



Course Syllabus

ASL 1510 - Introduction to Deaf Culture (3 Credits)

Study Abroad in Costa Rica

Course dates: January 20, 2026 – May 29, 2026

Travel dates: May 16, 2026 – May 24, 2026

Welcome

Welcome to the Deaf Culture class!

Instructor Contact Information

Arlenne Negron

Email - Negron.Arlenne@spcollege.edu

Phone: 352.540.3201

Office and Online Chat Hours: By appointment only

Office Location: Clearwater Campus LA 161

Departmental Contact Information

Joseph Leopold

Title: Dean

Email: leophold.joseph@spcollege.edu

Phone Number: 727.341.3719

Ian Wilson

Title: Assistant Dean

Email: Wilson.Ian@spcollege.edu

Phone Number: 727-341-7108

Appointment Information: Call or Email the contacts above to schedule an appointment

Course Information

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Credit Hours: 3

Modality: Online

Course Description: This course is an introduction and orientation to the educational, communicative, social, vocational, psychological and legal aspects of deafness. The course will deal with the impact of deafness on the individual and the family, as well as social patterns of the deaf community. In addition, it will describe historical and changing attitudes toward the culture of deaf persons and other groups of handicapped persons.

Course Objectives

1. The student will relate general information about the educational aspects of deafness by:
 - a. describing the historical development of education for the deaf and hearing impaired in Europe and America.
 - b. identifying the various options in educational programs for deaf children in Europe and America.
 - c. describing the oral-manual dichotomy in deaf education.
 - d. describing the positive and negative implications of residential - mainstream options in deaf education.
 - e. describing post-secondary education options for deaf students, including Gallaudet University and National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).

- f. identifying and describing legislation affecting education for the hearing impaired and deaf.

2. The student will relate general information about the communicative aspects of deafness, including speech, speech reading and the continuum of sign systems by:

- a. describing communication handicaps and societal attitudes toward nonspeaking deaf children and adults.
- b. describing parental expectations for deaf children.
- c. describing the isolation of communication disorders.
- d. discussing bicultural, bilingual philosophies.
- e. describing technological assistive devices to reduce communication difficulties and isolation.

3. The student will relate general information about the social isolation and social patterns of the deaf community by:

- a. developing an awareness of the deaf culture as a response to the attitudes of society toward deaf persons.
- b. describing the marriage and social patterns of the deaf community.
- c. describing the social and service organizations of and for deaf persons, including the National Association of the Deaf, National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, National Theater of the Deaf, local deaf clubs, religious organizations for the deaf, athletic organizations for the deaf, deaf service centers, vocational rehabilitation, and publications for deaf persons.

4. The student will relate general information about the vocational aspects of deafness by:

- a. summarizing the employment difficulties among deaf persons, including opportunities for training and promotion.
- b. describing employment patterns among deaf persons.
- c. describing employment training and assistance programs for the deaf and hearing impaired, including vocational rehabilitation.

5. The student will relate general information about the psychological aspects of deafness by:
 - a. interpreting written materials related to psychological development of deaf persons.
 - b. describing the deaf world - hearing world dichotomy - the current role of biculturalism in the deaf community.
 - c. becoming aware of the role of parents in the acceptance of hearing loss within the family and individual.
 - d. describing the "Deaf Pride" movement within the deaf community.
6. The student will relate general information about legal aspects of deafness, including current legislation by:
 - a. describing federal, state, and local legislation which offers protection for deaf and hearing impaired persons, including Public Law 94-142, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (sections 503, 504, and 505), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992.
 - b. examining and discussing terminology and labels for disabilities and disabled persons in policy materials.
7. The student will relate historical and changing attitudes toward deaf individuals and the culture of deaf persons by:
 - a. discussing terminology and labels for disabilities and disabled persons used in society and in policy materials.
 - b. describing historical attitudes towards persons with disabilities as evidenced in educational, historical, and religious writings.
 - c. describing the attempts to suppress American sign Language as an "inferior" method of communication.
 - d. comparing and contrasting the pathological and sociological views of deafness.
 - e. comparing and describing the American Civil Rights movement for minorities with the "Deaf Pride" movement.
 - f. describing the Gallaudet "Deaf President Now" protest of March, 1988 and its impact on society.

