



## GNST 1001

**Division:** Office of VP for Academic Affairs

**Department:** General Studies

**Course:** GNST 1001

**Title:** Start Smart

**Catalog Description:**

This course is recommended for all first-year students at Snow College. The course is taught during two days before regular classes begin for fall semester and in periodic meetings throughout the semester. The course is designed to help new students learn what they need to know to be successful learners at Snow College, to map out a written academic plan for their stay at the College, and to make helpful social connections.

**General Education Requirements:** N/A

**Semesters Offered:** Fall

**Credit/Time Requirement:** Credit: 1; Lecture: 1; Lab: 1

**Clock/Hour Requirements:** 0

**Offered for Non-Credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** N/A

**Corequisites:** N/A

**Justification:**

The purpose of the course is to bring together many of the separate components that entering students may not experience on their own. It is intended to help them develop a good academic and social foundation before classes begin in order to maximize their chances for academic success. Other institutions offer or require similar courses, i.e. University Studies 1000, a one-credit orientation course required of all beginning students at Southern Utah University.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course students will:

- map out a written educational plan for their stay at Snow College
- be familiar with the General Education learning outcomes
- know how to assemble and maintain an academic portfolio tied to the Snow College General Education learning outcomes
- know some essential study skills

- know how to use campus technology and information resources
- complete an entering student survey
- make valuable social contacts

**Content:**

During the course the students will:

- meet with their advisor to consider and write their educational plan and review their schedule of courses
- be instructed regarding the purpose and value of General Education and become familiar with the learning outcomes connected with G.E. courses
- be introduced to portfolios and taught how to develop and maintain them during their stay at Snow
- be introduced to effective study skills and strategies
- be introduced to the many learning resources on campus
- be introduced to the financial, health, and social resources on campus
- participate in campus social and cultural activities.

**General Education Outcomes:**

2) Write clearly, informatively, and persuasively.

Students will be instructed and will write a clear and concise narrative learning plan which will be reviewed by the instructor and revised by the student. The original and the revised plans will become part of each student's academic portfolio.

**Key Performance Indicators:**

In class:

- Quality of the written Educational Plan (20%)
- Quizzes on the readings (10%)
- Homework (10%)
- Active participation in class meetings and other assigned activities (40%)
- Progress toward establishing a Snow College academic portfolio (20%)
- Grades for the course will be A, B, C and No Credit
- Followup data will be collected on student retention and learning success.

Percentages are approximate.

**Representative Text and/or Supplies:**

- The current Snow College Academic Catalog and Fall Class Schedule (available electronically)
- Other relevant materials as assigned



**Signatures:**

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

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Erick Faatz, MA, Associate Professor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the General Studies Department:

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Kim Cragun, MS, Associate Professor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Office of VP for Academic Affairs Division:

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Gary Smith, Ph.D, , Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

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Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

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Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)