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| **Professor****Contact Information** | **Professor:** Irenea WalkerPhone: TBA E-Mail: iwalker2@valenciacollege.edu |
| **Required Materials**  | 1. Text: ***Start Something That Matters, By Blake Mycoskie***
2. Text: ***Strengths Quest By Donald O. Clifton and Edward Anderson***
3. **Valencia College Student Handbook *(provided at New Student Orientation)***
4. Purchase Binder or Folder to maintain all work, handouts & activities
5. Access to **Blackboard**
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| **Credit Hours:** | 3 |
| **Prerequisite:** | None |
| **Course Overview**: | Students will choose a major and articulate a pathway to complete their academic and career goals. Topics in the course include defining your purpose, demonstrating awareness of college support systems, communicating effectively, navigating college sources, applying college success skills, and designing an education plan and creating a financial plan. |
| **Core Competencies of a Valencia Graduate**: | Valencia’s Student Core Competencies are complex abilities that are essential to lifelong success.  This course will help you develop and demonstrate the abilities to (1) think clearly, critically, and creatively; (2) communicate with others verbally and in written form; (3) make reasoned value judgments and responsible commitments; and (4) act purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly.  |
| **Course Information:** | **Major Learning Outcomes:*** Students willcreate a personal purpose statement that outlines and articulates their values, goals, interests, and strengths in relation to their educational and career aspirations.
* Students will choose an academic program aligned with their educational/career goals, interests, strengths, and values.
* Students will design an education plan that includes goals for learning and a financial plan.
* Students will apply college success skills.
* Students will demonstrate effective communication skills with diverse groups.
* Students will demonstrate awareness of college support systems.
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| **General:** | **Policies** |
| **Attendance:** | Because so much of the learning is cumulative, interactive and participatory, attendance is a must! Attendance is required at your assigned class. You should be on time to each class, complete all assignments, and remain in class for the entire time unless prior permission has been given by the instructor to leave early. **Three (3)** absences, without adequate excuse, may result in withdrawal from the courses. Students are responsible for all work presented when they are absent and are also responsible for any announcements made in class. In the event you are going to miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed. Please email or meet with me before or after class, as soon as possible so we can work together to help you stay caught up. |
| **Tardiness/Talking**:  | Tardiness/Talking is considered rude and is unacceptable. Please be on time to class. Questions during class are always accepted as long as they are relevant to the lecture. Students who cause persistent disruption (ringing/singing/beeping/honking/vibrating cell phones) **in class will be asked to leave.**  |
| **Make up/Late Work** | All tests, homework, writing prompts, random take-home work, on-line assignments are due **on the posted due date.** Work turned in at any point after its due date is considered late and will **NOT** be accepted unless you have documentation of an emergency (illness, jury duty, etc.). If at all possible, students who anticipate missing class should hand in work BEFORE the due date to avoid any grade penalties. |
| **Electronic Devices:** | (Phones, iPods, pagers, etc.)**:** Please **TURN THEM OFF** - this does not mean vibrate! Ringing, beeping, buzzing, vibrating, singing, honking, hooting, tooting, electronic devices during class. Pull your iPod (or other MP3) headphones out of your ears (yes, both ears). If you have an emergency situation that requires your cell phone to be on, please notify your instructors at the beginning of class. **Store ALL electronic devices away so they are not visible by the instructor.**  |
| **Class Participation:** | You should consider being a student as a full-time job. You should attend all classes, study sessions, participate in class, ask relevant questions, turn in assignments when they are due, and ask for help when needed from an instructor, tutor, or another student |
