

EXPLORATIONS

Experiencing the Hendrix World

Engage, Connect, Learn

Professor:

Phone:

Email:

Office & Office Hours:

Expl. Peer Asst. (EPA):

Phone:

Email:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Explorations is a one semester common course taken by all new first-year students at Hendrix. The course meets once a week and carries 0.25 credit. It is designed to assist you in becoming familiar with the mission and expectations of the College, with academic and campus life, and with the broad range of opportunities that are available at Hendrix. Equally important, this course will facilitate your own thoughtful, self-directed, personal exploration, encouraging you to cultivate your interests and abilities, passions and goals. Explorations will enhance your potential for success in all areas of your Hendrix experience.

An upperclass Hendrix student will serve as an Explorations Peer Assistant for the course, bringing perspective and knowledge about Hendrix that adds a vital dimension to the course.

COURSE GOALS

The goals of Explorations are as follows:

1. To assist you in making a successful transition to academic and student life at Hendrix.
2. To assist you in developing and refining your thoughts and abilities in areas relating to your academic and personal fulfillment and success.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Skloot, Rebecca. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. New York: Crown/Random House, 2010.
- Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*. 5th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2008.
- *Guide to Academic Planning*, 2011-2012
- Explorations Notebook, 2011-2012

COURSE EXPECTATIONS, EVALUATION, AND ASSESSMENT

A hallmark of your education at Hendrix is an emphasis on class interaction and discussion. Explorations instructors seek to model these pedagogies with class sessions that include discussion, group activities, and presentations. In order to be prepared for class, you are expected to complete reading and other assignments prior

to the class period for which they are assigned. Expect Explorations assignments and experiences to take, on average, two (2) hours per week outside of class, for an expected total of about 24 hours for the semester. Your grade will be based on the quality of your assigned work, attendance, and class participation and preparation. Missing or late assignments and absences will affect your preparation and participation grade.

Here's how your course grade will be computed:

Attendance.....	20 pts	Grading Scale (points):
Participation & Preparation..	20 pts	90-100.....A
Assignments		80-89.....B
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i> (paper/plan)	30 pts	70-79.....C
“Mini Odyssey” project and oral presentation	20 pts	60-69.....D
Self-Reflection and Advisor Meeting	10 pts	0-59.....F
 TOTAL.....	 100 pts	

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is assumed at Hendrix. Each unexcused absence lowers your attendance grade by five (5) points. Absences related to Hendrix varsity athletics **must** be excused prior to the absence occasioned by the team schedule. Excused absence requests related to health issues must be accompanied by a doctor's note, presented not later than one week after the absence. Other excused absence requests, noted to your instructor in advance, may be considered at the discretion of the instructor. See the Class Attendance Policy in the 2011-2012 *Catalog*.

COMMUNICATION

Hendrix faculty and staff will expect to communicate with you through your Hendrix email account and campus mail regularly and in a timely fashion. Hendrix students are expected to check these sources daily for announcements and assignments. Please note that faculty and staff are not expected to respond to Hendrix email or phone messages outside of standard working hours.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Incidences of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with by the Committee on Academic Integrity. Refer to the Academic Integrity Policy in the 2011-2012 *Catalog*.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the policy of Hendrix College to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Any student who needs accommodation in relation to a recognized disability should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. In order to receive accommodations, students with disabilities are required to contact Julie Brown in Academic Support Services at 505-2954.

EXPLORATIONS SCHEDULE—FALL, 2011

WEEK	DATE	SEMINAR TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES DUE IN CLASS THIS WEEK	RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES / REMINDERS
1	Aug. 23 or 25	Welcome/Overview Expectations/Choices		-Student Activities Fair Aug 26 (11:00-2:00, SLTC) -READ <i>HeLa</i>
2	Aug. 30 or Sept. 1	Liberal Arts Engaged Learning	-DUE: first 1/3 <i>HeLa</i> completed -READ: Hendrix Statement of Purpose -READ: Liberal Arts essay(s), as assigned -TO DO: Set advisor appointment.	-Volunteer Fair Aug 31, 11-2pm SLTC (Worsham)
3	Sept. 6 or 8	Academic Etiquette & Choices	-DUE: second 1/3 <i>HeLa</i> completed -READ, Etiquette/Choice info, as assigned -TO DO: Meet with advisor; take completed Self-Reflection Questionnaire -READ: Class Attendance--Catalog policy	-READ <i>HeLa</i> -Convocation on 9/8 from 11:10-noon in Mills A: Campus-wide project funding opportunities
4	Sept. 13 or 15	<i>HeLa</i> discussion	-DUE: third 1/3 of <i>HeLa</i> completed. -DUE: Self-Reflection Questionnaire (signed by advisor)	-Convocation on 9/15 from 11:10-noon in Mills A: Odyssey project funding opportunities
5	Sept. 20 or 22	Academic Integrity	-READ: Academic Integrity--Catalog policy -DUE: Mini-Odyssey Proposal	- <i>HeLa</i> Convo 9/22, 11:10am-12:00pm -Deadline to drop course with no grade Sept. 23 -Family Weekend Sept. 23-25
6	Sept. 27 or 29	<i>HeLa</i> discussion	-DUE: <i>HeLa</i> paper planning document	

7	Oct. 4 or 6	Higher order writing skills	(<i>HeLa</i> paper: planning document returned with feedback)	
8	Oct. 11 or 13	FALL BREAK - NO EXPLORATIONS		-Fall break October 13–16
9	Oct. 18 or 20	Social Conduct and Integrity	-READ: Student Handbook (excerpts) -DUE: <i>HeLa</i> Paper	
10	Oct. 25 or 27	Liberal Arts and Hendrix Gen Ed. Requirements. Audit sheet.	-READ: <i>Guide to Academic Planning</i> , 1-13 (Bring Guide to class!) -DUE: Audit Sheet (1 st year course) -DUE: Oral Presentation planning document	
11	Nov. 1 or 3	FLEX DAY	(Oral presentation-- planning document returned with feedback)	
12	Nov. 8 or 10	Engaged Learning--Oral Presentations	-DUE: Oral presentation planning document and project completion form	
13	Nov. 15 or 17	Engaged Learning--Oral Presentations	-DUE: Oral presentation planning document and project completion form	
14	Nov. 22 or 24	THANKSGIVING – NO EXPLORATIONS		-Thanksgiving break Nov. 23 - 27
15	Nov. 29 or Dec. 1	Synthesis; course assessment		