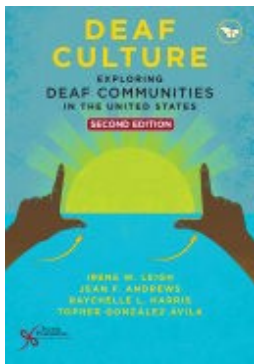
Important Dates

Class Dates: 20-JAN-2026 to 29-MAY-2026

Withdrawal Date: Please reference the Academic Calendar below

<https://www.spcollege.edu/academic-calendar>

Required Textbook and Other Resources



Deaf Culture

Required or Optional: Required

ISBN: 9781635501803

Authors: Irene W. Leigh, Jean F. Andrews, Raychelle L. Harris, Topher González Ávila

Publisher: Plural Publishing

Publication Date: 2020-11-12

First Day Access (Digital Books) Program

What is First Day Access: Textbook Savings Program?

This course is participating in the First Day Access Program. You will be given access to the course materials through MyCourses. You will receive instant access to the required materials and save 20-50% or more off the retail price. **You have the option to opt out of the program within the first 10 days of class** if you want to purchase your materials elsewhere. Opting out of the program is likely to cause you to pay a higher rate. **The opt-out date is 10 days from the first day of class.** ([View Opt-out deadline dates](#)).

The materials that are accessed through MyCourses are **NOT** included in your tuition. **If you do not click on the button to opt-out, you agree to pay the discounted fee and SPC will bill your student account at the First Day price after the opt-out deadline passes approximately 2 weeks after your class starts.** This will show as a bookstore charge. Please check your student account. If you have BLOC or are a 3rd Party

vendor then the charges will be covered ***exceptions do apply**, if you are self-pay, please make those payments to the business office.

Refund Policy

If you drop a class within the drop deadline for your course, the refund policy will be the same as SPC's [drop w/refund policy](#). If you withdraw after the drop deadline ([see your schedule for dates](#)), then you will be responsible for those charges on your account (For example, if you receive a "W" you will not be eligible for a refund).

Should you choose to purchase the required materials out of pocket you **MUST** opt out to avoid being charged. If you do not opt out by the deadline, which is 10 days from the start of class, then you must request to be opted out and proof of purchase must be submitted to tharrison@bncollege.com to prevent First Day Fees being added to your account.

Performance Assessment and Grading

GRADES AND REQUIREMENTS

Introduction (Discussion)	10
Reflection on Deaf Culture (10)	200
Quizzes (12)	240
Presentation	100
Total:	550

Grading Scale

GRADING AND COURSE ASSIGNMENTS: Grades for all assignments will be posted in the Grade book section in MyCourses. No assignment will be accepted after the last day of class. No extra work will be given for extra credit.

All final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A 100%-90%

B 89%-80%

C 79%-70%

D 69%-60%

F 59% and below

Late Work Policy

Class work and assignments should include student's name, date, and class title (Deaf Culture). All work is due on the date specified on the schedule. Most of the assignments are due weekly by the end of the day on Sundays by 11:59pm. Any work turned in after the due date (within a week) will result in a 10 points reduction in the grade. If no work is submitted, it will be considered as zero automatically with no exceptions.

Students should expect to spend at least six hours outside of the classroom on homework assignments, zoom tutoring, online study groups, and other ASL related activities to perform well in this class. Based on experience, there is a strong relationship between a student's attendance, participation, effort on homework assignments, and getting a good grade on the exams and in class. All assignments are due by midnight on every Sundays – see your due date checklist separately from this. Late work will not be accepted past the next class assignment due unless you have documentation for the absence.

Availability of Course Content

To gain access to the course materials/modules, students must read all NEWS from MyCourses to follow up with all assignments and instructions.

