



The First Year Experience Community Update

October 2015
Vol. 4 Issue 2

Cornerstone Faculty Feature



Dennis Di Sarro

Professor, Emergency Services
& Cornerstone Experience

Why did you choose to teach SLS 1515?

I wanted to teach SLS 1515 so I could be a positive role model for first-year college students. I feel it is important to provide guidance to these students and help them choose a career path that resonates with their personalities and will provide fulfillment for years to come.

What do you enjoy most about teaching the class?

For me, watching the students' journey as they make their way through the course is most fulfilling. I also enjoy the large diversity of the student population as it mirrors that of our great country. The social aspect of the course also helps the students assimilate into the college culture.

How did the course change you?

I find myself using SLS activities in the Paramedic program to help students manage the challenges of college. For example, in the program we focus on things like time management, learning styles, and critical thinking skills. This has made me, in my opinion, a more well-rounded facilitator of education in my field.

First Year Experience Programming

438

FYE workshops and events are scheduled college-wide for the fall semester.

94.7%

of FYE workshop participants survey respondents would recommend the workshop to a friend.

FYE Workshop Student Testimonials

"The presenter was very enthusiastic and the workshop was life changing." – Challenge Cards

"It was really good and informative. I learned a lot about different websites for studying that I didn't know before."

– Tech Tools

"It was interesting listening to other people's point of views and being able to share mine." – Cookies & Current Events

Critical Thinking in Careers Lecture Series

This fall Cornerstone students have the opportunity to enjoy ten excellent Critical Thinking in Careers lectures. Dr. Denis Wright, Dr. John Meyer, Chris Spiro, and Dr. Wendy Chase facilitated engaging and thought provoking sessions during the month of September. Pictured below are photos from the first four lectures as well as several student comments.



Dr. Denis Wright



Chris Spiro



Dr. Wendy Chase

Student Testimonial

"The lecture helped me focus on my career goals."

"Personal touches/ anecdotes really kept it engaging. I enjoyed the real life examples, especially the Yanomami story."

"Fast-paced, interesting, opened my mind and perspective."

"Very Insightful! / The example of the exhibition really got me thinking!"



Dr. John Meyer

"I loved the real world experience and how the speaker kept the audience involved."

Service Saturday: Beach Cleanup

On Saturday, August 19, 2015, approximately 400 FSW students volunteered roughly 800 hours cleaning the shorelines of Fort Myers Beach, Lover's Key, Bonita Beach and Lowdermilk Park.

Upcoming Service Events

October 10

Breast Cancer Awareness Walk

October 31

Surfers For Autism

November 14

STEM event at the Imaginarium

December 10

Heart Walk

Ongoing:

- Fundraising and donation drives
- Several partner service events with Lee County Animal Services



Student Testimonial

"I had a blast volunteering for the beach cleanup. I helped the environment and made new friends. Great experience!"

100%

of beach cleanup participants survey respondents noted that they would volunteer with FSW again.



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