3. computer-assisted instruction
4. guest speakers
5. student oral presentations
6. simulation/role playing
7. student collaboration
8. Service learning

VIII. Texts and Materials

A. OER in campus LMS
B. primary sources
C. interviews
D. journals
E. reviews
F. student writing
G. film and video
H. audio sources
I. web sources
J. other computer-based sources
K. other

IX. Resources

What specific or unusual resources (such as library, computer, or laboratory resources) does the College presently have that will be necessary for the course? What additional resources will be needed? List the resources.

A. Priority scheduling in computer lab space for all sections

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)