

College Success Outline



Unit 1:

Transitioning to College

1.1 The College Experience

- 1.1.1 Define college success, obstacles, and persistence.
- 1.1.2 Define “preconceived notions” of the college experience.
- 1.1.3 Identify the value of college.
- 1.1.4 Identify the importance of persistence in college.
- 1.1.5 Describe your preconceived notions of the college experience.

1.2 Understanding What Drives You

- 1.2.1 Define motivation.
- 1.2.2 Define intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.
- 1.2.3 Define affiliation motivation.
- 1.2.4 Determine what motivates you.

1.3 Setting Goals

- 1.3.1 Define goal.
- 1.3.2 List the steps of goal-setting.
- 1.3.3 Evaluate a goal you set for yourself.

1.4 Making S.M.A.R.T. Goals

- 1.4.1 Define short-term and long-term goals.
- 1.4.2 Define self-regulation and self-efficacy.
- 1.4.3 Identify the value of establishing and reevaluating goals.
- 1.4.4 Evaluate a goal using the S.M.A.R.T. process.

1.5 Using Critical Thinking Skills

- 1.5.1 Define critical thinking.
- 1.5.2 Define collaborative thinking, groupthink, and deductive reasoning.
- 1.5.3 Define perspective taking and probing.
- 1.5.4 Identify the three steps of critical thinking.
- 1.5.5 Differentiate between “groupthink” and “collaborative thinking.”

1.6 Making Decisions

- 1.6.1 Define active learning and analysis.
- 1.6.2 Define reflexive, reflective, emotional and effective decision-making.
- 1.6.3 List the steps to decision-making.
- 1.6.4 Evaluate your decision-making style.

Unit 1:

Transitioning to College

1.7 Problem Solving

- 1.7.1 Define and list the steps to problem-solving.
- 1.7.2 Define introspection, sorting, and realistic goal.
- 1.7.3 Identify the role of research in decision-making.
- 1.7.4 Identify how problem-solving skills will be useful throughout life.

1.8 Using Metacognition Skills

- 1.8.1 Define metacognition and competency.
- 1.8.2 Identify metacognition steps.
- 1.8.3 Identify how experiences and culture influence thinking.

1.9 Applying Emotional Intelligence

- 1.9.1 Define emotional intelligence and locus of control.
- 1.9.2 Identify the link between metacognition and emotional intelligence.
- 1.9.3 Evaluate your emotional intelligence competencies.

Unit 2: Navigating College

2.1 Discovering Student Resources

- 2.1.1 Define resources.
- 2.1.2 Describe how to use resources for course planning, tutoring, and career services.
- 2.1.3 List sources of information about where student resources would be available.

2.2 Self-Advocating

- 2.2.1 Define self-advocacy and academic accommodations.
- 2.2.2 Describe how to advocate for yourself.
- 2.2.3 List the steps for requesting an accommodation.

2.3 Picking a Major

- 2.3.1 Define major, minor, and degree plan.
- 2.3.2 Identify the steps for choosing a major.
- 2.3.3 Identify the risks and benefits of changing majors.

2.4 Selecting Courses

- 2.4.1 Define prerequisites, electives, graduation requirements, and course sequence.
- 2.4.2 Determine whether a course meets graduation requirements.
- 2.4.3 Describe how to get AP or CLEP credits.

2.5 Getting Involved

- 2.5.1 Define community.
- 2.5.2 Identify the benefits of being involved in the school community.
- 2.5.3 Identify categories or places to be involved.
- 2.5.4 Describe making a plan for becoming involved in a community activity.

2.6 Managing Physical Health

- 2.6.1 Define health, physical health, health inventory, and stress.
- 2.6.2 List signs of trouble and strategies to combat stress.
- 2.6.3 Identify the effects of stress on physical health.
- 2.6.4 Identify how to take and interpret the results of a health inventory.

Unit 2:

Navigating College

- 2.7 Staying Mentally and Emotionally Healthy**
- 2.7.1 Define mental health, emotional health, anxiety, and depression.
- 2.7.2 Identify signs of possible mental and emotional health issues.
- 2.7.3 Identify places to go for help for possible mental and emotional health issues.

Unit 3: Learning and Memory

3.1 Learning

- 3.1.1 Define learning.
- 3.1.2 Identify the relationship between memorization and learning.
- 3.1.3 Describe how to create the best environment for learning.

