

**College Experience**  
**Massasoit Community College**

**ACAD 103: Fall 2015**

**Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Office Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Office Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Office Location:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

This course is concerned with helping first semester students adapt to college life at Massasoit. It aids students in exploring their personal values and reasons for seeking a college education. The students become familiar with the college's resources, policies, and procedures. Further, they develop skills in stress management, reduction of test anxiety, effective note-taking and test-taking techniques, career planning, decision-making, educational goal setting, mediation and leadership. This course counts as a general elective. Students should check their course requirement sheets to determine if this course will count toward their degrees.

**Required Text:**

Pink, Daniel. *Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us*. Riverhead Books, 2011.

**Course Goals:** College Experience is designed to help students learn strategies for being successful in their first year of college and beyond. The course will focus on topics such as dealing with change, motivation, goal setting, learning styles, and career preparation. It will also help you build important skills in listening, note-taking, studying, test-taking, communication and critical thinking.

**Course Outcomes:** If you dedicate yourself to the work in this course, by the end of the semester you will be able to:

- Develop an improved sense of self by identifying your personality type, learning style(s), self-assessment strategies, and multiple intelligences
- Use a career-decision making process in order to develop a career plan
- Demonstrate the ability to access electronic resources such as the college web site and learning management system
- Develop an understanding of the online advising process through an evaluation of program requirement sheets, transcripts, and schedules
- Develop a working knowledge of college terminology
- Use college resources in order to obtain appropriate support services
- Strengthen Core Competencies\* in order to increase academic and workplace success.

\*Core Competencies: Critical Thinking (CT); Technology Skills (TS); Oral Communication (OC); Quantitative Skills (QS); Reading (R); Writing (W)

**Instructional Methods:** Our class time will include reading and writing, lectures, group discussions and activities, guest speakers, and computer assignments.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive on time. Your attendance will be reported to the Registrar’s office during the semester. Students who are listed as “Not Participating” will need to talk with their instructor about whether they will be allowed to return to class.

**Late Work:** Work is due when assigned, and late assignments are not acceptable. They will be marked down one half letter grade for each late day. Assignments may not be turned in more than one week after the due date. All out-of-class assignments must be word processed, double-spaced and proofread.

**Evaluation:** Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

Computer and Keyboarding Competency	10%
Assignments and Quizzes	40%
Campus Activities	20%
Final Project and Presentation	30%

**Grading scale:**

A = 93-100	C+ = 77-79
A- = 90-92	C = 73-76
B+ = 87-89	C- = 70-72
B = 83-87	D = 66-69
B- = 80-82	F = 65 and below

More specific grading criteria will be given with each assignment. Students have six months from the final day of class to question their final grades. Students who receive an Incomplete must complete the required work by the end of the next semester or the Incomplete automatically becomes an F.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is presenting other people’s work, words or ideas as if they are your own. It is a form of cheating and theft. Plagiarism will result in a grade of F.

**Academic Resource Center:** Tutoring for this course and others is available free of charge in the Academic Resource Center. Please let me know if you would like to take advantage of tutoring.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in the classroom are encouraged to contact a disability counselor as soon as possible. Students at the Brockton Campus with learning disabilities should contact Andrea Henry, at extension 1805. Students with physical disabilities at the Brockton Campus should contact Mary Berg, at extension 1425. All students at the Canton Campus should contact Mary Berg at extension 2132.

**Note:** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

## Tentative Schedule of Course Topics and Assignments

Dates, Holidays & Deadlines	Topics, Readings & Course Work
Week 1: September 8 - 11 9/9 – <i>unrestricted registration ends</i>	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 2: September 14 - 18	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 3: September 21-25 9/21 – <i>restricted registration ends</i>	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 4: September 28 – Oct. 2	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 5: October 5-9	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 6: October 12-16  <i>10/12 – Columbus Day, no class</i>	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 7: October 19-23	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 8: October 26-30  <i>10/26 – Advising / Registration period for Spring 2016 begins</i>	Topics: Readings: Due:
Week 9: November 2-6	Topics: Readings: Due:

<p>Week 10: November 9-13</p> <p><i>11/11 – Veterans Day, no class</i></p> <p><i>11/13 – Advising / Registration period for Spring 2016 ends</i></p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>
<p>Week 11: November 16-20</p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>
<p>Week 12: November 23-27</p> <p><i>11/25 – Thanksgiving Recess begins at 4pm.</i></p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>
<p>Week 13: Nov. 30 – Dec. 4</p> <p><i>12/4 – Last day to withdraw from a portion of a schedule</i></p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>
<p>Week 14: December 7-11</p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>
<p>Week 15: December 14-18</p> <p><i>12/21-23 – Final Exam Period</i></p>	<p>Topics: Readings: Due:</p>