

**Columbia College**  
**College Skills for Student Success (COLL110)**  
**Program: Dental Assistant**  
**Course Outline**

Facilitator: Geoff Stimpson, Nicole MacKenzie

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Class Time: 8 am – 12 pm (Wed. Feb. 24, Mon. Feb. 29  
Tue. Mar. 1, Wed. Mar. 2 and Thur. Mar. 3)

Room: 805-109

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Accepted into a Professional  
Program at Columbia College  
Registration fee paid/contract signed

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Note: It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator.

**Course Description:**

This 20 hour course will teach adult learners strategies to be successful in a post-secondary accelerated learning environment. Focus will be placed on a variety of topics such as effective note taking, strengthening skills to study, work, and live in a multicultural, diverse, and changing environment.

**Learning Outcomes:**

As a result of active participation in these sessions, a student can expect to:

- Establish time-lines for goals and implement organization and time management techniques
- Understand the benefits and advantages of cohort learning and understand how to contribute positively in an adult learning environment
- Identify potential sources of stress and select appropriate prevention and management strategies
- Understand the elements of SQ3R and utilize an active reading approach
- Apply effective note taking methods that guide memory and enhance meaning
- Understand, develop and utilize active listening skills
- Learn how memory works and implement strategies to improve retention
- Recognize the importance of preparation, learning from mistakes and practice techniques to improve test results
- Recognize and overcome test anxiety by developing effective strategies
- Identify individual learning styles and implement study methods that support the preferred style of learning
- Determine how to apply clear and direct communication while working effectively in groups
- Incorporate proper nutrition to strengthen personal and school life successes
- Implement budgeting strategies while attending further education
- Construct and target resumes for practicum and employment purposes
- Recognize the importance of workplace culture and how to behave professionally in the workplace
- Learn how to apply clear and direct communication while working effectively in groups

## Course Format:

The format of this course mirrors the expectations of the professional program you are about to enter.

Each class will begin with students submitting 3 questions from the assigned homework reading. A group discussion will take place. This will be followed by a test to assess knowledge acquisition. The remainder of the class will provide an in-depth focus related to the subject matter.

The course emphasizes pre-class homework, participation in interactive classes, and post-class reflection and review. You are expected to take an active part in class discussions and take responsibility for your own learning. You are expected to be a positive and co-operative team member. The “instructor’s” role is to facilitate your learning. You’re enthusiastic and positive approach in the classroom will create an atmosphere that will help students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are needed for success.

How you behave in class will, to a large extent, mirror your behavior in the world of work. For example, if you have a tendency to ask questions, challenge the ideas of others in a respectful manner, draw out the best from your colleagues, and encourage both group development and task accomplishment in this class, there is a high correlation that you will do the same at work. The course format provides you with an opportunity to do this; it enables you to practice thinking and acting like a successful professional. A high level of professional conduct on the part of each student is expected.

Each student will write a final exam on the last day of class that encompasses the readings and information studied during the course. Test and final exam marks will be submitted to the program chair.

## Required Textbooks and Equipment:

Carter, A., Bishop, J., Lyman Kravits, S., & Maurin, P. (2010). *Keys to Success: Building Analytical, Creative, and Practical Skills* (Sixth Canadian Edition). Toronto: Pearson Education Inc.

Other Supplies Paper or notebook

- Keys to Success Textbook
- Paper or note book

## Homework Assignment Due for the First Class:

1. Read the assigned readings:
2. **Bring and submit three questions you have written down that arose from your homework reading assignment. Do not submit questions that are easily found in the textbook. These should be thought provoking questions that reveal your critical thinking ability and will further enhance the discussion on the topic with your classmates.** Three questions will be submitted each day from the previous nights’ homework readings. Upon entering the classroom, questions will be submitted to the facilitator. This is a facilitation model; therefore, you will be expected to participate in the class. You will not be reading the text in class.
3. **Prepare to write a multiple choice tests based on the homework readings. This will be given at the beginning of the class.**
4. Read this syllabus and prepare to discuss in class.

