

GT 1000: First-Year Seminar  
Section: BIO● Fall 2014

**WELCOME TO TECH!** The goal of this first-year seminar course is to help you begin your transition to college by becoming better acquainted with the academic and social environments here at Georgia Tech. This section is specifically designed with **first-year college students** in mind. The transition to college is exciting, overwhelming, challenging, eventful, and more—and all at once! We're here as a community that will support you through this fascinating time. Our goal is to help you acquire strategies that promote academic, social, and professional success. The first lesson to learn is to ask as many questions as possible. Not knowing is okay here!

***Class Schedule and Location:***

Monday, 2:05-2:55 PM, CULC, Room 325.

***Instructors: Dr. Mirjana M. Brockett***

Email: [mirjana.brockett@biology.gatech.edu](mailto:mirjana.brockett@biology.gatech.edu)

Office Hours: M, W, F from 11-12

Location: 323 CE

***Team Leaders (TLs):***

Olivia Williams

[owilliams31@gatech.edu](mailto:owilliams31@gatech.edu)

Skylar Brown

[sbrown92@gatech.edu](mailto:sbrown92@gatech.edu)

Youngmin Kim

[ykim483@gatech.edu](mailto:ykim483@gatech.edu)

***Required Materials:***

*GT1000 First-Year Seminar eBook: 2014-2015 Edition.* This text is available at the Georgia Tech Bookstore and through Cengage's microsite. (Purchase of the book is required).

*Project One: Digital Lives* (<http://p1.gatech.edu>): We'll be discussing the core text of Project One "The Truth of Fact, the Truth of Feeling, Ted Chiang, short readings provided by Georgia Tech Colleges, and the core theme this year of "Digital Lives."

- These texts and videos are provided for free for students at FASET via USB drives. If you did not receive the USB drive, please visit the Center for Academic Enrichment in CULC 205 and ask for Dr. Nirmal Trivedi. All readings are also available via the Project One community site at <http://mahara.gatech.edu>.

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*A Planner/Calendar:* You can purchase a planner from the bookstore or use an electronic system. We will periodically use your planner when discussing time management throughout the semester.

***Technology:***

**T-square Site:** We will be using T-square throughout the semester. The web address is: <http://www.tsquare.gatech.edu>. You will need your ID and password to log in (same as GT email).

**Project One:** We will be using Project One throughout the semester. The main site for Project One is <http://p1.gatech.edu>. The community site for all interaction related to Project One occurs on Mahara, located at <http://mahara.gatech.edu>. To access Mahara, you will need your ID and password to log in (same as GT email).

***Grading:***

Grading for the course is based on earning a maximum of 1000 points:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Class Attendance and Participation	500
Assignments	300
Group Project and Presentation	200
Extra Credit	50

*Letter grades will be assigned according to the following:*

<i>A</i>	900-1000
<i>B</i>	800– 890
<i>C</i>	700-790
<i>D</i>	600–690
<i>F</i>	< 600

***Assignments:***

*LASSI Assignment and Self-Assessments*

You will be asked to complete the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI) as one of your assignments and reflect on your strengths and areas that need work.

**Instructions for access to the LASSI**

Visit <http://www.hhpubco.com/lassi>

You will need to enter these codes:

school number: 71090

user name: ukpz

user password: snd4n

As soon as you take the LASSI (which should take about 20 minutes), you will submit it and immediately receive your results via email. Your results will be charted on 10 scales, with a key on how to interpret them at the bottom of the chart; there is also an attached page with more information about each scale and what it means to your academic life. If you would like to schedule an Academic Coaching appointment to discuss your results, please talk to me about contacting the Center for Academic Success: [success@gatech.edu](mailto:success@gatech.edu).

**LASSI Modules (optional, but encouraged)**

If you would like to complete the assessment with more information on how to improve in any of the scales you can go work on the online modules “Becoming a Strategic Learner”

Visit <http://www.lassimodules.com>

School number: 55684

School key: gxuv

The first time you logon, you’ll need to first register your own (free) account by clicking the “register” link on the left. You’ll create your own user name and be assigned a password, which you’ll use each time you want to work on the modules. There is a module for each of the 10 LASSI scales. You can choose to work through all the modules, or just the one(s) you want to strengthen or improve. Each module is entirely self-paced and save your answers online, so you can spend a few minutes or a couple of hours working on them. Just be sure to logoff –then next time you logon, you’ll be taken right back to where you were previously working.

*Career Fair*

On Sep 8-9 Georgia Tech will be hosting the annual career fair.

Location: Campus Recreation Center (CRC)

For registration and additional information, please go to the following link: <http://career.gatech.edu/careerfair/>

You will be required to attend as a field observer to explore the social signifiers and the environment of the fair. You will be required to complete a form and submit your findings the next class meeting.

*Article research Assignment*

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You will be required to research articles of one of the research labs at the School of Biology and write a summary paper of one and to include a copy of the article selected.

