

The First Year Experience Community Update

September 2016 Volume 5 Issue 1

Cornerstone Faculty Feature



Robert Olancin Professor, English for Academic Purposes and Cornerstone Experience

What do you enjoy most about teaching the Cornerstone Experience course?

I most enjoy the freedom and the challenges of SLS 1515. The variety of topics that we explore encompass such a broad range that every class can be relevant and interesting. The challenge of coming up with ways to incorporate everything into my classes keeps me constantly revising and creating. As an EAP professor, I have a great love and respect for the English language— especially the way it is used in an academic setting. To be successful in college, a student needs good communication skills. I see this as the area that I can make the most impact in preparing my students to be successful scholars.

Why did you choose to teach SLS 1515?

I see SLS 1515 as an important first step in our students' academic journey. High school does not always equip students with the necessary skills to be successful in college. This is why I chose to teach SLS 1515. Without it, many students would find themselves unprepared and unsuccessful.

How did the course change you?

Teaching this class has made me even more aware of the importance of not only teaching my students the required content skills, but also the necessary information literacy, time management, goal setting, note taking and all of the other skills students need to acquire.



Drs. Stewart and DeLuca join the 2016 Peer Architect team during training prior to the start of the fall semester.

OEP Implementation Year 5 Fall 2016

Cornerstone Experience by the Numbers : Fall 2016



*Statistics as of 8/30/16

First Year Experience Programming

This fall, the Office of First Year Experience will host over 400 educational workshops and lectures collegewide. Visit our web page <u>www.fsw.edu/fye</u> to view campus specific programming calendars. We are excited to announce another great year of Critical Thinking Lectures featuring business and community leaders along with distinguished FSW faculty and administrators. Attached, please find the flyer for the Fall 2016 Critical Thinking Lecture Series. We invite all students, faculty, and staff to attend and enjoy the lecture series.

Peer Architects

43 students were selected to serve as Peer Architects this fall. Peer Architects attended college-wide training as well as campus-specific training. Dr. Jeff Stewart, Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Dr. Mary Schultz, and Whitney Rhyne were featured speakers. Cornerstone instructors shared their expertise through a Cornerstone Experience panel. Dr. DiPofi, Professor Olson, Professor Newhouse, and Dr. Schultz severed as panelists. The college-wide Peer Architect team is pictured below welcoming the new freshman class of 2016 to campus. Peer Architects have an average GPA of 3.48.



Florida SouthWestern State College, an equal access institution, prohibits discrimination in its employment, programs and activities based on race, sex, gender, age, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information or veteran's status. The College is an equal access/equal opportunity institution. Questions pertaining to educational equity, equal access, or equal opportunity should be addressed to Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33919, equity@fsw.edu, (239) 489-9051 or to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.