## Evaluation - Assessment of Student Performance:

The final grade in the course will be based on the following elements. Wherever possible facilitators will use rubrics to assess your performance and offer feedback.

Title of Assignment/Examination	Weight
Daily Questions	5%
Student Engagement	10%
Daily Tests	15%
Final Examination	60%
Summary Activity	10%

Please note that all homework and assignments are due at the beginning of each class.

## Grading:

Grades for each component will be added together at the end of the semester. The final total will be translated to the Columbia College's 4.0 grading scale as follows:

### Marking and Grading Conversion:

Description	Letter Grade	Grade Points	Percentage Scale	
Excellent	A+	4.0	100	95
	A	4.0	94	90
	A-	3.7	89	85
Good	B+	3.3	84	80
	B	3.0	79	75
	B-	2.7	74	70
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	69	65
	C	2.0	64	60
	C-	1.7	59	55
Poor	D	1.0	54	50
Failure	F	0.0	49	0

Please note that to pass this course you must earn at least a "B" (a minimal pass).

## Submission and Completion of Assignments:

You are expected to submit assignments by the due date. Any late assignments may be assessed a marking penalty of 5%. If you are unable to submit an assignment on the due date, you must request an extension **before** the due date by filling out an *Application for Assignment Extension form (SSPP-F012)* that is to be submitted to the Department Chair for approval. This form is available on Columbia's website, Bldg. 802 – Main Office and from Department Chairs.

## Requesting an Examination Deferral:

If you are requesting an exam to be deferred, you must submit an *Application for Deferred Examinations form (SSPP-F012)* to the Department Chair **within 48 hours of the missed examination date and time**. Applications for deferred examinations will only be considered due to medical or personal emergency. A medical certificate or other appropriate documentation may be required. This form is available on Columbia's website, Bldg. 802-Main Office and from Department Chairs.

## Attendance Requirements:

Columbia College believes that students are committed to their program and learning experiences. However, it is understood that there are times when students may be absent. Any absences can be viewed as a potentially serious disruption of the learning process and necessary achievement of the learning objectives. Being late is also considered unacceptable as it interferes with the learning opportunities of others. Unavoidable absences or lateness must be reported to the course facilitator in advance. Please refer to Columbia College's *Attendance Policy and Regulations (ADM-P151)* for detailed information on Attendance Requirements.

## Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from Columbia College.

There is no tolerance for academic dishonesty and any student caught plagiarizing is subject to serious sanctions as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)*. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this policy and avoid any behavior that could possibly be seen as cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting, or putting into question the integrity of one's academic work.

## Student Conduct:

It is the responsibility of each student to uphold the expectations and responsibilities outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)* and any additional requirements established by your program.

Generally, each student will:

- be respectful and courteous toward others;
- demonstrate appropriate and supportive communication skills, and coach, assist, advise and otherwise support other students in their studies;
- manage any personal stress and conflict in a positive and resourceful manner, and assist others to do the same;
- be dressed in a manner appropriate for their workplace or learning environment, as established by the program;
- conduct themselves in a professional manner with regard to their communication with others and their behavior in class;
- conduct themselves with academic integrity in all of their learning activities, tests, exams, and assignments
- keep up with day-to-day classroom and course expectations.

## Important Dates:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
Last to add/drop courses	5 school operating days from the start of the semester OR before the third scheduled class, whichever is greater
Last day to withdraw without academic penalty	50% or less of the semester has been completed
Final Examination	A final exam may take many formats. If a final exam is scheduled, it will be taken in an assigned room under the supervision of a Test Proctor. <u>Students must be on time as they will not be permitted to enter once the exam has started.</u> Exam dates, times, and location are posted by the main office Bldg. 802 and by the library in Bldg. 4. <u>It is the student's responsibility to check this exam posting.</u>

**Appeals:**

Please refer to the *Student Appeal Policy (ADM-P177)*.