Course Assignment Schedule

COURSE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR *Syllabus subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

WEEK	TOPICS/ASSIGNMENTS
1	<p>TOPICS: Review of the Syllabus and Class Expectations</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS – DUE: 1/25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post an introduction in Canvas - Become familiar with Canvas - Purchase the required textbook
2	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 1: Deaf Culture: Past and Present</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS – DUE 2/1</p>
3	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 2: Causes of Being Deaf and the Auditory Field</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS -- DUE: 2/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 2 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #2
4	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 3: American Sign Language</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS -- DUE: 2/15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 3 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #3
5	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 4: How Deaf Children Think, Learn, and Read</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS - DUE Sunday, February 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 4 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #4
6	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 5: Deaf Education, Deaf Culture, and Multiculturalism</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS - DUE Sunday, February 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 5 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #5
7	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 6: Deaf Identities</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS - DUE 3/1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 6 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #6
8	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 7: Deaf Communities Within the Deaf Community</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS - DUE 3/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 7 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #7
9	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 8: Navigating Lives</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS - DUE 3/15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 8 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #8
10	SPRING BREAK – NO ASSIGNMENTS
11	<p>TOPICS: Read Chapter 9: Technology and Accessibility</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS – DUE Sunday, March 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 9 Quiz

	Reflection on Deaf Culture #9
12	TOPICS: Read Chapter 11: Arts, Literature, and Media ASSIGNMENTS - DUE Sunday, April 5 - Reflection on Deaf Culture #11
13	TOPICS - Read Chapter 12: Advocating and Career Opportunities ASSIGNMENTS - DUE Sunday, April 12 - Chapter 11 and 12 Quiz (one quiz = 30 points) - Reflection on Deaf Culture #12
14	TOPICS: Read Chapter 13: Final Thoughts on Deaf Culture and Its Future ASSIGNMENTS - DUE Sunday, April 19 - Chapter 13 Quiz - Reflection on Deaf Culture #13
15	Final Exam – Deaf Culture PowerPoint Presentation
16	TOPICS: Study Abroad Costa Rica ASSIGNMENTS – DUE: 5/29 - Costa Rica PowerPoint Presentation
17	TOPICS: Study Abroad Costa Rica ASSIGNMENTS – DUE: 5/29 - Costa Rica PowerPoint Presentation
18	TOPICS: Study Abroad Costa Rica ASSIGNMENTS – DUE: 5/29 - Costa Rica PowerPoint Presentation

Communication Plan

I will utilize the following communication channels in this class: CANVAS announcements, emails, meeting on zoom by appointment, and feel free to call me using the number in the syllabus.

I will respond to emails between Monday and Friday.

I will grade assignments on Mondays after your assignments are due on Sundays.

I will post weekly assignments and quizzes announcements via CANVAS NEWS.

How to Be a Successful Student

Attending class is vital to your success, particularly the first few days of class as you are introduced to the requirements and topics you will be covering. Therefore the college limits when you can add classes. Please [check our registration page](#) regarding when classes can be added.

You may drop a course through the [Drop with Refund](#) date listed on your Fee Schedule and be eligible for a refund, although withdrawing may affect your financial aid. If you are thinking of withdrawing, please speak with your instructor, an [Academic Advisor](#) or a [financial aid counselor](#).

Showing up is the first step in ensuring your academic success. Active participation is the next step - whether you are in a classroom or taking classes online. Each of your faculty will give details in the syllabus about their attendance policies. If you are going to miss a session, or be offline for any reason, please let your instructor know in advance. If you don't attend during the first two weeks of a term you will automatically be withdrawn from the class and this can cause serious problems if you receive financial aid. In fact, if you withdraw prior to completing 60% of a class and receive any form of federal financial aid (grants or loans) you will be required to repay a portion.

Course Attendance

Students should expect to spend at least six hours outside of the classroom on homework assignments, zoom tutoring, online study groups, and other ASL related activities to perform well in this class. Based on experience, there is a strong relationship between a student's attendance, participation, effort on homework assignments, and getting a good grade on the exams and in class. All assignments are due by midnight on every Sundays – see your due date checklist separately from this. Late work will not be accepted past the next class assignment due unless you have documentation for the absence.

