Comments from a top-rated Gateway instructor:

“The Gateway class provides students with a total student experience as they transition to collegiate courses. Through a variety of academic activities, students become acquainted with the many campus resources available to them as they begin to make our great institution their home.”

Lindy B. Waters, Jr., M.Ed.
Associate Director, Student Life
Director, Student Affairs TRiO Programs

How do I enroll in Gateway?

For enrollment information on Gateway to College Learning (UCOL 1002), contact University College at (405)325-2072 or your campus academic adviser.

For more information about the nature of the course, contact:

Alice Lanning, Ph.D.
Director of Freshman Programs
University College (Wagner Hall, Room 175)
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019-1081
Telephone: (405) 325-2072
E-Mail: alanning@ou.edu

University of Oklahoma
FRESHMAN PROGRAMS

Created by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1890, The University of Oklahoma is a doctoral degree-granting research university serving the educational, cultural, economic and health care needs of the state, region and nation. The Norman campus serves as home to all of the university’s academic programs except health-related fields. Both the Norman and Health Sciences Center colleges offer programs at the Schusterman Center, the first of OU-Tulsa. The OU Health Sciences Center, which is located in Oklahoma City, is one of the only four comprehensive academic health centers in the nation with seven professional colleges. OU enrolls approximately 30,000 students, has more than 2,000 full-time faculty members, and has 14 colleges offering 154 majors at the baccalaureate level, 152 majors at the master’s level, 74 majors at the doctoral level, eight majors at the first professional level, and five graduate certificates. The university’s annual operating budget is more than $1 billion. The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution.

Accommodations on the basis of disability are available by contacting Suzette Dyer, Student Support Services, 405/325-4006. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Alice Lanning, Ph.D., Director of Freshman Programs, at 405/325-3521 or by e-mail at alanning@ou.edu

University of Oklahoma
University College
“Where OU Excellence Begins”
Established 1942

GATEWAY TO COLLEGE LEARNING
UCOL 1002

Reach for Academic Excellence
A Smooth Transition

The transition from high school to college requires many adjustments including leaving home; meeting new people; preparing for an intensive study environment; learning to budget time effectively; understanding university procedures; and making life-changing decisions.

What kind of course is Gateway?

Gateway is a letter-graded, two-credit-hour elective course. Students are expected to attend each class. There will be reading and writing homework assignments. Each class is limited to 25 students.

Gateway may be somewhat different from other courses in that the format will be primarily discussion rather than lecture. Also, the content will be focused on the process of learning and becoming a university student rather than on an academic subject.

How will Gateway help me as a student?

This course is designed to establish foundations for becoming successful and effective college students. Course experiences will provide, among other things, opportunities to accomplish the following:

- Develop and refine skills that will help ensure academic excellence
  These will include training in time management and study skills, including note-taking and test-taking strategies.

- Investigate the nature of higher education and the University of Oklahoma
  Find out what constitutes a research university and enjoy learning about the history, traditions and culture unique to OU.

- Get to know an instructor to whom you can bring questions and problems
  Developing a relationship with a teacher in a small class can be extremely helpful in learning to solve problems.

- Learn about yourself as a student
  Gateway includes activities to encourage the examination of thoughts, feelings and/or behaviors that affect the performance of students and their acceptance within the campus community. Regular journals provide an outlet for personal expression.

- Learn about the many resources at OU
  The University of Oklahoma has vast resources: academic, social, cultural, technological and others. Gateway will help you access these resources.

- Practice and improve your ability to communicate your thoughts
  In college, students are expected to learn in ways different from high school. In Gateway, you will explore selected topics utilizing frequent class discussions, small group activities and journals.

- Learn about other students and interacting in the community
  Through a wide variety of experiences in Gateway, you will get to know your peers well, both inside and outside the classroom.

An Investment in Quality

Gateway is taught by instructors who are specially trained to teach this course. These teachers represent a variety of academic disciplines and intellectual pursuits. Some Gateway sections are linked in a learning community model with other freshman courses such as economics, chemistry, math, or political science among others. Your advisor will explain linked course opportunities before you actually enroll. Students often rely on Gateway instructors for guidance and recommendations for employment or graduate school long after the course is over.

Comments from Gateway students:

“I loved this class because it became a little family. I always enjoyed coming to class. It taught me a lot so that I was always motivated to do the best I could. The teacher was optimistic and well prepared.”

“My Gateway teacher was a great instructor that took the context of the book and really helped apply it to my life as a freshman. She really cared about how the class was doing during the entire semester and took initiative to always be in a positive mood. This was my favorite first semester course at OU.”

“...an amazing teacher and role model. I was extremely uncomfortable and homesick in my new surrounding, but coming to Gateway made a huge difference. My teacher made me feel like everything was going to be o.k. and that I could be happy at OU. The relationships she helped us form throughout the class were beneficial to me and my classmates.”

“...one of the best mentors on campus. He made himself available to any of us who needed encouragement and planned great activities outside of class to keep us involved and welcomed. He is an excellent resource for any incoming freshman.”