**Students with Temporary or Permanent Disabilities:**

Students with temporary or permanent disabilities may apply for accommodations. To be considered for an accommodation, a student must register with Columbia College's Disability Services by making an appointment with a Disability Services Advisor – Main Office – Bldg. 802 or emailing [disabilityservices@columbia.ab.ca](mailto:disabilityservices@columbia.ab.ca). The Department Chair or facilitator is not able to provide you with any accommodations without you taking this step. Please refer to Columbia College's website to review the *Accommodation Policy and Handbook (ADM-P188)*.

**Student Support:**

Students should be aware that Life Skills Coaching, Career and Disability Services, and Student Support Services (i.e. tutoring, academic strategists, etc.) are provided by Columbia College. Inquire how to request these services at the Main Office in building 802. It is the student's responsibility to discuss their specific learning needs with the appropriate service provider.

**Class Schedule/Overview:**

Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Any changes or cancellations will be emailed to you. It is your responsibility to check the email address you have given to the school on a daily basis for any messages from the Department Chair/designate, facilitator or College Administration. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator.

Class Session	Topics	Pre-Class Readings	Assignment
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult Learners/Brain (Discussed in class, not in book)</li> <li>Resume Theory (not in book)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>No Pre-Class Readings or Quiz Required for Day 1.</u></b></li> </ul>	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning Styles, Multiple Intelligence and Memory</li> <li>Attendance Policy (not in book)</li> <li>SQ3R, Note Taking and Annotation of Text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 3, 7</li> <li>Chapters 5, 6</li> </ul>	<p>After completing all of the readings, think of 3 thought provoking questions that reveal your critical thinking ability. Write these questions on a piece of paper and submit them to the facilitator at the beginning of class.</p> <p>Prepare to write a multiple choice quiz.</p> <p><b><u>Learning Styles/Multiple Intelligence</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 3, pgs. 56-75</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete: "Multiple to Pathways to Learning" Self-Assessment on page 62 and record you results on page 63.</li> <li>Complete: Personality Spectrum assessment on page 64 and fill in the diagram on page 65 based on your results from the assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Memory</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 7, pgs.171-197</p> <p><b><u>SQ3R and Note Taking</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 5 and 6, pgs. 114-129 and 154–165.</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listening Effectively and Group Work</li> <li>Time Management and Goal Setting</li> <li>iClicker Training (not in book)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 6</li> <li>Chapters 1,2</li> </ul>	<p>After completing all of the readings, think of 3 thought provoking questions that reveal your critical thinking ability. Write these questions on a piece of paper and submit them to the facilitator at the beginning of class.</p> <p>Prepare to write a multiple choice quiz.</p> <p><b><u>Listening and Group Work</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 6, pgs. 147-153</p> <p><b><u>Time Management and Goal Setting</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 1 and 2, pgs. 8-17 and 30-51</p>

Class Session	Topics	Pre-Class Readings	Assignment
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategies for Test Taking/ Test Anxiety and Learning from Mistakes</li> <li>Stress Management</li> <li>Financial Survival</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8</li> <li>Chapter 10</li> <li>Chapter 11</li> </ul>	<p>After completing all of the readings, think of 3 thought provoking questions that reveal your critical thinking ability. Write these questions on a piece of paper and submit them to the facilitator at the beginning of class.</p> <p>Prepare to write a multiple choice quiz.</p> <p><b><u>Test Taking: Showing What You Know, Learning from Mistakes</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 8, pgs. 199-227</p> <p><b><u>Wellness and Stress Management: Staying Healthy in Mind and Body</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 10, pgs. 261-269</p> <p><b><u>Managing Money: Living Within your Means</u></b></p> <p>Read Chapter 11, pgs.289-311</p> <p><b><u>Study for Final Exam</u></b></p>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student Code of Conduct/Professionalism</li> <li>Pictures</li> <li>Program and Self Evaluation</li> <li>Final Exam</li> </ul>		