SPC Policy: Attendance/Participation/Withdrawal

Withdrawing from a course with a “W” or “WF” may impact students’ academic standing and financial aid eligibility including placing the student in early repayment. It is the student’s responsibility to understand the consequences of withdrawing.

Attendance

College policy requires students to attend class prior to the published deadline to drop with a refund. The instructor is required to report non-attendance and the student will be dropped after the first week of classes.

If you don't attend during the first week of the term, you will be automatically dropped, and the class removed from your schedule. If you receive financial aid, your award amount may be adjusted if the drop changes your enrollment status (e.g. full-time to parttime).

It is the student's responsibility to know the attendance policy of the class in which they are enrolled.

- Depending on the modality of the course, attendance may be online, LIVE Online, blended, or on-campus.
- For LIVE Online classes, attendance will be taken online during the normal class meeting time/days.
- Students who are feeling ill for any reason should communicate in a timely manner with their instructor regarding attending online instead of on-campus, and/or the responsibility of excused absences. Students are also responsible to discuss completing any missed work with the instructor.

Participation

College policy require the instructor to report any student who is not actively participating at the 60% point of a class. The instructor will report the student by the end of the week immediately following the 60% point of the class and the student will be withdrawn from the course and assigned a “W” grade. It is the student’s responsibility to understand the instructor’s requirements for ‘active participation.

Student Withdrawals

You may drop a course through the [Drop with Refund](#) date listed on your Fee Schedule and be eligible for a refund, although withdrawing may affect your financial aid. If you withdraw prior to completing 60% of a class and receive any form of federal financial aid (grants or loans) you will be required to repay a portion. If you are thinking of withdrawing, please speak with your instructor, an [Academic Advisor](#) or a [financial aid counselor](#).

Withdraw requests submitted after the last date to withdraw with a "W" (see academic calendar) will result in a "WF". Students and instructors will automatically receive an email notification through their SPC email address whenever a withdrawal occurs. Students should consult with an academic advisor or financial assistance counselor prior to withdrawing from a class.

Students who wish to withdraw completely from SPC are not able to totally withdraw from all classes through MySPC. A student must contact an Academic Advisor to totally withdraw.

Technology Requirements & Policy

View the [MyCourses Minimum Technology Requirements](#)

View the [Canvas Minimum Technology Requirements](#)

If you need technical assistance, please [Contact the Technical Support Center](#).

Minimum Technical Skills: Students should know how to navigate the course and use the course tools (email, discussion, gradebook, etc.). Learning Management System (LMS) tutorials are available to students new to this LMS and are located at the beginning of the course. Most features in the LMS are accessible on mobile devices, although it is recommended that you use a computer for quizzes, tests, and essay assignments.

Students also MUST become proficient with [publisher or other 3rd party tools or platforms here] and the tools contained within the program to be successful in this course.

Accessibility of Technology

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Accessibility](#)
- [Canvas Accessibility](#)
- [Microsoft Accessibility](#)
- [Google \(YouTube\) Accessibility](#)
- [Panopto Accessibility](#)
- [Copyleaks Accessibility](#)
- [Cengage Accessibility](#)
- [McGraw-Hill Accessibility](#)
- [Pearson Accessibility](#)

Privacy

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Privacy](#)
- [Canvas Privacy](#)
- [Microsoft Privacy](#)
- [YouTube Privacy](#)
- [Panopto Privacy](#)
- [Copyleaks Privacy](#)
- [Cengage Privacy](#)
- [McGraw-Hill Privacy](#)
- [Pearson Privacy](#)

SPC Policy: Academic Honesty

You are expected to be honest in all your academic work. By enrolling at the College, you agree to abide by all the standards of academic honesty and integrity and failing to observe the rules may result in academic and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College.