*Getting to Know Georgia Tech*

*Journals (3)*

*Group Presentation*

You will select a topic related to the theme of “Digital Lives” and Project One. Working in groups, you will prepare a poster presentation to present to the class. Each member must participate in preparing and giving the presentation. You will also be required to evaluate your classmates’ participation. More details about the topics and guidelines of the presentations will be given in class.

*Resume Assignment*

You will write a resume to be used later for co-op jobs, internships, or other employment.

*Major and Career Project Assignment*

You will be required to explore your chosen major with a faculty and on your own and submit your findings for grading.

*Extra Credit*

Based on the Freshmen Reading: Living with Complexity and throughout this semester, identify design flaws on campus. Take a picture and write up a description of why it creates unnecessary complication. For more information refer to Chapter 3 of the book. Each submission is worth 1% of extra credit towards your finals grade up to a total of 5%.

***Course Expectations and Guidelines:***

- The Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code applies to all work submitted in this course. To review the Honor Code, please visit <http://www.honor.gatech.edu>.
- Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations to participate fully in the course activities or meet course requirements are encouraged to register with the ADAPTS Disability services at 404.894.2564 or <http://adapts.gatech.edu>.
- You are expected to log into the class T-square site and to check your email daily.
- Appropriate classroom behavior is expected at all times. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, beepers, laptops, or any other electronic device that makes noise (unless they are part of our class).
- Please take a moment to review the “Student-Faculty Expectations” document here:
  - <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22.php>.
- Anything turned late will be marked down 10% per day.

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*Course Calendar*

Week	Date	Key GT Date	Overview	Readings & Assignments Due
1	18 August	Phase II Registration. Add/Drop ends 8/22	<b>Session 1: What is GT1000?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Intro</li> <li>• Ice Breaker</li> <li>• Introduce getting to know Georgia Tech Assignment</li> </ul>	
2	25 August		<b>Session 2: University Culture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project One and Mahara</li> </ul>	Complete the pre-semester survey at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/f2014-pre">https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/f2014-pre</a>  Enter profile into <a href="https://mahara.gatech.edu/">https://mahara.gatech.edu/</a> A Few Georgia Tech Facts and Figures. (eBook)  Ellis, Making Transitions to Higher Ed. (eBook) Altizer& Crocker, Campus Safety. (eBook)  <b>Journal Entry in Mahara:</b> <i>What I know about being successful in college.</i>
	1 September		<b>Labor Day: Holiday</b>	
3	8 September		<b>Session 3: Time Management</b>	Ellis, Goals, Time & Procrastination. (eBook)  Kirk S. Kidwell, Understanding the College First-Year Experience. (eBook)  Spend at least 30 minutes experimenting with two or more web-based tools in article.
4	15 September		<b>Session 4: Research in Biological Sciences</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaker from UROP (20 min).</li> </ul>	Britt Andreatta, Research and the Research University. (eBook)  Howard K. Schein, et al., How Do I Find Out What Faculty Are Doing? (eBook)
5	22 September	9/26 Progress Reports	<b>Session 4: Joining a Community and Academic Integrity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce Major &amp; Career Assignment</li> <li>• (Re)introduce Project One and Mahara</li> </ul>	Ethics of Communicating with Faculty. (eBook)
6	29 September		<b>Session 5: Bio Major &amp; Career Research</b>	Researching & Choosing Your Major & Career. (eBook)

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7	6 October		<b>Session 6: Community Service, Leadership &amp; Involvement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify needs</li> <li>Discuss benefits and obligations of citizenship</li> </ul>	Everett Dean Martin, Excerpts from The Meaning of a Liberal Education. (eBook)
	13 October	<b>Fall Break</b>		
8	20 October		<b>Session 7: Biology Career Exploration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speaker from C2D2</li> </ul>	<b>Journal Entry in Mahara – What I thought I knew: college in real life</b>  Ballard, Job Search: Chance or Plan? (eBook)
9	27 October		<b>Session 8: Learning Strategies and Styles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LASSI activity with CAS</li> <li>Introduce Resume Assignment</li> </ul>	Center for Academic Success (CAS), Using the LASSI to Enhance Your Skills as a Strategic Learner (eBook)  <b>Submit copy of your LASSI results in class</b>
10	3 November		<b>Session 9: Resume Writing</b>	<b>Submit Biology major/career assignment</b> Resumes and Cover Letters. (eBook)
11	10 November		<b>Session 10: Presentation Skills and Career Development Skills</b>	Dave Ellis, Mastering Public Speaking. (eBook) <b>Submit first draft of resume</b>
12	17 November		<b>Session 11: Team Presentations</b>	Final project/presentations <b>Submit final draft of resume</b>
13	24 November	11/27-11/28 Thanksgiving Holiday!	<b>Session 12: Team Presentations</b>	Final project/presentations !
14	1 December		<b>Session 13: “Dead” Week</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing for Final Exams</li> <li>Looking ahead to Spring Semester</li> <li>Wrapping up the Course</li> </ul>	<b>Submit Getting to Know Georgia Tech Project</b> <b>Submit Journal Entry in Mahara: <i>What I know now.</i></b>
			EXAM WEEK	<b>No final exam for GT 1000</b>

More details about our projects and assignments will be given in class!