

**Student Success Seminar
SPRING 2026 Course Syllabus
ID 298: Success Strategies
January 5 – May 2
Location: Online on Canvas**

Instructor:

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Course Description (Catalog Entry):

ID 298 is a comprehensive academic success seminar designed to enhance academic learning skills and success in the classroom. In this seminar, you will learn strategies for creating greater academic and personal success. You will have the opportunity to learn study tips, life management, note-taking strategies, and how to study for exams. Students will construct a success plan to effectively reach academic goals while developing a greater awareness of emotional intelligence, and self-management skills to maximize learning comprehension. Students will also develop problem-solving, decision-making, and critical thinking skills.

University College Success Scholars version of ID 298

ID 298 provides students with an opportunity to explore their inner thoughts, beliefs, and behavior patterns and how those patterns affect short and long-term success. The course utilizes research-driven concepts and practices shown to immediately improve college success for students but also improve habits for lifelong learning and success.

Delivery Method:

Asynchronous: Only for Distance Education and fully online students. ID 298 is required for online students with successful disqualification appeals from the prior fall, spring or summer terms.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students who fully participate will:

1. Clearly articulate personal strengths and areas for growth in academics;
2. Develop new concepts and perspectives regarding the learning process and oneself as a learner;
3. Implement effective goal-setting strategies; gain confidence and consistency in setting and monitoring meaningful progress toward goals;
4. Increase levels of autonomy and personal responsibility for daily actions, drawing clear connections between those actions and “big picture” outcomes;

5. Identify and practice strategies for maintaining hopeful attitudes, exercising positive coping skills, and sustaining high levels of motivation needed to promote achievement of short- and long-term goals;
6. Utilize appropriate resources to improve skills in writing, planning, organization, concentration, communication, career planning, time management, managing anxiety and other emotions, and other areas considered vital to attaining personal and professional purpose, success, and well-being.

Course Requirements/Assignments: The components of your final grade are:

<i>Assignments:</i>	<i>Quantity:</i>	<i>Points per Category:</i>	<i>Total Points:</i>
Online Discussions	14	10	140
Weekly Assignments	14	10	140
UCSS Meeting Assignments	4	25	100
Final Project	1	70	70
Attendance	5	10	50
TOTAL			500

Grading:

ID 298 is a 1-credit, A/B/C/ No Credit (NC) course. The compilation of your semester’s participation, work, and effort will be assessed in determining whether you receive credit in this course. A/B/C grades do contribute to your institution and cumulative GPAs while NC credit does not.

A = 500 – 450 points

B = 449 – 350 points

C = 349 – 250 points

No Credit = 249 >

Assignment Descriptions:

Weekly Canvas Discussion Requirements

- **Original Post:** Each student must submit one original post per week (worth 5 points).
- **Response:** In addition, you must respond to either a discussion topic or a classmate’s post (worth 5 points).
- **Encouraged Participation:** You are welcome to post more than once per week to foster meaningful discussions.
- **Quality Matters:** Posts must be insightful and contribute productively to the conversation, as determined by the instructor.

- **Timing:** Discussion topics will open and close weekly. Do not wait until the end of the semester—participate consistently.
- **Points:** Each week’s participation is worth 10 points, for a total of 150 points across the semester.
- **Attendance Note:** Posting your weekly discussion question serves as your attendance record for that week.

Weekly Assignments (10 points each)

You will be assigned an assignment to turn in for credit each week consistent with the content covered in that week. Often these assignments will be reflective journals where you will write a reflection based on a prompt that can be found in your Canvas module. Journal reflections should be no less than 150 but not exceed 300 words.

UCSS Meetings (4@ 25 points each)

University College Success Scholars (UCSS) must meet with their academic advisor and assigned student success coach as part of their participation in the program. Following each of these meetings, you will be asked to submit an assignment. Instructions for each of these assignments will be shared by your instructor.

Final Project (100 points)

You will be assigned a final project that will reflect a comprehensive concept that you have learned during your time in the course. Format and specific guidelines for the project will be provided in class by your instructor.

Attendance:

Attendance is not taken in the online course format. However, your weekly participation will be captured through posting your **weekly discussion questions** in Canvas. This serves as your attendance record for the week. If you are too ill to participate in the course or submit an assignment by the due date, you should inform your instructor as soon as possible to create a plan for meeting course requirements.

Statement on the Disqualification Appeal Component and UCSS

Active participation and engagement in ID 298 is a mandatory component of your successful appeal from academic separation during the current term. Students who are not successfully completing requirements in the course may be required to withdraw from all BSU classes prior to the withdrawal deadline. Student status in ID 298 and other classes will be discussed in the Instructor Individual Appointment assignment listed above. If students do not attend their meeting or respond to the instructor, their classes may automatically be dropped.

University Statement:

We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse.

Disability Statement:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's [Disability Services](#) office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodation can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Inclement Weather/University Closing:

Because this is a self-paced online course, inclement weather and university closures do not apply. Because weather and other emergencies (including loss of internet) are always a possibility, good practice is to not wait until the deadline.

Late Work Policy:

All assignments for the week are due on Sunday at 11:59 P.M. No late work will be accepted without *prior communication and approval* from the instructor.

Communication:

Students and faculty are expected to communicate in a professional and timely manner using Ball State official email or phone. Please communicate any special circumstances for missed assignments ahead of class times and due dates. The instructor will respond to any communication within 2 business days. You are responsible for checking Ball State email daily for any updates. **To maintain clear and effective communication, if an email exchange involves more than two messages, please schedule a virtual meeting. This helps ensure clarity and prevent miscommunication.**

Semester Calendar (subject to change):

	Date	Scheduled Topics/Group Meetings	Assignments due by 11:59pm the Sunday of the week
Week 1	1/5 - 11	Course Introduction & Expectations	Online Discussion 1
Week 2	1/12 - 18	Getting Ready, Grit, Assuming Responsibility, Choosing What to Bring with You, Managing Old Friends	Online Discussion 2
Week 3	1/19 - 25	Time Management and Your Study Plan, Student Conduct and Civility	Online Discussion 3
Week 4	1/26 - 2/1	Ch. 2A: Iceberg, College Structure and Culture	Online Discussion 4
Week 5	2/2 - 8	Activating Your Brain, SMART Goals, Self-Care, Common Barriers to College Success	Online Discussion 5
Week 6	2/9 - 15	Using Your Resources	Online Discussion 6
Week 7	2/16 - 22	Financial Literacy, University Services	Online Discussion 7 Instructor Appointment Deadline
Week 8	2/23 - 3/1	Engaging with Student Life	Online Discussion 8 Advising Appointment Deadline
Week 9	3/9 - 15	Self-Empathy and Growth Mindset	Online Discussion 9
Week 10	3/16 - 22	Next-Level Academic Skills, Active Listening, Reading, Test-Taking	Online Discussion 10

Week 11	3/23 - 29	Letting Go, Emotional Intelligence, Cognitive Distortions, Emotions and Learning, Resilience, Making Effective Decisions	Online Discussion 11
Week 12	3/30 - 4/5	Overcoming Anxiety and Stress, Hope	Online Discussion 12
Week 13	4/6 - 12	Revisiting Goals, Study Habits Assessment	Online Discussion 13
Week 14	4/13 - 19	Staying Motivated, Passengers and Drivers, Preparing for Finals	Online Discussion 14
Week 15	4/20 - 24	Final Project and Course Close	Final Project Due by 11:59pm on 12/11
Week 16	4/25 - 5/1	Finals Week	No Final Exam