The Rod Hale Memorial Graduate Experience (CST 6935)  
Summer 2014 Syllabus  
(As of 7/22/2015) DRAFT

COURSE GOALS:

The program is best described as a "training program" for new graduate students and those moving from Master's to Doctoral programs. The program sessions are designed to complement other workshops offered by the Office of Graduate Studies that help students successfully transition to completion of their graduate degrees. Over a three-week period, participants are introduced to topics covering the research process, mentoring, faculty and student perspectives on graduate student success, learning styles, preferences and techniques, campus services, and graduate school policy. This is a USF-Tampa campus effort allowing students to meet and interact with faculty, current graduate students, and staff that represent many USF units. These will include: faculty from academic departments, representatives from the Office of Graduate Studies, successful continuing students, and persons from student affairs support units, such as the Financial Aid Office and the Counseling Center.

LECTURE TIMES:
Orientation day is Thursday, July 28, 2015 from 9am – 2:30pm  
Face-to-face class days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm – 5pm  
7/30, 8/4, 8/6, 8/11, 8/13

LOCATION:  
All meetings will take place in the John and Grace Allen Building (ALN; formerly ADM), conference room 296.

PROFESSOR:  
Eric Hoyer, Ph.D.  
ehoyer@usf.edu  
Office: 813-974-0795  
Associate Director, Office of Graduate Studies, ALN 216

TEACHING ASSISTANT  
Brandon King, MA  
813-974-7359  
bjking@usf.edu  
Ph.D. Candidate, SLA/IT  
Executive Administrative Specialist, Office of Graduate Studies, ALN 226

OFFICE HOURS:  
By appointment – please email Brandon (bjking@usf.edu)

SELECTED READINGS FROM:  
COURSE FORMAT:
This an S/U course (Pass/Fail) presented in a blended learning format over the summer semester before beginning graduate level coursework. The course will be presented in two parts, the first part will be completely online and connect students with readings through semi-structured online blog discussions. The second part will take a seminar format and connect students with invited speakers on a range of topics directly related to preparing students for graduate education.

REQUIREMENTS

Attendance is Mandatory. Full participation in discussions, individual, and group projects is required for an “S” grade for the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. **BLOG** - Each participant is required to keep a journal. These can contain brief, but substantive comments and reflections on the week’s session. Typed journals must be submitted through canvas according to the Discussion Calendar (Final date for any submissions is **8/13**). Note that Dr. Hoyer and Brandon will be participating in these discussions over the course of Summer Session C and your full participation is required also.

2. **SUCCESS STRATEGY PAPER** - Each participant is required to write a 3-5 page paper. The title is “My Success Strategy for Graduate School.” An abstract must be provided with the paper. This must be through Canvas at the last session (**8/13**). Note that you will receive feedback prior to the beginning of the fall semester.

3. **GROUP PROJECT** - Each participant is required to participate in a group project. The 15 to 20 minute project is presented at the last session (**8/13**). Groups will be formed and assigned to present on a topic relevant to graduate student success. The presentation should take the form of either a PowerPoint, role-play, etc. Be creative! Topics should be communicated to the teaching assistant no later than the (**7/30**) session. Note that you will receive feedback and prior to the beginning of the fall semester.

MISSED SESSIONS
Acceptable reasons for requesting a missed session are **medical** (individual or immediate family only), **legal** (accident or court case; individual only), or **funerary** (immediate family only). The facilitator retains the right to make additional inquiries concerning the missed session.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
The Office of Graduate Studies does not tolerate academic dishonesty of any kind. Engaging in plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty, even if a student may plagiarize without any intent to be dishonest. A brief, yet informative, discussion of plagiarism may be found at: [http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0102/adadap.htm](http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0102/adadap.htm). A tutorial explaining the issue in greater and in at a graduate-student level can be found through the li library at [http://www.lib.usf.edu/guides/avoiding-plagiarism/](http://www.lib.usf.edu/guides/avoiding-plagiarism/).

CONDUCT
Disruption of academic process’ is defined by the University as an act or words of a student in a classroom or teaching environment which, in the reasonable estimation of a faculty member/facilitator (a) directs attention from the academic matter at hand (e.g., noisy distractions; persistent, disrespectful or abusive disruptions of lecture, exam, or academic discussions) or (b) presents danger to the health, safety, or well-being of the faculty member or students. Breach of these guidelines can result in dismissal from the classroom and a U grade.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcements will be made primarily via Canvas and email. Please make sure that Dr. Hoyer and Brandon have your primary email address, that you are checking into Canvas once every two weeks during Summer Session C and Daily during the Final face-to-face 3 weeks of the course, and checking this address regularly for announcements.

OBSERVING RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class due to the observation of a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to Dr. Hoyer and Brandon in writing, by the second class meeting. See University policy on this matter at http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-10-045.pdf

DISABILITIES
USF policy specifies that all programs are open to students with disabilities. Students with special needs must provide the facilitator with documentation of accommodation from Student Disability Services at the beginning of the semester.