To better understand what academic integrity means and the potential consequences of violating it, please watch the following videos:

- [What is Academic Integrity?](#) (1:29)
 - [Transcript for "What is Academic Integrity?"](#)
- [What Happens When You Violate Academic Integrity?](#) (2:08)
 - [Transcript for "What Happens When You Violate Academic Integrity?"](#)

The academic honesty policy and procedures are available online:

- [Academic Honesty Policies, Honor Code Academic](#)
- [Integrity Policies and Procedures](#)

These documents include details on what is meant by:

- Cheating
- Bribery
- Misrepresentation
- Conspiracy
- Fabrication
- Collusion
- Duplicate submissions
- Academic misconduct
- Improper calculator, computer or online use

Some of your courses may include online material that is protected by copyright. This means that the work is available for you to use in your studies, but you can't copy and share the materials (copyright.gov). Please see [SPC's copyright information](#). It's your responsibility to be academically honest in all of your work.

Generative AI Not Permitted

The best-known example of Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) is ChatGPT, a chatbot that allows you to type a question as if you were talking to a real person, and it quickly offers a seemingly meaningful, original answer. Tools like this are powerful and can be useful in many contexts, but you must be aware of their limitations, as they can produce inaccurate, fabricated, and even offensive content. In addition, the work produced is not technically your own. In order to avoid violating [SPC's academic integrity policy](#), students must be sure to follow the course's policies regarding the use of artificial intelligence in academic work. The AI policies for this class are outlined below.

You are strictly prohibited from using use Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence), including ChatGPT and similar AI tools, in this course. The work produced by AI writing tools is not your own original work and is therefore unacceptable for the assignments in this course. If you cite AI-generated content, the work will be considered incomplete and receive a zero. If you do not cite, the work will be considered plagiarism and receive a zero. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to me.

Generative AI Permitted Under Some Circumstances

The best-known example of Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) is ChatGPT, a chatbot that allows you to type a question as if you were talking to a real person, and it quickly offers a seemingly meaningful, original answer. Tools like this are powerful and can be useful in many contexts, but you must be aware of their limitations, as they can produce inaccurate, fabricated, and even offensive content. In addition, the work produced is not technically your own. In order to avoid violating [SPC's academic integrity policy](#), students must be sure to follow the course's policies regarding the use of artificial intelligence in academic work. The AI policies for this class are outlined below.

You may only use Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence), including ChatGPT and similar AI tools, when assignment directions specifically state that it is allowed, and these tools must be used with caution. AI is not a replacement for your own thinking and research. AI-generated text or other content must be clearly marked and cited properly. In addition, you are responsible for confirming the veracity of any information or sources produced by artificial intelligence. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to me.

Generative AI Permitted Within Guidelines

The best-known example of Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) is ChatGPT, a chatbot that allows you to type a question as if you were talking to a real person, and it quickly offers a seemingly meaningful, original answer. Tools like this are powerful and can be useful in many contexts, but you must be aware of their limitations, as they can produce inaccurate, fabricated, and even offensive content. In addition, the work produced is not technically your own. In order to avoid violating [SPC's academic integrity policy](#), students must be sure to follow the course's policies regarding the use of artificial intelligence in academic work. The AI policies for this class are outlined below.

You are welcome to use Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence), including ChatGPT and similar AI tools, in your work for this course. However, AI is not a replacement for your own thinking and research. AI-generated text or other content must be clearly marked and cited properly. In addition, you are responsible for confirming the veracity of any information or sources produced by artificial intelligence. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to me.

Respondus LockDown Browser Proctored Testing Information

Proctored Testing Requirement

This course requires one or more of your quizzes/exams in MyCourses to be virtually proctored. Proctoring will be conducted using an online proctoring service called LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor. You DO NOT need to create an account or schedule an appointment. Your quizzes will be accessible on the dates your instructor has set for you to take them. To take a LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor quiz, you will need the following: a computer, a working webcam/microphone, your ID, and a stable internet connection. Check out [LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor Support for Test-Takers](#) to learn more or for technical assistance.

