

NorthWest Arkansas Community College  
Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Course Number and Title

**PSYC 1003 The Successful First Year Student**

Catalog Description

Designed for students new to college, this course will help them make a successful transition to the demands of college. Students will learn about the culture and resources of college and will develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, studying, test-taking, and using technology. They will also learn about their individual learning styles and personality characteristics, and will develop educational and career plans and goals. Students will also develop a support system with course faculty and fellow students. The course is designed to be open to all beginning college students.

Prerequisites

None

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

3

Target Audience/Transferability

This is a non-transfer course designed to help both first year and returning college students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for academic success.

Student Learning Outcomes

Goal 1: Development of Study Skills

- Develop and use efficient time management strategies
- Improve reading comprehension
- Develop and use effective strategies for learning new material

Goal 2: Personal Insight

- Identify personal learning style preferences, and develop strategies for succeeding in both preferred and non-preferred learning environments
- Identify individual personality types, and develop strategies for maximizing personal strengths

Goal 3: Technology Use

- Use basic word processing programs
- Use school email system

Goal 4: Awareness of College Resources

- Utilize library resources, including on-line research databases
- Utilize student help resources including the Writing Center and Math Lab

Goal 5: Communication Skills

- Demonstrate professional writing conventions (e.g. grammar, audience awareness, formality) appropriate to purpose and context
- Demonstrate effective oral communication skills
- Define and avoid plagiarism

### Topics

- Technology Competence
- Time Managements
- Learning Styles
- Note Taking Skills
- Test Taking Strategies
- Career Selection
- Public Speaking Skills
- Money Management
- Appreciating Diversity
- Stress Management.

### Forms of Assessment