I. Course Number & Title:
   A. COL 165A Introduction to Learning Theory
   B. Prerequisites-None
      Co-requisite: enrollment in at least one academic core class is required
   C. 1 credit hour
   D. Total clock hours: 1
      Total Class Hours: 15

II. Department: College Preparation

III. Course Description:
This class is offered to supplement instruction and enhance your ability to successfully complete college work in one or more classes. You will extend your vocabulary, complete self-assessments of learning styles and study skills, and contribute to a cooperative learning atmosphere through your involvement in a learning community. During class activities, you will develop your critical thinking and problem solving skills as you work with other students. One of the most important things you will do is develop a personal learning strategy for your college coursework based on your individual learning style. You will find that a key advantage of this course over traditional study skills classes is that the course is linked to classes you are currently taking. Therefore, you will learn and practice these skills in the context of actual classes and assignments. This course will help you be a better college student and more focused and successful in regard to your own goals.

IV. Course Competencies:
   During the course of the semester, you will:
   A. Identify and develop the eight traits of successful students as explained by Dr. Skip Downing
   B. Identify your personal learning style and its implications for studying and learning
   C. Understand the opportunities and expectations of learning communities
   D. Develop vocabulary-building skills for personal and classroom use
   E. Become more adept at utilizing textbooks, class notes and assignments
   F. Demonstrate positive group interactions and contributions
   G. Develop personal learning strategy for college classes
   H. Extend your critical thinking and problem-solving skills
   K. Develop a personal method of organizing thoughts

V. Assessment Items
   A. Learning style inventory & study plan
   B. Attendance/participation in weekly study sessions
   C. Vocabulary exercises
   D. Class notes from core courses
   E. Practice tests & study exercises
   F. Study session observations & assignments
   G. Journal assignments & study activities
   H. Study time log book
   K. Personal learning strategy assignment
   L. Essay: reflections on semester

VI. Course Content:
   A. Learning Styles Assessment & Implications
   B. Learning Communities & Personal Involvement
   C. Vocabulary Building Skills for Personal and Class Use
D. Texts & Tests, Note-taking & Completing Assignments
E. Group Dynamics & Individual Responsibility
F. Cooperative Learning & Learning Communities
G. Critical Thinking Skills and Problem Solving
H. Thought Organization
I. Multiple Intelligences & Implications for Learning
J. Brain Research & Implications for Learning
K. Personal learning strategy

VII. Instructional Materials:
1. Course Texts for related classes
2. SS Session Handouts
3. Web based materials
4. Highlighters (at least three colors)
5. Three ring binder or spiral notebook w/dividers

VIII. Dress & Behavior Code
A. Remove headgear upon entry into classroom
B. Speech & conduct to demonstrate courtesy and respect to all
C. Dress to demonstrate respect for learning, other students and instructor e.g. shirts with sleeves or hemmed edge at shoulder, no exposed undergarments

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodation Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition
It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.
Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.
On-Campus Students: At enrollment all on campus students will complete a form which will allow them to self-identify any disability. Questions should be directed to the Disabilities Coordinator.
Off-Campus Regional Students: Self-identify your disability and accommodation needs with the Regional Coordinator and/or instructor preferably prior to the first night of class or early in the semester.