3.2 Learning Styles

- 3.2.1 Define learning styles.
- 3.2.2 Determine your learning style.
- 3.2.3 Identify how to use learning style to improve performance.

3.3 Adapting to Teaching Styles

- 3.3.1 Define teaching styles.
- 3.3.2 Identify strategies to adapt to particular teaching styles.

3.4 Understanding How Memory Works

- 3.4.1 Define short-term and long-term memory.
- 3.4.2 Identify how memory works.
- 3.4.3 Identify myths and misconceptions about memory.

3.5 Improving Your Memory

- 3.5.1 Define mnemonic, acronyms technique, and acrostics technique.
- 3.5.2 List techniques for improving your memory.
- 3.5.3 Identify the use of mnemonics, acronyms, and acrostics.
- 3.5.4 Describe ways to improve your memory.

Unit 4:

Time Management

4.1 Using To-Do Lists

- 4.1.1 Define time management and to-do list.
- 4.1.2 Make a to-do list.

4.2 Scheduling Your Time

- 4.2.1 Define respect.
- 4.2.2 Describe how to be respectful of other people's time.
- 4.2.3 Identify how to manage conflicting priorities and limited time.
- 4.2.4 Create a schedule to manage your time.

4.3 Avoiding Procrastination

- 4.3.1 Define procrastination.
- 4.3.2 List reasons people procrastinate.
- 4.3.3 Plan strategies to address areas of procrastination.
- 4.3.4 Describe how much of a problem procrastination is for you.

4.4 Multitasking

- 4.4.1 Define multitasking.
- 4.4.2 Identify how to get multiple tasks completed on time.
- 4.4.3 Identify alternatives to multitasking.
- 4.4.4 Determine which tasks may be multitasked.

4.5 Managing Energy

- 4.5.1 Describe managing energy.
- 4.5.2 Describe how you handle stressful situations.

Unit 5:

Taking Notes

4.5 Managing Energy

- 4.5.1 Describe managing energy.
- 4.5.2 Describe how you handle stressful situations.

5.1 Using the Cornell System

- 5.1.1 Define active listening and the Cornell System.
- 5.1.2 Identify the “five R’s.”
- 5.1.3 Identify the general note-taking process and the steps to the Cornell system.
- 5.1.4 Identify the benefit of taking notes.
- 5.1.5 Use the Cornell system to take notes.

5.2 Outlining to Take Notes

- 5.2.1 Define outline, formal outline, and informal outline.
- 5.2.2 Define formal outline.
- 5.2.3 Define informal outline.
- 5.2.4 Create a formal outline.
- 5.2.5 Create an informal outline.

5.3 More Ways to Take Notes

- 5.3.1 Define mind map and branching map.
- 5.3.2 Identify mind map alternatives, such as chunking.
- 5.3.3 Use chunking to take notes.

5.4 Annotating

- 5.4.1 Define annotating.
- 5.4.2 Identify how to annotate text using notes.
- 5.4.3 Annotate text and analyze its usefulness.

5.5 Choosing Your Own Method

- 5.5.1 Identify the qualities of good notes.
- 5.5.2 Identify how to use your computer to take notes.
- 5.5.3 Describe the note-taking methods that work best for you.

5.6 Tips for Taking, Reviewing, and Studying Your Notes

- 5.6.1 Identify how to take, review, and study notes under difficult conditions.
- 5.6.2 Describe the note taking methods that work best for you.

Unit 6: Reading

6.1 What is Pre-Reading?

- 6.1.1 Define active reading, passive reading, and passive reading.
- 6.1.2 Identify the purposes for reading.
- 6.1.3 Identify criteria for selecting a pre-reading strategy.

6.2 Pre-Reading Strategies

- 6.2.1 Define previewing, skimming, scanning, and predicting.
- 6.2.2 Identify how to use pre-reading strategies.
- 6.2.3 Compare pre-reading strategies and describe which works best for you.

6.3 Two Common Pre-Reading Methods: SQ4R and KWL

- 6.3.1 Define the SQ4R method and the KWL chart.
- 6.3.2 Identify how to use the SQ4R method and how to create a KWL chart.
- 6.3.3 Complete the SQ4R Survey and Question steps.
- 6.3.4 Create a KWL chart.

