Guided Notes

Teaching the Second-Year Student: What Should We Be Thinking About?

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this workshop, participants should be able to:

* Describe the key characteristics and needs of the second-year student
* Compare the cognitive & psychosocial milestones that distinguish the second-year experience
* Consider teaching strategies that support second-year student learning

Session Outline

* Characteristics of the Second-Year Student
* Barriers to Second-Year Success
* Second-Year Student Development
* Second-Year Student Learning
* Helping Second-Year Students Thrive

**Notes on Characteristics of the Second-Year Student:**

How would you characterize the second-year students you teach or work with?

Have you seen evidence of the sophomore slump in your second-year students? What are some examples you can think of?

**Notes on Barriers to Second-Year Success:**

**Second-Year Development**

As each type of development is introduced, fill out the following on your chart:

* Circle yes or no if you have observed any of the behavior described in your students.
* Write one thing you could do or change you could make to help your 2nd year students in this area.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Development Area** | **Observed in my Students** | **Changes I could make to assist my 2nd year students:** |
| Brain Development | Yes No |  |
| Cognitive Dev.: Perry | Yes No |  |
| Cognitive Dev.: Baxter-Magolda | Yes No |  |
| Identity Development | Yes No |  |
| Sophomore Dev.:  Schaller | Yes No |  |

Considering what was just shared about second-year student development, what are some changes you might consider making in your teaching approach or course for the second-year students you teach?

**Notes on Second-Year Student Learning:**

What topics that you cover in your class might you need to scaffold to ensure your students are learning the content you intend?

Are there co-curricular elements you can add to your course to encouage academic and social integration?

**Notes on Helping Second-Year Students Thrive:**

What are some ways you can or do build community inside your classroom?

What are some ways you can or do build community outside your classroom?

What is one thing you can commit to doing to assist your second-year students next semester?

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (your name), commit to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the action you plan to do) to help my second-year students thrive inside and outside my class in Fall Semester 2025.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Carmen Course Resource page: