

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

SCIENCE 100 – SUCCESS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

You can be a scientist! Begin building your scientific identity as a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professional, developing the specific knowledge, thinking and learning skills and strategies, and habits of mind necessary to have a successful career in STEM. Working individually and in teams, students will learn and use skills and strategies to investigate and solve scientific scenarios, practicing the ways that scientific thinking is used to solve problems, and develop the critical thinking ability necessary to be successful in future STEM courses. The skills and knowledge you will gain in this course will be demonstrated through the production of scientific presentations and an e-portfolio that will show your new knowledge, skills and abilities.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Sociocultural, environmental and internal factors relating to the development of a sense of belonging to and self-identification with scientific disciplines
- 2) Significance of goal setting, prioritization of tasks, generating, evaluating and implementing short and long term schedules and career plans
- 3) Misconceptions about learning in STEM
- 4) Mindset: seeing yourself in STEM and expanding your intelligence
- 5) Controlling anxiety; removing fear of failure; sleep, exercise, eating and stress
- 6) Short and long term memory and how it impacts STEM learning
- 7) Reading for understanding in STEM
- 8) Reading as problem solving and a basis for critical thinking in STEM
- 9) Problem solving techniques/methods in STEM
- 10) Beyond learning styles: active learning strategies for STEM courses
- 11) Methods of durable learning: effective study skills for STEM including retrieval practice and its role in learning, Interleaving processes in STEM learning, appropriate use of mnemonic devices
- 12) Embracing learning challenges, and its role in learning
- 13) Note taking methods
- 14) Developing workarounds and compensating skills
- 15) Information literacy; evaluation of STEM primary and secondary literature sources based on accuracy, completeness and reliability
- 16) Identification of components of a peer-reviewed article, reading and analysis of peer-reviewed articles
- 17) Technical writing skills for STEM; development of technical presentations
- 18) Metacognition: thinking about learning as a platform for learning in STEM
- 19) Critical thinking processes in STEM; the connection between reading, problem solving and critical thinking
- 20) Use of college resources including the college catalog, tutoring, library, career exploration, counseling
- 21) Working effectively in groups and teams
- 22) Oral and written communication of STEM information
- 23) Development of a STEM resume

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify and apply appropriate learning techniques and strategies to achieve learning objectives of STEM courses.
- 2) Identify and apply effective strategies for managing the challenges faced by STEM college students.
- 3) Demonstrate ability to solve problems in STEM.
- 4) Demonstrate an understanding of the science of learning and how it applies to learning in STEM.
- 5) Effectively present research information to a non-STEM or STEM audience.
- 6) Develop an e-portfolio that demonstrates examples of student work and career planning information.

Methods of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) In-class activities and homework assignments that measures the student's ability to use the principles of learning.
- 2) Campus resources presentation or paper
- 3) Poster project
- 4) Quizzes to demonstrate learning of background knowledge
- 5) e-Portfolio

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Active learning classroom with Smart cart, White boards, projection system
- 2) Laptop Computers with Internet access
- 3) Basic scientific laboratory and equipment

Method of Instruction

- 1) Problem based learning scenarios
- 2) Small/large group discussion/active learning exercises
- 3) In-class activities and independent homework, research projects
- 4) Individual and group presentations
- 5) Development of e-portfolio

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Required reading in the textbook or other recommended sources and completion of a reading journal
- 2) Completion of pre-class and post-class assignments.
- 3) Completion of research or other assignments and written laboratory work

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Brown, Peter C, H.L. Roediger and M. A. McDaniel. *Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning*. First edition. The Belnap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. 2014.
- 2) Supplemental: Success in STEM Course Reader

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Identify and apply appropriate learning techniques and strategies to achieve learning objectives of STEM courses.
- 2) Identify and apply effective strategies for managing the challenges faced by STEM college students.
- 3) Demonstrate ability to solve problems in STEM.
- 4) Demonstrate an understanding of the science of learning and how it applies to learning in STEM.
- 5) Effectively present research information to a non-STEM or STEM audience.
- 6) Develop an e-portfolio that demonstrates examples of student work and career planning information.