**FYEX 102 INTEREST GROUP SEMINAR – 1 credit**

Name of Interest Group

Location of Class (Room and Building)

Course Section

Semester and Year

Class Meeting Time(s)

**Course Delivery Mode/Format:** (Online course? Seminar? Hybrid?)

Name of Instructor:

Instructor Contact Information:

Peer Educator (if applicable):

Fall 2023 [Academic Calendar](https://www.shepherd.edu/academic-calendar/first-semester-fall-2023)

[The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus. In the event that this action becomes necessary, students will be notified in a reasonable and timely fashion.]

**Course Description**:

This one-credit course is centered on a common interest shared by a faculty or staff member and the students enrolled in the course. Students will sign up for an interest of their choice; together the students and faculty/staff mentor will explore the interest as well as discuss survival skills for incoming students. The course will consist of small group meetings. In addition to active, participatory experiences that enhance learning, students will complete a wellness activity and an information literacy activity.

Students must successfully pass a FYEX course in order to meet the core curriculum requirement.

**LEAP Goal:** This course addresses LEAP Goal No. 2: Intellectual and Practical Skills throughout the Curriculum.

**Learning Outcomes**:

* Learn strategies to help you survive and thrive during your first semester on campus and beyond;
* Understand yourself better as you transition into college life and develop critical thinking skills;
* Grow more comfortable interacting with and learning about people around you;
* Learn to identify, locate, evaluate and effectively and responsibly use and share information for a problem at hand;
* Learn to promote self-care (wellness) decisions that will improve the quality of life.

This course is a part of the First Tier (Initial Inquiry) of the Core Curriculum and addresses the following competencies:

Critical Thinking

Life-Long Learning

Wellness

Information Literacy

Experiential Learning

**Required Materials:** (1) Specific materials may be required by the instructor;

(2) Common Reading: ***No Visible Bruises***, by Rachel Louise Snyder; ISBN-**9781635570984**.

For additional resources and information visit: [www.shepherd.edu/commonreading](http://www.shepherd.edu/commonreading)

**Class Discussion Topics/Assignments or Activities:** In addition to active, participatory experiences that enhance learning and critical thinking, students will complete a wellness activity and an information literacy activity. Additional discussion topics may be infused during class meetings such as:

Goal Setting/Student Success Time Management Study Skills Homesickness/Roommate ProblemsTest Anxiety Diversity

Learning Styles Coping with Stress Academic Integrity

Peer Pressure/Making Good Decisions Common Reading Life-long learning

**Class Policies:**

* Attend class and be on time.
* Check your Shepherd email daily- you are responsible for all information delivered via your email.
* Check your class Brightspace page daily- you are responsible for all information delivered via Brightspace.
* Be respectful of your peers in class and online. Be respectful to instructor and all guest speakers.
* Completion of assigned readings and other assignments/requirements/activities as determined by the instructor.

**Class Attendance:**

* You **MUST** attend your classes regularly and engage in the requirements for each class; otherwise, **your financial aid may be revoked** either partially or in full. This would result in an amount due by you to the University immediately. Please refer to <http://www.shepherd.edu/financialaid> for more details. In addition, class participation and attendance is an important part of your grade for this course.

**Inclement Weather:**

* Students are encouraged to sign up for “RAVE alerts” (<http://www.shepherd.edu/university/rave/>) in order to be informed of campus closures or emergencies. Also, students are encouraged to check the Shepherd website for additional information regarding closings due to inclement weather ([http://www.shepherd.edu](http://www.shepherd.edu/)).
* In the event that you are unable to make it to class due to inclement weather, you must contact the instructor via email *before* class regarding your absence and making up any missed assignments. Assignments may be submitted before class via Brightspace in the event that inclement weather prevents you from making it to campus.
* In the event that the instructor needs to cancel class due to inclement weather, an email regarding this will be sent at least one hour before class.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**:

* Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Shepherd University Academic Integrity Procedures found in the **Shepherd University Student Handbook** (Academic Integrity policy: Section VII: <http://www.shepherd.edu/student-handbook/undergraduate-academic-rights-and-responsibilities>)
* **Shepherd University Honor Code:**

“As a member of the Shepherd University community of scholars, I will uphold the fundamental values of Academic Integrity - Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility.”

**Accessibility Services:**

Shepherd University strives to make learning experiences accessible to all students and will provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you experience difficulties, based on the impact of a disability, please contact Accessibility Services, Gardiner Hall G13, 304-876-5122, or accessibility@shepherd.edu to initiate a conversation about your options. Students must register with the Office of Accessibility Services and provide their accommodation letter to each of their instructors. Please know that accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, please visit [Accessibility Services](https://www.shepherd.edu/accessibility)

**Academic Support:**

* Peer tutoring (Fact-to-face or virtual) is free for all students and available for nearly all subjects. Sign up online to schedule a tutoring session: <http://www.shepherd.edu/academic-support/> Located in Scarborough Library 103, the Academic Support Center offers free tutoring and more! For more information: 304-876-5221
* Tutor.com is a free virtual tutoring service available 24/7 to all students via Brightspace.

**(You may wish to include a rubric for outlining grade determination. Contact me if you’d like a sample rubric)**

Course Timeline with clear exam schedules, assignments and due dates:

Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

Week 5

Week 6

Week 7

Week 8

Week 9

Week 10

Week 11

Week 12

Week 13

Week 14

Week 15

Important Dates to Remember:

Monday, August 21, 2023 - Classes Begin

**August 21-25 Add/Drop and Late Registration via RAIL or at Ikenberry - Consult Advisor**

Friday, September 1, 2023

Last Day for Instructor-Approved Late Adds via RAIL, through 4pm.

Friday, September 22

Last Day to Withdraw from first-half semester class — See Advisor by Noon

**October 2-6 – Midterm Week**

Monday, October 9, 2023 - Second-half semester classes begin

Tuesday, October 10 - Mid-term Grades Available on RAIL (tentative)

**October 12-13, 2023 – Fall Break**

**Oct. 25 – Nov. 8 - Academic Advisement for Continuing Students for Spring 2024**

Friday, October 20

Last Day to Withdraw from a Full Semester Class — See Advisor by Noon

Monday, November 6, 2023

First Day of Spring 2024 RAIL Registration for Continuing Students; 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Friday, November 10, 2023

Last Day to Withdraw from second-half semester class — See Advisor by Noon

**November 19 - 26 - Thanksgiving Recess**

Friday, December 1, 2023

Last Day of Classes & Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from Semester

**December 4-8 – Finals Week**

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - Grades will be available via RAIL (tentative)

Add/Drop occurs the first week of each semester. If you need to make changes to your schedule, do it between Aug. 21-25 to avoid paperwork and other restrictions. Consult your advisor or the Advising Assistance Center on the first floor of the Library for more information.

**Drop vs. Withdraw**

DROP

After the first week, students cannot drop without a petition to the A&C committee. A "drop" means the class disappears as though it was never taken or attempted. A student who drops a course should check with Financial Aid to be sure they have enough credits in the semester to match any financial aid received.

WITHDRAW

Students may withdraw from a full semester course, without petitioning, until Oct. 20, 2023. A "withdraw" does not compute into the student's GPA, but may count as credits attempted. A "W" appears on the transcript. Too many course withdraws can place a student in academic trouble. Students should check with Financial Aid to be sure they are okay regarding student loans, which may be affected by too many credits attempted and not successfully completed.