| **Withdrawal Policy:** | Per Valencia Policy, a student is permitted to withdraw from a class on or before the withdrawal deadline of a term, as published in the College calendar. A student is not permitted to withdraw from a class after the withdrawal deadline. A student who withdraws from a class before the withdrawal deadline will receive a grade of "W." A faculty member is permitted to withdraw a student from the faculty member's class up to the beginning of the final exam period, for violation of the faculty member's attendance policy, as published in the faculty member's syllabus. A faculty member is not permitted to withdraw a student from his/her class as a response to student conduct which falls under the jurisdiction of the Student Code of Conduct (6Hx28:8-03). A student who is withdrawn by a professor at any time before the start of the final examination period will receive a grade of "W."For more information, please review the official Withdrawal Policy: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/default.cfm?policyID=75&volumeID_1=4&pcdure=0&navst=0>**After the Withdrawal Deadline:**A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A professor may withdraw you up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy in which case you will receive a grade of W. |
| **Student Code of Conduct** | (2014-2015 College Catalog) Valencia College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but it is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty member to leave the classroom. Violation of any classroom or Valencia’s rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.You are expected to do all of your own work on all tests. Giving or receiving information concerning exam content is considered cheating. In NO instance will cheating of any type be tolerated. All work must be your own; any student involved in cheating or plagiarism (including the use of another student’s work) may receive a grade of “F” on a specific assignment, examination, or project, or may be assigned a grade of “F” for the course. The instructor(s) reserves the right to determine penalties within Valencia College's academic honesty policies. In addition, please follow college policy relating to children on campus. Please make arrangements for childcare outside the classroom. |
| **Students with Disabilities** | The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) is committed to the fulfillment of equal educational opportunity, autonomy, and full inclusion for students with disabilities. The OSD exists to determine and ensure appropriate accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities, to assist students in self-advocacy, to educate the Valencia community about disabilities, and to ensure compliance with the ADA, ADAAA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation ACT.In order for the OSD to accommodate students at Valencia College, students MUST register with the OSD. Students are responsible for 1) providing appropriate documentation of the disability and how it limits participation in courses, programs, services, activities and facilities; 2) following the OSD procedures to request accommodations in a timely manner; 3) presenting a Notification to Instructors (NTI) form each term to professors; 4) meeting and discussing accommodation needs with faculty.Student documentation Guidelines: <http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/DocumentationGuidelines.cfm> |
| **Final Exam Project:** | **Your Final Exam is Your Final Story Project Presentation and will begin the last week of the term on final exam day.** |
| **BayCare****New Student Experience Course Policies:** | Valencia College is interested in making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience.  To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help with issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work.  BayCare Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP) services are free to all Valencia students and available 24 hours a day by calling (800) 878-5470. Free face-to-face counseling is also available.**Reading assignments:** MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE CLASS PERIOD FOR WHICH THEY ARE DUE. Class discussion is based on reading; informed participation in discussion is expected.**Writing and/or other homework** will often accompany reading assignments and are due at the *beginning* of the class period. Assignments **WILL NOT** be accepted late without proper documentation. Hastily written work, without depth or thought, will be returned. The 1st occurrence can be resubmitted for a grade, all other occurrences will result in a loss of points. **Technology problems** are no excuse for lateness (for example: “My printer broke…ran out of ink…etc.). There are computer labs on campus or you may email your assignments. You must have your instructor’s permission before any work can be submitted via email and it must be in .rtf format.**Students** are expected to bring all materials, book, pencil/pen and paper to each and every class. **Purpose Paper, My Education Plan, Co-Curricular Experience and Final Story Project are Mandatory‼ Failure to successfully complete any of these assignments will result in an “F” for the New Student Experience course! Extra credit** in NSE can be earned by completing additional assignments as given by your instructor. |