Room Scan & ID Information

To uphold academic integrity and ensure a fair testing environment for all students, you will be asked to conduct a room scan and show a valid, official ID prior to beginning your examination. Please be aware that this process involves your webcam recording and inspecting your physical testing environment. This includes the surface of your desk, any surrounding walls, and the area under your desk. By participating in this course and its assessments, you acknowledge and consent to these conditions.

Your official ID should include your name, photo, and signature for identity verification purposes. Acceptable forms of ID include a university ID, driver's license, passport, or other government-issued identification. No examination will be permitted to start without a proper ID check.

What is my responsibility?

For courses that utilize LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor, students are required to have a Windows, MAC computer, iPad, or Chromebook, a Web Cam, and download the LockDown Browser. You will be prompted to download the Lockdown Browser when launching the quiz in MyCourses.

Need help? Contact

[Lockdown Browser/Respondus Monitor Support](#)

Copyleaks

The instructor of this course may require the use of Copyleaks as a tool to promote learning. The tool identifies similarities and potential issues in written work that merit review. Use of the service enables students and faculty to pinpoint areas that can be improved through enhanced paraphrasing, source integration, or proper citation.

Submitted papers are analyzed for originality and remain confidential within the Copyleaks system for this purpose only. Students retain full copyright to their work. Review the [Copyleaks Usage Agreement](#) for full details. Students who do not wish to submit work through Copyleaks must notify their instructor via course email within the first seven days of the course.

In lieu of using Copyleaks, faculty may require a student to submit copies of sources, preliminary drafts, a research journal, or an annotated bibliography.

View the [Accessing the Similarity Report](#) tutorial.

Learner Support and Other Student Resources

Use the following links to view web sites on SPC's:

- [Free Tutoring](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)
- [Academic Support](#)
- [On-Campus and Online Support](#)
- [Student Services](#)

Additional Resources:

- [Academic Calendar](#)
- [Learning Resources](#)
- [Career Services](#)
- [International Student Services](#)
- [Veterans Services](#)

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct

The behavior of all students in class should reflect a professional, respectful, and compassionate environment. Inappropriate or inconsiderate behavior will result in consequences. Students must be thoughtful of their comments, actions, and decisions, considering how these impact classmates and instructors.

Online Student Participation and Conduct Guidelines

The practices of courtesy and respect that apply in the on-campus classroom also apply online. Any discriminatory, derogatory, or inappropriate comments are unacceptable and subject to the same disciplinary action applied in courses offered on campus.

Netiquette

Whether you are in an online class or a physical classroom, certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with your peers and your instructors. You need to contribute to a positive learning/teaching environment, respecting the rights of others and their opportunity to learn. No one has the right to interfere with the teaching/learning process. Below are the traits of a successful student. These guidelines pertain whether your course is online or in the classroom.

When communicating, you should always:

- Treat everyone with respect in every communication
- Use your professor's proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you are in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
- Use clear and concise language
- Remember that college level communication should use correct grammar, whether written or spoken. Avoid slang.
- Use correct spelling and avoid texting abbreviations
- Avoid using the caps lock feature as it can be interpreted as yelling online
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and, even when spoken, your message might be misunderstood
- Be cautious with personal information (both yours and others')

When you send an email to your instructor, department chair, dean, or classmates, you should:

- Use a subject line that describes what you are writing about
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
- Be clear, concise, and courteous
- Sign your message with your name
- Use your SPC email account to ensure delivery. Sometime emails from non-SPC accounts are stopped by the spam filter and the recipient may not receive it.

When posting to a discussion board, you should:

- Write posts that are on-topic and within the scope of the course material
- Take your posts seriously; review and edit your posts before sending
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
- Read all messages in a thread before replying
- Avoid repeating someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, "I agree." You should include why you agree or add to the previous point
- Always be respectful of others' opinions, even when they differ from your own
- Express any differing opinions in a respectful, non-critical way
- Not make personal or insulting remarks
- Be open-minded

Recordings in the classroom

Students may record lecturers in class for personal use (such as studying or documenting complaints to the institution) without explicit permission. However, students may not record non-lecture portions of class (such as skills labs, student group work, individual student instruction, Q/A sessions, recording studio critiques, group/individual production and computer lab time, practicums/internships, or clinical/simulation rotations) or other students without explicit permission, and may not disrupt class in making such recordings (such as trying to use a

device with a calculator or calculator app in a class that does not allow calculators, or blocking the view or aisles for others in the class). Having an approved ADA accommodation is considered explicit permission to record from the college.