6.4 Reading Strategies

- 6.4.1 Define annotating.
- 6.4.2 List “while you read” reading strategies.

6.5 Tips for Reading

- 6.5.1 Define critical reader.
- 6.5.2 Identify tips for reading difficult texts.
- 6.5.3 Identify tips for reading textbooks.
- 6.5.4 Identify tips for reading fiction.
- 6.5.5 Evaluate reading tips and strategies.

6.6 Critical Reading Strategies

- 6.6.1 Define critical thinking, inferences, analysis, identification, and synthesis.
- 6.6.2 Evaluate a passage using inferences.

6.7 Post-Reading Strategies

- 6.7.1 Define graphic organizer, post-reading strategies, and quickwrite.
- 6.7.2 List post-reading strategies.
- 6.7.3 Identify how to use the SQ4R reading method.
- 6.7.4 Use a graphic organizer to break down a text.

Unit 6: Reading

6.8 Paraphrasing and Summarizing

- 6.8.1 Define summarizing and citation.
- 6.8.2 Define paraphrasing and quotations.
- 6.8.3 Differentiate between summarizing and paraphrasing.
- 6.8.4 Identify how to properly quote and cite material used in your writing.
- 6.8.5 Summarize and paraphrase a given text.

6.9 Evaluate Your Success

- 6.9.1 Define metacognition, reading fluency, reading rate.
- 6.9.2 Evaluate your own reading fluency and rate for a given text.

Unit 7: Writing

7.1 Types of Writing

- 7.1.1 Define informal writing, academic writing, and essay.
- 7.1.2 Identify the writing process.

7.2 Interpreting an Assignment

- 7.2.1 Define writing prompt.
- 7.2.2 Identify the parts and requirements of an assignment.
- 7.2.3 Identify best practices for interpreting an assignment.
- 7.2.4 Create a time management plan for a writing assignment.

7.3 Rubrics

- 7.3.1 Define a rubric.
- 7.3.2 Identify the common attributes listed on a rubric.
- 7.3.3 Identify what to do if a teacher doesn't use a rubric.
- 7.3.4 Create a rubric for a writing assignment.

7.4 Choosing a Topic

- 7.4.1 Define pre-writing techniques, free writing, and preliminary research.
- 7.4.2 Identify strategies for coming up with ideas when pre-writing.
- 7.4.3 Practice pre-writing for a given writing prompt.

7.5 Analyzing Audience, Tone, and Purpose

- 7.5.1 Define audience, point of view, and tone.
- 7.5.2 Identify the purpose, audience, and tone required for your writing.
- 7.5.3 Determine purpose, audience, and tone for a given writing prompt.

7.6 Developing a Thesis Statement

- 7.6.1 Define essay skeleton, thesis statement, topic, main idea, and essay skeleton.
- 7.6.2 Identify how to write a strong thesis and to support it with a main idea and subtopics.
- 7.6.3 Create an essay skeleton that includes topic, main idea, and subtopics.

7.7 Creating an Outline

- 7.7.1 Define outlining and free writing.
- 7.7.2 Identify major and minor supporting details for your essay.
- 7.7.3 Identify the value of outlining an essay.
- 7.7.4 Create an outline that includes a thesis statement, topic sentences, and major details.

Unit 7: Writing

7.8 The Draft

- 7.8.1 Define a draft.
- 7.8.2 Identify the purpose of writing a draft.
- 7.8.3 Create a rough draft for a given writing prompt.

7.9 The Revision and Editing Process

- 7.9.1 Define evaluating, revising, and editing.
- 7.9.2 Identify how to use a rubric to revise an essay.
- 7.9.3 Revise a given text.

7.10 Evaluating Your Performance

- 7.10.1 Define metacognition.
- 7.10.2 Identify how to use metacognition to evaluate an essay.
- 7.10.3 Write a reflection based on a writing experience.

Unit 8: Research

8.1 Sources of Research

- 8.1.1 Define primary sources and secondary sources.
- 8.1.2 Define bias.
- 8.1.3 Identify sources of research.

8.2 Research on the Internet

- 8.2.1 Define online database.
- 8.2.2 Identify tips for conducting research on the Internet.
- 8.2.3 Research a given topic using an online database.