| **Student Success****Grading Scale:** | The following grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade:

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| Assignment | Value | Score |
| LASSI Action Plan | 10 |  |
| Chapter 1 Question/Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 2 Questions/Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 3 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 4 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 5 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 6 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 7 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Chapter 8 Questions/ Reflections | 10 |  |
| Email Etiquette | 10 |  |
| Personal Purpose Activity/ Statement | 50 |  |
| StrengthsQuest Expression | 10 |  |
| Strengths Quest Reflection  | 20 |  |
| Classroom Behavior Reflection | 30 |  |
| MEP Assignments (4 steps) | 100 |  |
| Story Project Check | 50 |  |
| Career Interview | 50 |  |
| Information Literacy Reflection | 20 |  |
| Time Management Hot Spots & Reflection | 30 |  |
| Co-Curricular | 75 |  |
| Cost of College Group Presentation | 50 |  |
| Individual Budget Assignment | 20 |  |
| My Plan Assessment & Reflection | 30 |  |
| Emotional Intelligence & Reflection | 25 |  |
| Proverbs Research & Activity | 20 |  |
| Final Exam – Your Story Project | 200 |  |
| LASSI Action Plan Follow-up | 20 |  |
| Attendance/Participation  | 100 |  |
| Extra Credit (Professional Attire for Final Story Project) | 50 |  |

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| **Disclaimer:** | **This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor** |

* **Note: It is required to complete three Co-Curricular activities before the end of the term. This is an out of class required assignment. Remember to plan accordingly.**

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| Class Activity | Assignments |
| **Week 1** Student Engagement Activity“How We Treat Each Other”Syllabus Review/Course Overview of Blackboard, Atlas, OneDriveLASSI ActivityDiscuss Chapter 1 Questions | **Assignments** **Purchase Books Today!**Read Chapter 1 Start Something That Matters and answer chapter 1 review questions.Complete LASSI Action Plan and upload in Blackboard |
| **Week 2** Active Reading ActivityChapter 2 TOMS - Note-taking activityTime Management Activity | **Assignments** Read Chapter 2 and answer review questionsComplete Time Management Assignment and Reflection and upload in Blackboard |
| **Week 3** Group Activity - Classroom BehaviorsEmail Etiquette ReviewIntroduction to StrengthsQuest | **Assignments** Culture of College Reflection Complete and upload in BlackboardWork on email etiquette |
| **Week 4**StrengthsQuest Expression PresentationsStrengthsQuest Activity – Bring SQ Book to ClassDiscuss Chapter 3 Questions**Week 5**Introduction to Purpose Paper Purpose Activity | **Assignments** Complete Strengths Reflection and upload in BlackboardRead Chapter 3 (TOMS) and complete chapter questions **Assignments**Work on Purpose Paper Draft |
| **Week 6**Career Center PresentationHollands Activity | **Assignments**Finalize Purpose PaperComplete My Plan Assessments and reflection and upload in Blackboard |
| **Week 7**Library VisitReview Chapter 4  | **Assignments**Complete Library Reflection and upload in blackboardRead chapter 4 (TOMS) and complete questions. |
| **Week 8**Academic PlanningMy Education AssignmentsReview Chapter 5 QuestionsCareer Interview Overview | **Assignments** Begin My Education Plan Assignments (Steps 1, 2, 3)Read Chapter 5 (TOMS) and complete questions |
| **Week 9**My Education (Computer Lab)Introduction to USA FundsCost of College Group Project | **Assignments** Complete My Education Assignments (Steps 1-4)Work with your teams for your ***Cost of College*** presentation due class  |
| **Week 10**Review Chapter 6 QuestionsCreating your own BudgetCost of College Group Projects Prep | **Assignments** Read Chapter 6 (TOMS) and complete questionsFinalize Group ProjectsFinalize Individual college budgetWork on Career Interviews |
| **Week 11**Cost of College Group Presentations | **Assignments** Read Chapter 7 (TOMS) and complete questionsWork on Career Interviews |
| **Week 12**Review Chapter 7 Final Story Project Discussion/Career Interview Video | **Assignments**Read and complete Chapter 8 review questionsResearch and Complete Career Interviews |
| **Week 13**Emotional Intelligence Activity Review Chapter 8Introduction to Proverbs Activity  | **Assignments** Complete Emotional Intelligence ReflectionResearch Assigned Proverb |
| **Week 14**Proverbs ActivityReview Final Planning Documents | **Assignments**Work on Final Story Presentation |
| **Week 15**Final Story Presentations | **Assignments**Work on Final Story Presentation |
| **Week 16** **Final Story Presentations** | **Assignments**Final Story Presentations |