Diana Tran

College 1

Lopez

10-29-15

Midterm Successes and Failures Reflection

 In all of my courses so far this semester, the experience that made me feel the most successful is continuously getting an A on my math test exam in college from all the help that I received from several math tutors in the TLC through the pathways program, but there was this math tutor, who was the most very helpful to me named Samuel. Without the pathways program, I don’t think I would be able to get an A in math 125 class, but a B that is the highest I can get. Most importantly, I don’t think I would be able to ace every exam in that class, since the exam is 50% of my final grade in the class. The parts of the assignment that made me feel most successful is getting help on how to comprehend word problems in my homework and the techniques on how to do it easily, without having to struggle. I was able to solve word problems easily with the advice from Samuel because he told me to draw a picture , so I can easily visualize and figure out what the word problems is asking me to do, in which I did not do first thing. He also told me that the easiest way for me to encountered word problems is to work backwards. since it might be a bit confusing trying to comprehend what the word problems at the beginning and much more harder. Not only that, he also told me that the easiest way for me to encountered word problems is to use systematic listing, such as a table, so I can easily see what I need to find out in the word problems, Therefore, I was able to do the exam very well by using these three strategies because this really help me a lot. Trying to work out the word problems through thinking it in my mind doesn’t work with me that way. It just makes things seem more complicated than it really is, even though it isn’t. I was glad I was able to find out these three strategies from my tutors, otherwise I would have just gotten every single word problems wrong on the test. On the other hand, the parts of the assignment that made me feel least successful is not getting a full points for all of the writing assignments that I have done for sociology 1, even though I think it is very detailed and has a lot of information and yet my professor still thinks that there some things that are missing in my paragraphs. I was hoping of getting a very high grade in all of my assignments, so it can at least helped me a little bit for my final grade in the class and it seem like this class will be very hard for me. I am also not a very good-test taker, which is a big issue I have to consider on how I am going to do very well on the test. I take the exam every four weeks in this class and this class is pain-killer to me. After failing my first exam, I already feel that I wouldn’t pass the class, even though my professor kept telling me that I have a lot of time to improve on my grade if I have the time-management skills of trying to spend more time in studying than usual, in order to do well on the exam. He kept encouraging me that I can do it, instead of just dropping the class and I just don’t know how it will all work out, since I have poor studying skills. It is not only time-management skills. After considering this situation, I was thinking of trying to use the social science center, so the tutors in there can try to help me how to manage my own study time for all six class I am taking this semester and study with a little group of students, so I can a good habit on how to study well, in order to do well on the exam. This is the only options I am planning on doing to help me improve and become more successful by the end of the semester from my professor. The three strategies that I need to do to help me with my sociology 1 class are to create a nice and quiet environment, without any distractions, rereading the text several times over and over again, so I don’t forget the materials, and practice testing myself, so I am certain I know the material and are prepared on the day of the test. By using these three strategies, I believe that it will help me a lot on my study skills, since I have a really poor study habits with the advice from my friends and I am hoping that this class will turn out well by the end of the semester. I have many great friends, who are very supportive to me.  Right now, I am trying to test prep myself by using flashcards and most importantly, rereading the text to make sure I understand the information and materials very clearly in a very quiet room, without forgetting anything everyday after my teacher go over the lecture in class. I am considering not studying in the last minute any more, since this is not helping me at all and I am thinking of changing my way of studying, otherwise I will never do well in class. The internal motivating factors of me becoming a successful college students are not being a very shy student, but stand up and ask questions, whenever I am concern or need help with anything to my professors from my parents due to the fact that if I don’t ask questions or anything, I will never do well in class and I will just end up getting the grade that I don’t want, which can hurt my gpa a lot for one thing. I am a very shy student when I was little and I am still a little bit shy right now, but not as much when I was little, which is a good thing. My parents said that students who are shy and don’t speak up in class will never be successful in life, since they don’t know how to talk and if one don’t know how to communicate with an adult in the future, it will be less likely that they won’t be hired to work by anyone. Thus, this is the reasons why students should not be shy, but speak up and try to do well in education, which is very important in this society. On the other hand, the external motivating factors of me becoming a successful college students are to meet new people and make more friends with several clubs I am joining, since I don’t have this when I was in high school. I did not know a lot of people and I believe this is the reasons why I did not do so well in high school due to the fact that I did not have anybody who can support me and I regret that I did not have perseverance in myself in not doing anything to retake the English class I am failing in high school, otherwise I would have gotten accepted to at least one university. I don’t have anybody, who was much help to me. This is the reasons why I believe making more friends can really help people a lot. By making a lot of friends, there may be some people who can help one another with different opinions and ideas, whereas having so little friends that are not as supportive. With all the learning opportunities I had received this semester, in the TLC, which has a very beautiful and quiet environment to learn and do independent work, it helped me a lot since I was really able to concentrate in my work, without any distractions from my little brother at home. If I am at home, there is constantly distractions here and there. Not only that, the computer-based modules also help me in knowing how to research, in which I will do a lot of researching while in college and I find this very useful in getting me ready for it. I am also a community service member in the club that I am joining in PCC and I am looking forward to not only help the environment in making it cleaner, nicer, and peaceful for everyone to live in the community, but also in benefiting the people in need in this world, in which there is many people are suffering, such as lack of food and drink. With so much support I received in the pathways program in PCC, I hope that I will be where I want to be in the future, after I transfer out of PCC and looking forward to having a successful life in the future and accomplish my dreams in what I wanted to be, which is becoming a nurse.