

Summary of Course Proposal: PASS 0900 – Promoting Academic Student Success

- This course is part of the student success initiatives called for, and supported by, the Title III Grant. The grant proposal states, “. . . we will develop a new non-credit, 8- week success course to help students master study skills, time management, note taking, stress management, test taking abilities, research skills, and reading comprehension.” \$1,000 stipends will be paid to qualified faculty and staff to teach the course, unless the course is taught within their 37.5 hour per week contract. Stipends are paid from grant funds during the pilot phase, but are institutionalized thereafter.
- The goal of the course is to improve the overall retention and graduation rate of APSU students by focusing on students who have experienced academic difficulty during their freshmen year.
- The course is designed to serve freshmen experiencing academic problems during their first year and students returning from suspension.
- The non-credit, pass/fail course starts Fall Semester, 2009.
- The focus of the course will be improving academic and life skills. The course will incorporate Academic Success Workshop topics currently used in the existing PASS program, such as Learning Styles, Time Management, Test Taking Strategies, Maximizing Memory, Career Planning, etc. The course will include diagnostic and prescriptive assessment of students’ strengths and weaknesses. PASS Ambassadors (student mentors) will attend one or both class sessions and meet with assigned students on a regular basis. Tutoring in Academic Support lab will also be required.
- The class will meet twice a week in 55 minutes sessions for the first 8 weeks of the semester.
- A student is not allowed to drop the course without permission from the Title III Director.
- If a grade of “pass” is not earned in the course, the course must be repeated until successful completion or until the student is no longer on academic probation.
- A list of students required or invited to participate in the PASS program will be submitted to the Student Academic Suspension Appeal Committee. This list will indicate students who did not participate, students who participated but not complete the course, and students who successfully completed the course.