

## ***Hello and Welcome to Greener Foundations!***

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| ***What is this course about?*** |

Thisclass has been carefully designed especially for you, Evergreen’s first-year students. We (your instructors) are excited to have a couple of hours each week to support your transition into our unique, student-centered college. Everyone who enrolls in this class has the goal of succeeding in college and there are many ways that success happens. Success happens if you are the first in your family to go to college and represent not just yourself, but also your family. Success can also happen when you create new identities for yourself – identities that lie in contrast to the words and actions of others who might have told you that you do not belong in college. Success happens when you strengthen the skills you bring with you and it also happens every time you notice a classmate who needs an advocate or a friend, and act on their behalf through support, encouragement, or kindness.

As Greener Foundations staff instructors, we are very knowledgeable about Evergreen and excited to work with first-year students (check out our welcome videos on our Canvas site). **Our vision is to support you in finding your own version of success by connecting you to each other, to the people and resources you will need to thrive at Evergreen, and to skills you will use not only during the next few years of school, but for the rest of your life.** We seek the success of all students and recognize that Evergreen’s student body is made up of low-income people, first-generation students, people of color, undocumented and immigrant students, LGBTQ+ students, people who identify as women or gender non-conforming, refugees, people of various religious faiths, military veterans and dependents, students living with chronic illness or disabling conditions, English Language Learners (ELL), international students, neurodiverse learners, and more.

No matter your age, background, or identity, we hope Greener Foundations will become a class you look forward to attending every week. Please let us know if there are specific ways we can facilitate your learning.

*We have aspired to design this class using the principle of universal design whereby all elements of the course are created to accommodate a wide range of student differences although we may not be aware of all the issues that affect you. We are prepared and willing to accommodate any special needs that you might have. You are always welcome to contact us privately if you have questions, needs, or concerns.*

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| ***Who teaches this course?*** |

Each Greener Foundations class has two instructors who regular staff and faculty members at the college.

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| ***What are our learning outcomes?*** |

You already have many skills that have helped you succeed personally, professionally, and academically, or you wouldn’t be here in college. This class will build on those skills and help you learn new ones. During Fall and Winter quarters we will have three main learning goals:

#### **Goal I: To foster your academic success**

After full participation in this course, you should be able to:

1. Adapt and apply appropriate academic skills, including notetaking, seminar skills, reflective writing, and more, to your learning experiences.
2. Describe the value of metacognition and reflection.
3. Identify and apply strategies to effectively manage time and priorities.
4. Create an effective time management schedule.
5. Use relevant academic processes and resources related to academic planning.

#### **Goal II.  To help you discover and connect with the Evergreen community**

After full participation in this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe appropriate campus resources and opportunities that can help you and contribute to your learning both within and outside the classroom.
2. Describe what it means to be a Greener in the context of our history, traditions, and culture particularly as it relates to the Five Foci.
3. List the ways in which you currently work and learn with peers in and out of class.
4. Analyze your active pursuit in developing relationships with staff and faculty.
5. Describe your sense of institution-wide belonging
6. Identify our individual and collective roles in creating belonging for others.

***Goal III. To help you prepare for leading a responsible life in the diverse, interconnected and changing world of the 21st century***

After full participation in this course, you should be able to:

1. Articulate the importance and value of an Evergreen liberal arts education.
2. Apply the Six Expectations of an Evergreen Graduate to your current and future life.
3. Create an academic plan based on your personal values and strengths to reach your potential goals and/or career.
4. Practice personal wellness across several dimensions (social, physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and vocational) and make use of appropriate wellness resources.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will receive **4 credits** in *Foundations of College Success*. Two credits will be awarded in the fall and two in the winter quarter.

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| ***Where and when do we meet?*** |

* We meet for 2 hours, once a week, **beginning Week 2.**
* There should be no scheduling conflicts between your Greener Foundations course and your academic program.

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| ***What will we be doing?*** |

You can expect to spend 2 hours each week in class and 2-4 hours each week, outside of class, completing your homework. This will vary week by week.

#### **Greener Foundations homework assignments** willvary week-by-week. Some of these will include:

* + **Time management** **activities** including identifying strategies to effectively prioritize your time and develop an effective time management schedule.
	+ **Wellness Wheel assignments —**designed to help you identify strategies that can foster college success across six dimensions of wellness: intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, physical, and financial.
	+ **Beyond the Classroom assignments:** These assignments will develop your connection to the Evergreen Community and our Five Foci for student learning.
	+ **Creating an Academic Plan ­–** this project will help you envision a path through our unique curriculum by connecting you with a multitude of campus resources, including Academic and Career Advisors.
	+ **Other assignments along the way**

More detail can be found in your Canvas Modules once you are registered.

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**We look forward to learning with you.**