8.3 Evaluating Sources

- 8.3.1 Define credibility and bias.
- 8.3.2 Differentiate facts from opinions.
- 8.3.3 Identify how to evaluate sources.
- 8.3.4 Identify how to avoid your own bias.

8.4 Documenting Sources

- 8.4.1 Define citation, reference, and references list.
- 8.4.2 Identify the information a citation or reference should include.
- 8.4.3 Identify the appropriate format of an in-text citation.
- 8.4.4 Paraphrase a passage and compile information required for documenting the source.

8.5 Researching and Writing

- 8.5.1 Define common knowledge and plagiarism.
- 8.5.2 Identify ethical writing.
- 8.5.3 Identify ways to avoid plagiarizing.
- 8.5.4 Identify the plagiarism policy at your school.

Unit 9: Test Taking

8.5 Researching and Writing

- 8.5.1 Define common knowledge and plagiarism.
- 8.5.2 Identify ethical writing.
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9.1 Understanding Question Types

- 9.1.1 Define multiple choice, true or false, fill-in-the-blank, and matching test questions.
- 9.1.2 Define process of elimination.
- 9.1.3 List strategies for taking tests based on question types.
- 9.1.4 Identify which type of test you prefer.

9.2 Understanding Short Answer and Essay Questions

- 9.2.1 Define short answer and essay questions.
- 9.2.2 Identify different types of essay questions and required responses.
- 9.2.3 List strategies for taking short answer and essay question tests.

9.3 Timed Essays

- 9.3.1 Identify where and why timed essays will be encountered.
- 9.3.2 Identify tips for writing timed essays.
- 9.3.3 Identify the prompt, budget your time and sketch out a plan for a given essay prompt.

9.4 Taking Different Types of Tests

- 9.4.1 Define quizzes and cumulative tests.
- 9.4.2 Identify strategies for preparing for math tests.
- 9.4.3 Identify strategies for preparing for lab tests.
- 9.4.4 Differentiate how to prepare for quizzes vs. cumulative tests.

9.5 Studying Before the Test

- 9.5.1 Identify strategies for studying.
- 9.5.2 Identify the benefits of studying alone and with groups.
- 9.5.3 Identify how to prepare physically and emotionally the day of the test.
- 9.5.4 Create a study plan based on the number of quizzes and exams you have.

Unit 9: Test Taking

9.6 Taking the Test

- 9.6.1 List strategies for test taking.
- 9.6.2 Identify the test-taking process.
- 9.6.3 Identify how you select a test-taking strategy.

9.7 Managing Test Anxiety

- 9.7.1 Define levels of anxiety and test anxiety.
- 9.7.2 Identify ways to recognize anxiety and strategies to combat it.
- 9.7.3 Describe your level of test anxiety and how you combat it.

9.8 After the Test

- 9.8.1 Identify the steps for evaluating your performance after a test.
- 9.8.2 Identify how to use metacognitive skills to evaluate test performance.
- 9.8.3 Identify how to use the post-test time to prepare for future tests.
- 9.8.4 Describe your post-test process.

9.9 Test Taking Gone Wrong

- 9.9.1 Define cramming and cheating.
- 9.9.2 Identify strategies to manage a cramming situation.
- 9.9.3 Identify strategies for dealing with failing a test.
- 9.9.4 Identify the consequences of cheating.
- 9.9.5 Describe your experience with cramming.

Unit 10:

Communication and Technology Skills

10.1 Speaking Publicly

- 10.1.1 Define public speaking.
- 10.1.2 List tips for effective public speaking.
- 10.1.3 Describe a public speaking experience.

10.2 Speaking Informally

- 10.2.1 Define informal speaking and active listening.
- 10.2.2 Identify informal speaking situations.
- 10.2.3 List tips for successful informal speaking.
- 10.2.4 Describe an informal speaking experience.

10.3 Preparing for Class

- 10.3.1 Define syllabus.
- 10.3.2 Identify how to prepare for class.
- 10.3.3 Identify what teachers value in students.
- 10.3.4 Identify how to be an active listener.
- 10.3.5 Evaluate how prepared you are for class.

10.4 Building Relationships with Your Instructors

- 10.4.1 Identify how to make a good impression with instructors.
- 10.4.2 Identify strategies for approaching intimidating instructors.
- 10.4.3 Describe your relationships with instructors.