Students making such recordings may not share recordings without explicit permission and are personally liable for unauthorized dissemination. If in doubt, please discuss with your professor before class.

The instructor has the authority to ask a disruptive student to leave a classroom or lab. The instructor may also delete posts or materials from an online or blended class and/or take disciplinary action if disruptive behavior continues. This ensures that all students in the class have an opportunity to learn.

For additional information, review the [SPC Expectations for Student Conduct](#), [Online Student Participation and Conduct Guidelines](#), and the [SPC Netiquette Policy](#). Please strive to uphold these standards to ensure a positive and productive learning environment.

Auditing a Class

Auditing a course allows a student to take a class without benefit of a grade or credit for the course. Students do not have to seek special permission to audit a course, but they do need to communicate to their instructor they are auditing. If an auditing student has something specific they are hoping to get from the course, they should discuss that with the faculty member during the first week of classes.

Once registered as an audit student, one may not change from credit to audit or from audit to credit after the drop/add period. However, under certain circumstances, a student may appeal to the appropriate Dean and request a change from audit to credit status after the registration period has expired, but have 60 days into the subsequent term to appeal the status change. The Dean will verify with the instructor that the student completed all of the requirements for credit in the course. The Dean's decision is the final decision.

Audit students are required to meet course prerequisites including appropriate scores on the St. Petersburg College Placement Test unless such requirements are waived by obtaining permission through the Dean.

Please note: Not all courses are eligible for auditing.

Student Survey of Instruction

The Student Survey of Instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

Title IX

At St. Petersburg College, our faculty are dedicated to fostering a secure and open environment conducive to learning for all students. Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you, or someone you are aware of, has experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, or any form of sexual misconduct, which includes incidents like sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, please know that there are avenues for help and support.

We strongly encourage every member of our college community to be proactive, seek assistance, and report occurrences of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office. It's important to be aware that under Title IX regulations, faculty members are obligated to report such incidents to the Title IX Office. However, if you prefer to have a conversation with someone who is not required to report, you can consult the [SPC's Counseling Services](#).

St. Petersburg College urges everyone in our community to step forward, seek support, and report any incidents of sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination to the St. Petersburg College Title IX Office. They can be reached via email at SPCTitleIX@spcollege.edu or by phone at 727-341-3261. Remember, these resources are here for your support and well-being.

Equal Access

St. Petersburg College affirms its equal opportunity policy in accordance with the provisions of the Florida Educational Equity Act and all other relevant state and federal laws, rules and regulations. The College will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or against any qualified individual with disabilities in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this Rule, the College will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact the Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Office at 727-341-3261; by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489; or by email at eaao_director@spcollege.edu.

Accessibility Statement

St. Petersburg College recognizes the importance of equal access for all students. Accessibility Services (AS) is the campus office that supports students with disabilities to approve and coordinate reasonable accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g., learning disability, ADD/ADHD, psychiatric, medical/orthopedic, vision, and/or hearing) are invited to contact their AS campus coordinator ([Accessibility Services Contacts](#)) for a confidential discussion. If an accommodation is deemed to potentially alter the nature of the course, it will require a decision by a committee. Therefore, ample time must be provided to evaluate and process such requests. Students who are currently registered with AS are encouraged to request accommodations early in the semester by logging into their AIMS account. Additional information is available at the college-wide Accessibility Services website www.spcollege.edu/accessibility.

Safety and Security

We want to make sure that you are comfortable on campus and feel secure in your learning environment. The SPC campuses are very safe but you should be aware of your surroundings, just as you are anytime you are in a public space. In each classroom there is an Emergency Response Guide to help you during an emergency. It is also a good idea to be familiar with evacuation routes in buildings that you use frequently. **If you have an emergency, dial 911 immediately.** For information on campus safety and security policies, please call 727-791-2560. More information is also available on the [Campus Safety website](#).

