

First-Year Seminar - GT-1000-LD1



GT 1000

Freshman Seminar

Section LD1-Fall Semester 2026

Meeting Time: Thursday, 3:30 PM

Location: Swann Building, Room 115

WELCOME TO GT 1000!

This seminar course is designed to help you make a successful transition to college by becoming better acquainted with the academic and social environments here at Georgia Tech. Through the course, you will acquire strategies that promote academic, social, and professional success! You are registered for a section of GT1000 that will focus on leadership so get ready to learn more about what it means to lead, follow and be successful at both! This is a highly interactive course that requires active student participation and working collaboratively in small groups.

Course Learning Objectives:

1. Students will develop self-awareness and self-knowledge, particularly as it relates to academic interests and professional goals.
2. Students will be able to describe their path to graduation and to identify opportunities for academic and professional enrichment with the assistance of a faculty member or advisor.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to lead and productively participate in collaborative projects.

Instructor:

Sandi Bramblett

E-mail: sandi@gatech.edu (<mailto:sandi@gatech.edu>)

Instructor's Office Hours: Let me know when you'd like to meet and I'll be happy to either set up a meeting via Zoom or Teams. If you'd like to meet in person, I can arrange that as well. I am here for you!

Team Leader (TL):

Deeya Mepani, 2nd Year, Biology (dmepani3@gatech.edu (<mailto:dmepani3@gatech.edu>))

Deeya was a student in my class last fall and she is AWESOME!! You are strongly encouraged to reach out to her as much as you need to through "drop day" which is October 31, 2026 @ 4:00PM. We will make every

effort to provide an adequate amount of “Team Time” during class. Please tap into Deeya's experience and use her knowledge of the Georgia Tech system to your advantage.

Join the class GroupMe!

Required Materials:

CliftonStrengths Top 5 Insight Report & Strengths for Students e-book

The link for the assessment will be in the Assignment section on Canvas. Create an account with your @gatech.edu email address and take the CliftonStrengthsFinder. Upload your results to Canvas by midnight on September 10.

Technology:

We will be using Canvas in this course <http://canvas.gatech.edu> (<http://canvas.gatech.edu/>) and email will be our primary communication method outside of class. You will need your GT ID and password to log in. Please be advised that YOU are responsible for checking the class web site. Not knowing about an assignment is never a valid excuse because both the syllabus and course outline have been posted on Canvas. Plus, you can always call or e-mail us with questions.

Description of Course Assignments

Attendance and Participation (250 Points)

We are thrilled that you're in our GT1000 class...no kidding! And because of this, we expect that we will see you each week in class. We make the class fun and maybe even a bit of a respite from the daily grind (we have lots of references...just ask!). Class participation includes class attendance, participation in class discussions and team events outside of class (such as the team presentation), your work in general, getting assignments in on time, and your willingness to work with others in class.

Team Project (250 Points)

One of the most important skills any person can learn is the ability to collaborate productively with a team and to demonstrate the ability to lead. This project is designed to help you develop the skills you'll need during to effectively work with your peers in a collaborative environment—whether that's in a class group project, your senior design or capstone experience, or in the professional world.

Design Your Academic Plan (250 Points)

As a first-semester Tech student, you have likely thought a great deal about your path to graduation and about how your current major aligns with your interests, strengths, and goals....or maybe you haven't. For this assignment, you will delve deeper into your academic plan. This assignment will include multiple elements, all designed to help you on your path to graduation including a degree map and using the Clifton StrengthsFinder.

Career Development Project (250 Points)

This project is designed to help you think critically about your goals, values, and sense of purpose as you continue—or perhaps begin—to consider your plans after Tech. This assignment will ask you to reflect on your goals, ideate your future, prototype your plans, and take an active step forward in your career development plan. Within this project, you will do a draft resume (25 points) and a final resume (100 points) as well as a career research project (125 points).

We will weave leadership readings, reflections and class discussions throughout the assignments. The assigned readings should be provide you with additional insights that you will find useful throughout your career.

Grading Policy:

Every assignment is purposeful and directly linked to the objectives of the course. It is vitally important that every student attempt every assignment. You will receive the grade you earn. You are expected to turn in your work on time. Extra credit assignments can be given at the discretion of the instructors. Final grades will be assigned based on the number of points accumulated out of 1000. A=900 – 1000 points; B= 800-899 points; C=700-799 points, D=600-699 points; and F=599 points and below.

