



UNIV 101: First-Year Seminar

John Felice Rome Center

Fall 2023

Location: TBD

Mondays, 12.30-1.30

Dr. Luca Badetti

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Office Hours: Thur., 5:30-6:30 PM by appointment

Course Description

This class is intended to help first year students enhance their academic skills and social integration into Loyola University Chicago.

This section of UNIV 101 seeks to support students during their first semester at Loyola University Chicago's John Felice Rome Center. Course structure is designed to include two main sections:

- An introduction to being a university student at LUC, particularly as it relates to Rome Start students, who begin their LUC journey in the Rome campus (JFRC) and continue it in Chicago. Study and research skills, academic supports, and self-care themes are addressed.
- An exploration of mission, values and practices that make a Jesuit education unique, with particular attention towards the program's three areas of concentration.

Please note: *The course syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be announced to the class.*

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- Create an academic and co-curricular plan to make the most of their experience at Loyola.
- Choose resources and opportunities, on- and off-campus, that help them achieve their academic, social, personal wellbeing, and career goals.
- Describe how the Jesuit mission of Loyola University Chicago and the city of Rome influence their experience at Loyola.

Required Text / Materials

Assigned material may be found online on the course's Sakai page.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

- For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.

This course meets once a week, thus a total of one unexcused absence(s) will be permitted. The final course grade will drop by 1% for each additional absence.

Assessment Components and Grading

Your learning in this course will be assessed through a Learning Portfolio, which you will contribute to throughout the semester. You will learn how to create your learning portfolio during the early part of the course. By the end of the course, your Learning Portfolio must include:

- My Hope for the Journey (Academic Reflection)

A written reflection (2-3 paragraphs) answering the following:

- a) Why you chose Loyola University Chicago for your academic journey.
- b) Three learning goals for your university journey.
- c) Two things you look forward to in studying and living in two important cities like Rome and Chicago.

- My Map for the Journey (Academic Planning Activity)

With the support of Assistant Dean of Academic Programs Carla Mollica, you will draft out your academic and co-curricular plan. In doing so, consider your personal talents, your academic and career goals, potential major(s) and minor(s), LUC Core and elective courses, as well as opportunities for learning outside of the classroom. The plan is to be posted on the Learning Portfolio.

- My Inspiration for the Journey (Class Reflection)

A written reflection (1-2 paragraphs) addressing two insights from course readings, videos or discussion that you've found inspiring and/or motivational. How can you apply these insights in your university journey and how can they help you?

- My Supports for the Journey (Campus Activity)

Choose and participate in an in-person or online activity at the JFRC that may help you progress toward achieving your learning goals. Please write a 1-2 paragraph reflection about why you chose the activity, your experience of it and how it helped (or did not help) you progress toward your goals. Potential activities include: *academic activities* (attend office hours and communicate with an instructor about your academic questions and dreams; participate in academic opportunity); *social activities* (attend a JFRC campus ministry program; participate in a community opportunity); *career/skill development* (meet with a faculty member or professional in your field of interest; research skills development options for your field of interest); well-being (find time for silence and quiet rest; reflection opportunities).

- "Who is my Neighbor?" (Social Consciousness Activity and Presentation)

For this assignment, which can be completed in-person or virtually, you are asked to:

o In-person option:

- Select a community area in Rome to visit (can be Balduina). Potential areas: Tuscolana neighborhood; EUR neighborhood; Pigneto neighborhood; Monti neighborhood.
- Take a photo of the area to post in your portfolio and to document your visit.
- Become aware of individuals and/or groups there that may be at the margins **or** find and visit an organization in the area that works with them (please ask the instructor if you need help finding one).

- Write a reflection (three paragraphs) on this experience. In your reflection, mention how your university education can help you grow in awareness of people at the margins and in becoming an agent of positive social change.
- o Virtual option:
 - Select a community area in Rome (can be Balduina). Potential areas: Tuscolana neighborhood; EUR neighborhood; Pigneto neighborhood; Monti neighborhood.
 - Research online an organization that works with people in need in that area. Learn about this organization, explore who they engage with and how this creates change. What are the needs they cater to? How does the organization work?
 - Write a reflection (three paragraphs) on this experience and post it on your portfolio. Answer the following questions: 1) What is the organization? 2) What are two things you learned about the organization and where have you learned about them (include web links)? 3) What else would you like to know about the organization? 4) How can your university education help you grow in awareness of people at the margins and in becoming an agent of positive social change?

This course is designed to provide support for your success as a college student at Loyola University Chicago. You will earn one hour of academic credit toward graduation upon successful completion of the course. Your final grade in the course will be “pass” or “no pass” based on your attendance, participation, and the quality of the assignments you complete. Passing this course is mandatory for graduation. If you do not pass this course, you will be required to retake it in the spring semester. **100 points are available in this course. You must earn 71 to pass.** Grading will be based on:

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| • Attendance | 20 pt. |
| • My Hope for the Journey (Academic Reflection) | 10 pt. |
| • My Map for the Journey (Academic Planning Activity) | 10 pt. |
| • My Inspiration for the Journey (Class Reflection) | 10 pt. |
| • My Supports for the Journey (Campus Activity) | 20 pt. |
| • “Who is my Neighbor?” (Social Consciousness Activity and Presentation) | 30 pt. |

Academic Honesty

You are expected to respect copyright and intellectual property rights.

Material that is my intellectual property cannot be shared outside of this course without my written permission.

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Remember to cite any sources that you use in your work.

You can find info on citation styles here: <https://libguides.luc.edu/citing>

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor.

Student Accessibility Office Services (SAC)

Any student that is registered with the Student Accessibility Center (SAC) at Loyola Chicago's home campus, or any comparable office at another institution, will be accommodated at the Rome Center as reasonably and as closely to their accommodations at their home campus as possible. For information and procedures please consult the JFRC academic dean's office.

Course Schedule

Session 1 (9/4) **Benvenuti! Introduction to the JFRC and to the course.**

LEARNING AT LUC/JFRC

Session 2 (9/11) **LUC Learning Tools and Supports**

Session 3 (9/18) **Critical thinking and academic skills**

Due by 3:30 pm: Read M. Proust, "The Cookie," from "Remembrance of Things Past" (HC) +
Read "Critical Thinking through Socratic Questioning" (KPU)

Session 4 (9/25) **Research and Study Skills**

Due by 3:30 pm: Post the "My Hope for the Journey" reflection on Learning Portfolio.

Session 5 (10/2) **JFRC Library Services and Research skills**

Session 6 (10/9) **Academic Planning**

Session 7 (10/23). **Self-knowledge and self-care**

Due by 3:30 pm: Read "Self-Awareness" (UW) + "Pathways to Engagement" (LUC)
- Post the "My Map for the Journey" reflection on Learning Portfolio.

ASPECTS OF A JESUIT EDUCATION

Session 8 (10/30) **The Value(s) of a Jesuit Education**

Due by 3:30 pm: Read "Jesuit Education" (LUC)

Session 9 (11/6) **Social Justice and Human Rights**

Due by 3:30 pm: Post the "My Inspiration for the Journey" reflection on
Learning Portfolio + Readings TBA

Session 10 (11/13) **Local Care and Global Interconnectedness**

Due by 3:30 pm: Post the ""My Supports for the Journey" reflection on Learning Portfolio +
Readings TBA

Session 11 (11/20) **Stewards of the Earth**

Readings TBA

Session 12 (11/27) **LUC Mission and Life, from Rome to Chicago**

Session 10 (12/4) **Social Consciousness Presentations**

Due by 3:30 pm: Post the "Who is my neighbor?" reflection on Learning Portfolio.