10.5 Building Relationships with Your Peers

- 10.5.1 Define peer review, diversity, and stereotypes.
- 10.5.2 Identify how to build relationships with peers.
- 10.5.3 Identify how to deal with difficult people.
- 10.5.4 Describe your experience with peer review.

10.6 Working in Groups

- 10.6.1 Define the golden rule.
- 10.6.2 Define delegating and situational awareness.
- 10.6.3 Identify the characteristics of effective workgroups.
- 10.6.4 Describe an experience working as part of a team.

10.7 Communicating via Technology

- 10.7.1 Identify how to communicate appropriately with email.
- 10.7.2 Identify guidelines for email etiquette.
- 10.7.3 Draft sample emails to instructors and peers.

Unit 10:

Communication and Technology Skills

10.8 Using Social Media

- 10.8.1 Define social media.
- 10.8.2 Identify how to use social media appropriately.
- 10.8.3 Identify long-term issues of inappropriate social media postings.
- 10.8.4 Evaluate your social media presence.

10.9 Learning Online

- 10.9.1 Define learning management system (LMS).
- 10.9.2 Identify how an online class works.
- 10.9.3 Identify how to troubleshoot technical problems.
- 10.9.4 Evaluate whether an online class is a good option for you.

10.10 Online Safety

- 10.10.1 Define a phishing attack and strong password.
- 10.10.2 Identify how to work online safely.
- 10.10.3 Identify how to choose a password.
- 10.10.4 Evaluate the security of your online presence.

Unit 11:

Practical Math: Grades and Finances

11.1 Calculating Your Grade Point Average

- 11.1.1 Define grade point average (GPA), semester GPA, and cumulative GPA.
- 11.1.2 Identify how to calculate your average, semester and cumulative GPA.

11.2 Creating a Budget

- 11.2.1 Define budget.
- 11.2.2 Differentiate needs and wants.
- 11.2.3 Identify how to plan for a big expenditure.
- 11.2.4 Identify how to create and maintain a budget.
- 11.2.5 Create and evaluate a monthly budget.

11.3 Paying Bills

- 11.3.1 Define automatic bill pay, checking account, and savings account.
- 11.3.2 Define “paying yourself” as a saving strategy.
- 11.3.3 Identify how to establish online bill pay and its benefits.
- 11.3.4 Identify how to set up automatic bill pay.
- 11.3.5 Identify how to write a check.

11.4 Managing Credit

- 11.4.1 Define credit, credit score, credit report, and financial aid.
- 11.4.2 Identify how to apply for a credit card, and how to request and read a credit report.
- 11.4.3 Identify how to borrow money for school expenses.
- 11.4.4 Identify the outcomes of paying a credit card late.
- 11.4.5 Identify types of financial aid for students.

11.5 Sharing Expenses with Roommates

- 11.5.1 Define lease.
- 11.5.2 List issues that can arise when living with roommates.
- 11.5.3 Identify how to problem-solve issues that arise with roommates.
- 11.5.4 Describe your experience living with others.

Unit 12: Beyond College

12.1 Planning for a Career

- 12.1.1 Define internship and co-op.
- 12.1.2 Define professional associations and networking.
- 12.1.3 Identify internship, co-op, or job opportunities at your college.
- 12.1.4 Identify what professional associations are linked with your major.
- 12.1.5 Evaluate the internship, co-op, and networking opportunities available at your school.

12.2 Creating a Résumé and Cover Letter

- 12.2.1 Define résumé, cover letter, and objective statement.
- 12.2.2 Create an employment history section for your résumé.
- 12.2.3 Create an introductory paragraph for a cover letter.

12.3 Building Your Online Presence

- 12.3.1 Define portfolio.
- 12.3.2 Identify how to create a portfolio.
- 12.3.3 Identify online sources of information about you.
- 12.3.4 Evaluate your online presence.

12.4 Applying for a Job

- 12.4.1 Define job references.
- 12.4.2 Identify ways to find job opportunities and resources.
- 12.4.3 Identify the purpose and contents of a thank you letter.
- 12.4.4 Search for a job online.

12.5 Learning for a Lifetime

- 12.5.1 Define professional development and professional certification.
- 12.5.2 Define formal and informal education.
- 12.5.3 Evaluate whether your field requires professional certification and/or professional development.