

College Success Lesson Guide for Dual Credit Courses

Jeremy Bowling, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Perri Gardner, College of Southern Idaho; Erin Richards, Cascadia College

Overview

To encourage college success in your Dual Credit course, we suggest that you include College Success Lessons in the first two weeks and have students practice Basic College Skills throughout the course. We also suggest readings, videos, assignments, and other resources that you can use to foster college success.

College Success Lessons

First, we need to set expectations. In the first two weeks of the semester, as you finalize student enrollment in your Dual Credit course, we suggest you discuss course expectations and strategies for college success with your students. The following are suggestions and resources for lessons you can implement within the first two weeks, before starting subject matter content.

1) You can do it!

- Topics: Grit, Growth Mindset
- Learning Outcomes
 - Explain how to develop GRIT.
 - Explain how to develop a growth mindset.

2) Make a plan!

- Topics: Prioritizing, Goal Setting, & Time Management
- Learning Outcomes
 - Identify and rank your priorities.
 - Develop short-term and long-term goals.
 - Develop a time management plan.

3) Learn how to learn!

- Topics: Note-taking, Reading, Studying, Test-taking, & Stress-Management
- Learning Outcomes
 - Identify in-class note-taking techniques and utilize a note-taking system.
 - Identify effective reading strategies.
 - Identify effective studying and test-taking strategies.
 - Identify effective strategies for stress management.

4) I'm a College Student!

- Topics: College LMS, College ID/Password, College Library, Campus Resources
- Learning Outcomes
 - Explain how to use [College LMS] and access the required textbooks.

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- Identify campus resources available to PSC 101 CE students.

Basic College Skills

There are some basic skills college instructors expect students to have before attending. In our lower level or Dual Credit college course, we should have students practice and develop these basic skills. As you instruct the subject matter content of the course to your students, think about ways to have students practice these skills.

1) Reading Literacy Skills:

- Identifying the main argument of a textbook section, article, or excerpt
- Distinguishing fact, argument, evidence, and opinion
- Annotating a text for key ideas
- Summarizing reading in a few clear sentences
- Defining and using academic vocabulary in context
- Reading charts, graphs, polling data, and tables
- Creating and comparing primary sources to an explanation of that source

2) Writing Readiness Skills:

- Writing a clear claim
- Supporting that claim with evidence
- Explaining how the evidence proves the point
- Paraphrasing rather than copying
- Quoting briefly and correctly when needed
- Organizing a short response logically
- Answering the question directly and fully
- Revising for clarity

3) Academic Readiness:

- Reading and understanding a syllabus
- Tracking deadlines and due dates
- Breaking big assignments into smaller steps
- Taking usable notes from lecture or reading
- Preparing for a quiz or essay exam
- Checking grades and feedback regularly
- Asking for help appropriately
- Using office hours, tutorials, or support resources
- Managing time between high school and college expectations

4) Discussion and Thinking Skills:

- Responding to a prompt with evidence
- Participating in discussion respectfully
- Distinguishing a personal opinion from a constitutional or political analysis

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- Comparing two viewpoints
- Explaining cause and effect
- Applying a concept to a real-world scenario
- Asking clarifying questions

Suggested Resources

Readings

[College Success OER](#)

- [Grit](#)
- [Growth Mindset](#)
- [Time Management](#)
- [Prioritization](#)
- [Goal Setting](#)
- [Note-taking](#)
- [Studying](#)
- [Test-taking & Anxiety](#)

Videos

[Crash Course: Study Skills](#)

- [Taking Notes](#)
- [Reading Effectively](#)
- [Studying for Exams](#)
- [Test Anxiety](#)

[BBC Learning English: Study Skills](#)

- [Managing Your Time](#)
- [Taking Notes](#)
- [Reading Effectively](#)

Other Videos

- [8 Habits of Successful Students](#)
- [Effective Studying](#)
- [Growth Mindset](#)
 - [Growth Mindset](#) (Instructors)
- [Grit](#)
 - [Grit](#) (Instructors)
- [Stress Management \(Health & Wellness\)](#)
- [Crash Course: How to College](#)
 - Not too useful for college success preparation, but may be useful advice for those about to apply to colleges.

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Assignments and Worksheets

- The [Literacy Skills for College Readiness](#) document has links to activities and resources that focus on literacy skills.
- Oregon State University has dozens of [college success worksheets and handouts](#) you can use in your lessons.

Campus Resources

In your LMS or elsewhere, place links to or otherwise make students aware of the university library, wellness center, recreation center, writing center, disability resource center, Title IX and trauma care resources, university ID information, parking, career services, academic advising, financial aid and account services, registrar's office, and any other services available for CE students to utilize.