The college website (spcollege.edu) is the best source of information in the event of an emergency. It's possible for something like a hurricane to disrupt classes on campus; if this happens there are plans on how to help you continue your education. You should be comfortable using the Learning Management System (LMS), as it will be key in communicating with faculty about course materials and assignments. Make sure you are familiar with sending and receiving emails, participating in discussion posts, navigating through course materials, and submitting assignments in the LMS. It is important to be able to use the LMS for learning activities if your campus is closed.

Federal and state law requires a person designated as a "sexual predator or offender" to register with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). The FDLE is then required to notify the college if the person attends, or is employed, by a college or university. You can find out more information by calling the FDLE hotline (1-888-FLPREDATOR) or by visiting offender.fdle.state.fl.us/offender. A list of sexual offenders or predators registered for classes at SPC is also available.

Titans Care (Student Assistance Program)

As an SPC student it's vital that you know Titans Care. You can access resources through [SPC's Student Assistance Program \(SAP\)](#), a collaborative resource for students with mental health or general life issues. SAP provides help and education in suicide prevention, mental health,

substance abuse awareness and more. It is SPC's belief that supporting mental wellness is everyone's charge and that one loss as a result of substance abuse, mental illness, or suicide is one too many. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-2738255.

Student Concerns

St. Petersburg College wants to make sure that you are able to receive prompt and fair resolutions to any concerns that you might have. If you feel that you have had a bad experience with a college employee, or you have a concern about college facilities, please bring it to our attention. Begin by speaking directly to the person responsible for the department; direct conflict resolution is an important skill to develop and usually brings about the best results. If you aren't satisfied with the outcome, or are not comfortable approaching the person directly, you may submit the information using an online form: web.spcollege.edu/survey/13002

If you're not able to submit the form online yourself, feel free to ask a college employee to submit the form on your behalf.

SPC Vaccination Policy

SPC is concerned about the health and well-being of all students. We encourage all students to remain current on vaccinations as suggested by appropriate health authorities. SPC does not require vaccinations for general admissions to our degree or certificate programs, with some exceptions for specific programs.

Instructional Continuity During Emergencies

The St. Petersburg College website at www.spcollege.edu is the official source of college information regarding the status of the institution. Other important information will be communicated via SPC Alert, local media outlets, and the college toll-free phone number 866-822-3978. All decisions concerning the discontinuation of college functions, cancellation of

classes, or cessation of operations rest with the President or his/her designee. The College realizes that it is possible for a significant natural disaster to compromise SPC campus facilities sufficiently to disrupt the delivery of classes on campus/campuses for an extended period and is planning ways our operations can continue following such an emergency.

So, if a hurricane or other natural disaster causes significant damage to St. Petersburg College facilities, please visit the college website for an announcement of the College's plan to resume operations.

Further, in the event of such a disaster, the Instructor will continue using the Learning Management System (LMS) for continuation of all required learning and instructional activities in this course, including the issuing of graded online assignments and expectation of student completion of those graded assignments.

Therefore, to keep up with all activities in this course during and after a natural disaster, please plan to continue this course by maintaining online access to the LMS (possibly through duration of the course's regularly scheduled end date). We will finish this course in the LMS, as directed by your Instructor online, and your Instructor will use all graded assignments to assess and issue your final letter grade for this course, as normally planned, despite occurrence of the natural disaster.

For all current updates on pandemic conditions or other events, please visit SPC Updates at <https://www.spcollege.edu/spc-updates>

Terms of Instruction

Please note this syllabus is an instructional guide and that the instructor/professor reserves the right to make any changes to it, as needed. This includes changes to the course schedule and assignments, etc., throughout the term. If changes occur, you will be notified as soon as possible via email and/or an announcement in the LMS. Changes may be necessary for various reasons, including instructor illness, students' progress, weather events, institutional needs, etc. Please approach any changes with flexibility and understanding.