



University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Freshman Seminar Program

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Important Freshman Seminar Start-Up Information!

Dear Incoming Freshman:

Welcome to the University of Colorado Colorado Springs! Your first semester of college is right around the corner, and we're pleased that you've decided to begin it with ***Freshman Seminar—Interdepartmental Studies 1010***. No matter which of the 24 Freshman Seminar topics you've chosen to pursue, you'll find the experience to be a great way to jump-start your college career. Here are some important updates; please read them carefully.

PREVIEW DAZE – August 18 & 19, 2011

Freshman Seminar will begin with PREVIEW DAZE on **Thursday and Friday, August 18th and 19th** – before your other classes start. All Freshman Seminar classes will meet from **9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**, and lunch will be provided for you on both days. These two days are a mandatory part of ID 1010 since they count as one-third of the course.

A list of Freshman Seminar meeting rooms is included with this letter. However, to verify the meeting room for your topic during PREVIEW DAZE, check your class schedule:

1. Visit the University of Colorado Colorado Springs homepage at www.uccs.edu.
2. Click the **Current Students** tab on the top of the page.
3. Click on the **Portal** link under “Quick Links” (in the box on the right of the page).
4. Click on the **myUCCS Current Student Portal Access** button and enter your UCCS username and password.
5. To view your schedule, click on the **Students** tab on the top left of the page. Your schedule is located in the middle of this page.

Note: Room assignments are subject to change. Check back for current course information.

Plan to arrive at the meeting room for your topic at **8:45 a.m. on Thursday, August 18th**. Once PREVIEW DAZE are over, your course will meet once a week at its regular, published time (check the online Course Schedule for semester room assignments). Because these first classes meet before your regular classes begin, Freshman Seminar will also end five weeks earlier.

We'll keep you busy during PREVIEW DAZE: you'll get to know your instructor, Junior Teaching Assistant (JTA), and individual section-mates, and you'll meet students from all the sections studying the topic you've chosen. You'll be introduced to the University's technology, find out what the course has in store for you and what the University has to offer, and begin to discover what it takes to succeed in college.

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FIELD TRIP WAIVER

Some Freshman Seminar courses have planned a service-learning or field trip for PREVIEW DAZE. Your topic group may or may not be taking such a trip; however, a University form that will entitle you to participate is included in this packet, just in case. If you are at least 18 years of age, you may sign the form yourself. If you're under 18, a parent or legal guardian must sign the form before you leave home. ***Please bring your signed form with you to campus. There is no need to mail or fax it back. Your Freshman Seminar instructor will collect it on the first day of class.***

FRESHMAN SEMINAR COMMON READING

Because Freshman Seminar experiences vary from course to course, this year all Freshman Seminar students will engage in a Common Reading project. All 1,100 students in 24 topic groups will be asked to read the book, *No Impact Man*, by Colin Beavan. Before you arrive on campus, please purchase this short book from the UCCS Bookstore or from the bookseller of your choice (half.com is selling the hardback edition for as little as \$5). Colin and his family tried to live with as little impact on the environment as possible for one year. Check it out!

You will be expected to have read the book *No Impact Man* when you arrive on campus. Be prepared to discuss it during your Freshman Seminar class. Note: the YouTube video or the movie, *No Impact Man*, are supplements to, not substitutes for, the reading. Please bring your book with you to class. Different Freshman Seminar classes will use the book differently. Please see the attached letter about the common reader in this packet from UCCS Provost Peg Bacon.

CONVOCATION

On Wednesday evening, **August 17th**, all freshmen and their guests are invited to our opening Convocation at **4:30 p.m.** in the UCCS **Gallogly Events Center**. Dr. Tom Huber, a University of Colorado President's Teaching Scholar, Professor of Geography and Environmental Science, and dynamic speaker, will deliver the convocation address. Please look for placards with your Freshman Seminar course topic and image. You will have a chance to meet your new Freshman Seminar classmates! Convocation will be followed by our annual kick-off BBQ for all new freshmen and their guests. Please see the enclosed flyer for all the details. All Freshman Seminar classes will begin at 9:00 the next morning—and remember to get there early.

So—welcome to UCCS! We're eager to meet you, and we're looking forward to a productive, rewarding, and fun semester. See you soon!



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