

PRE-COLLEGE BOOT CAMP

SUMMER 2025

MEETINGS: via Zoom

INSTRUCTORS: Dr. Nina Slota and Dr. Justin Hastings

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

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“College is the reward for surviving high school.”

-Judd Apatow (producer, director, screen writer)

“Make not your thoughts your prisons.”

-William Shakespeare (*Antony and Cleopatra*, 5.2)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Brief weekly reading assignments will be posted on the website; you are responsible for accessing and reading these materials in advance of each session.

REQUIRED MATERIAL:

Access to a digital device capable of allowing you to access the boot camp’s instructional materials and to join the synchronous Zoom sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE:

Congratulations on graduating high school and getting accepted to college! Your hard work has paid off—thus far! College is different both quantitatively and qualitatively, and many students struggle to adapt to its new demands. The primary intention of this boot camp is to impart to you the academic and personal skills requisite to make this transition from high school to college, setting you up for a college experience that is both successful and enjoyable.

COURSE FORMAT AND EXPECTATIONS:

The boot camp sessions are formatted to model for you what you can expect in your classes. As a result, our expectations are that you will do the preparatory work before class and the assignments after class, attend and actively participate in the Zoom sessions, interact collegially with your peers and instructors, and be personally invested in your own success.

COURSE CALENDAR:

Week 1

In advance of our Zoom session, please have read the article posted on the website. Our Zoom session will cover the following topics: introductions; FERPA restrictions and personal responsibility; self-advocacy; the difference between teachers and professors; your new identities.

Week 2

In advance of our Zoom session, please have read the article posted on the website. Our Zoom session will cover the following topics: critical reading; historical contexts and new challenges for education; finding your place literally and metaphorically.

Week 3

In advance of our Zoom session, please have read the article posted on the website. Our Zoom session will cover the following topics: Learning Management Systems; Project Management; communicating with professors and administrators.

Week 4

In advance of our Zoom session, please have read the article posted on the website. Our Zoom session will cover the following topics: navigating personal conflict; Life Management; final wrap-up.