RECORDING LECTURES
Any recording of the class (audio or video) must have permission from Dr. Hoyer at the beginning of the semester.
**DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>To Read</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/13-19 &amp; 7/20-26</td>
<td>Hawley (2010) <em>Those Who Drop Out</em> (p. 9); <em>Those Who Finish</em> (p. 9);</td>
<td>Blog: Reading Discussion</td>
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<td><em>How Doctoral Study Differs from Previous Pursuits</em> (p. 21)</td>
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<td>7/27-8/2</td>
<td>Hawley (2010) <em>Your Chair, Your Committee, and You</em> (p. 53)</td>
<td>Blog: Reading Discussion &amp;</td>
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<td>Weekly reflection;</td>
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<td>Entrance Survey</td>
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<td>8/3-8/9</td>
<td>Hawley (2010) <em>Spouses, Lovers, Family, and Friends</em> (p. 149);</td>
<td>Blog: Reading Discussion &amp;</td>
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<td>Weekly reflection</td>
<td>Weekly reflection;</td>
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<td>Exit Survey</td>
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<td>8/10-8/16</td>
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**MEETING SCHEDULE (7/28 – 8/13)**

*Rod Hale Memorial Graduate Student Experience* **Tentative Course Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday,</td>
<td>9AM – 2:30PM</td>
<td>ALN 296</td>
<td><em>Welcome 9–10am</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Eric Hoyer, Assistant Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Graduate Research&lt;br&gt;Dr. Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost and Dean, Office of Graduate Studies&lt;br&gt;<strong>Introduction to Office of Graduate Studies Staff</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Student Introductions</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Getting Involved in Graduate Student Initiatives 10–10:30am</strong>&lt;br&gt;Gary D. Oliver, Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services&lt;br&gt;GPSC panel&lt;br&gt;<strong>Review Course Assignments 10:30–11am</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Eric Hoyer, Assistant Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Graduate Research&lt;br&gt;<strong>Lunch 11am–12:00pm (Panera)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Myers-Briggs Review &amp; Coping Strategies 12–2pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Kristen Davis-John, Assistant Director and Director of Training, USF Counseling Center&lt;br&gt;<strong>Library Resources 2–3pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Matt Torrence, Academic Services Librarian for STEM&lt;br&gt;<strong>Study Skills (Tutoring Center) 3–3:30pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Patricia A. Maher, Ph. D., Director&lt;br&gt;<strong>Writing Studio 3:30–4pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Danielle Farrar, Coordinator&lt;br&gt;<strong>Writing Coach 4–4:30pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Vernetta Williams, Chrysalis Consulting, LLC</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Aug. 4</td>
<td>2PM – 5PM</td>
<td>ALN 296</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Aug. 11</td>
<td>2PM – 5PM</td>
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**Overview of Financial Aid 2–2:30pm**  
Dameion Lovett, Associate Director,  
University Scholarships & Financial Aid Services

**Funding Opportunities 2:30–3pm**  
Lauren Chambers, Interim Director,  
Office of National Scholarships

**Funding your Education & Interpreting Your Tuition Bill 3–4pm**  
Kimberly Carter, Fiscal & Business Analyst, OGS

**Finance-A-Bull 4–4:30pm**  
Wrap-up 4:30–5pm

**Student Panel 2–3:30pm**  
Arnold Olszewski (AJ),  
Adithya Chandregowda (AC),  
PhD Candidate, Communication Sciences and Disorders,  
College of Behavioral and Community Sciences  
Jared Tur, Graduate and Professional Student Council President,  
PhD. Candidate, Department of Molecular Medicine, College of Medicine  
Jhon Cuesta-Medina, PhD Student,  
Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology,  
College of Education  
Laurie-Ann Spencer, PhD Candidate,  
Higher Education Administration, College of Education  
Suzanne Young, PhD Candidate,  
Integrative Biology, College of Arts and Sciences

**Petitions 3:30–3:50pm**  
Cindy Pumphrey, Academic Services Administrator, OGS

**Tuition Waivers 3:50–4:30pm**  
Joseph Butts,  
Assistant Director, Academics, Office of Graduate Studies

**Successful Mentor-Mentee Relationships & Wrap-up 4:30–5pm**  
Dr. Eric Hoyer, Assistant Director,  
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Graduate Research

**Faculty Panel 2pm – 4pm**  
Dr. Amy Thompson, Assistant Professor, Graduate Advisor, & Associate Chair  
World Languages, College of Arts & Sciences  
Dr. Gladis Kersaint, Associate Dean, Mathematics' Education,  
David C. Anchin Endowed Chair in Education Innovation  
College of Education  
Dr. Miguel Labrador, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
College of Engineering

Dr. Eric Hoyer,
Assistant Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
and Graduate Research

Career Services 4 pm – 4:45pm
Alicia Walker, Career Counselor, Career Services

Wrap-up 4:45-5pm

Group Presentations 2–4:30pm

Wrap-up 4:30–5pm