UNIVERSITY SEMINAR

What is University Seminar?
University Seminar is a 1 credit course that introduces first semester freshmen to the tools they need to succeed in college. Even if you are the best student, you will find challenges adjusting to the differences between high school and college academics. The freshman seminar is a chance for you to meet weekly with a faculty member and a small group of other freshmen to learn about strategies you can use to do your best in college. The Seminar also introduces you to the services available to help you such as advising, tutoring, career services, counseling, library, etc. When it comes time to schedule classes for the fall, University Seminar helps you figure out how to seek the information you need to make the best choices.

What is My Time Commitment?
Most seminars meet for two 50 minute sessions per week for the first half of the semester. Some meet one session per week for the entire semester. The “homework” you may be given generally includes activities such as visiting your advisor, finding material in the library, visiting one of the other student service offices on campus, etc. This course does provide one free elective credit that counts towards your minimum 120 credit needed for graduation.

Who Takes University Seminar?
Over 80% of our incoming freshmen now opt into University Seminar. Some programs require a special seminar. If you are in one of these special programs or majors (Summer Freshman, ACT101/EOP, Science, Mathematics or Computer Science Majors, Elementary Education, Special Education or a Living and Learning Communities), then you will be scheduled into the appropriate seminar without making a request. Some majors, such as History, Psychology, and Business offer voluntary special sections taught for their own majors. Last year about 350 freshmen took seminar as part of a requirement. Another 1000 new freshmen selected this course even though it was not required!

Is This Course Worth My Time?
YES! Even though work in this course seems simple and non-academic, it is well worth your time. Students who take this course are more likely to know how to seek help when they have difficulty in their coursework or when they have questions about making an academic decision. Our data show that, on average, students taking this course perform better in their classes throughout their college career and are more likely to graduate in a timely manner.

UNIVERSITY SEMINAR SELECTION FORM – PLEASE RETURN TO REGISTRAR WITHIN 2 WEEKS

NAME: ___________________________________________________________

ID#: ______________________________________________________________

MAJOR: ___________________________________________________________

_____ YES, I wish to enroll in the 1 credit University Seminar

_____ NO, I do not wish to enroll in the University Seminar (but I understand I may still be enrolled in a seminar if I am participating in a program or major that requires the seminar)