Course Expectations and Guidelines:

1. The Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code applies to all work submitted in this course. To review the Honor Code, please visit <https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/academic-honor-code>  (<https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/academic-honor-code>)_. (<http://osi.gatech.edu/content/honor-code>)
2. Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations to participate fully in the course activities or meet course requirement are encouraged to register with the Office of Disability Services at 404.894.2564 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/> (<http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>). Please contact Sandi ahead of time to discuss any issues related to disabilities.
3. You are expected to check your e-mail and Canvas daily. Important class announcements and information will be posted to Canvas. You are responsible for all materials posted.
4. Grades will be posted to Canvas throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to keep track of your submitted assignments and grade progress throughout the semester.
5. GT 1000 is designed to be informative, helpful, and fun! However, the class does carry one credit towards your degree. For that reason, it is important that all assignments you submit be high-quality. Please double check your work for spelling and simple grammatical errors.
6. You can expect that, as your GT 1000 instructors, we will come to class each day ready to engage you in learning about Georgia Tech and learning how to be a successful college student. Each class will be structured to encourage your active participation, so please come to class ready to participate and contribute to the class.
7. All assignments are due according to the dates/times set in Canvas.

8. Appropriate behavior is expected at all times. This means that you should be respectful of your classmates, your TL, and your instructor.

Summary of Points:

Attendance & Class Participation: 250

Team Presentation: 250

Academic Planning:

Academic Plan (Degree Map): 200

Gallup Strengths Finder Results: 50

Major Research/Career Planning:

Research Project: Senior or Faculty Interview: 25

Web Research on Major and Career: 25

Presentation of Research: 75

Resume:

Draft 1: 25

Final Resume: 100

Total: 1,000

The course outline below will give you an idea of what we will be doing in class each week. The calendar is subject to change but we will give you as much notice as possible beforehand.

#	Date	Topic	Activity	Due
1	27-Aug	Introductions, Course Overview Course Text: <i>GT1000: First-Year Seminar, Open Educational Resource</i>	In class activities: Review Syllabus. Ice Breaker. Complete Course Information Survey. https://gatech.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b48Ek6mi6pb0Bfw	
2	3-Sept	Resumes & Interviewing Skills	In class activity: Begin first draft of resumes Resume – Draft 1	
3	10-Sept	Interviewing and Storytelling	Assign: CliftonStrengths - See assignment page for link https://my.gallup.com/direct/ac/9MH7DD6NFK4F4X8P	

			(Upload results by midnight on September 16)	
4	17-Sep	Know Thyself: Discussion on Clifton Strengths Finder & Effective Team Dynamics (Guest: Dr. Mary Lynn Realff, ETD Facilitator)	In class activity: Clifton Strengths Discussion Assign: Research leadership characteristics. Read Dr. Bras' Blog here ➡ https://rafaellbras.substack.com/p/on-leadership?utm_source=profile&utm_medium=reader2 ➡ https://rafaellbras.substack.com/p/on-leadership?utm_source=profile&utm_medium=reader2	Clifton Strengths Finder Due
5	24-Sept	What is leadership? (Dr. Bras)	In class activity: Brainstorming, Leadership experts video	Draft 1 of Resume Due
6	1-Oct	Using Artificial Intelligence Safely	In class activity: Bring your laptops...we'll be using AI	
7	8-Oct	Effective Teams	In class activity: Organize teams and develop team charter; assign team presentation topics	Team Presentation Topic due at end of class
8	15-Oct	Time Management: Your Georgia Tech Reality	In class: Team Activity- Schedule a Week in the Life of a GT First-Year Student	Team Charter
9	22-Oct	Crafting your Academic Plan (Sandi) / Registration...What	In class activity: Understanding class registration / Assign Academic Plan	

		you need to know! (Deeya)		
10	29-Oct	Effective Presentations	In class activity: Work on presentations	
October 31, 2026 @ Midnight– Last Day to Drop Courses with a “W”				
11	5-Nov	Team Presentations	In class activity: Team Presentation	Presentations
12	12-Nov	What else is there for a Georgia Tech Student to do?	In class activity: Guest speakers on Study Abroad, Undergraduate Research and Co-ops/Internships	
13	19-Nov	The Business of the Air Force- Leadership and Plan Execution	In class activity: Awesome activity...you will be on the move :-) Assign: Career Exploration Project	Academic Plan
14	03-Dec	Preparing for Finals - End of Semester Family-Style Lunch	In Class: What did you learn? How much will you retain?	Career Exploration Project Resume – Final Draft (Both Assignments due by December 10th)