

Video Title:	Steps to Success
Video Length:	13:00 minutes
Audience:	Basic Studies Students, High School Students
Curriculum Correlation:	Transition Portfolio – Activity 5.c Videos
Summary:	Students discuss the steps they have taken to reach their academic goals, and they offer advice to viewers about planning their own pathways.
Vision Statement:	By watching this video, viewers will... LEARN about the various pathways that community college students have taken to reach their academic goals; UNDERSTAND that there are a variety of pathways to reach academic goals and that all students face obstacles along the way; FEEL that they can identify with the students in the video and that if those students can go to college, they can do it too.
Learning Objectives:	LISTENING: Viewers will identify the pathways followed by three of the students in the video. SPEAKING: Viewers will share and compare information from the video and from personal experience. READING: Viewers will read bulleted pathways to success developed by classmates. WRITING: Viewers will practice note-taking and summarizing skills.
Activity Time:	Pre-Viewing Activity – Discovery: Approximately 30 minutes Pre-Viewing Activity – Vocabulary: Approximately 30 minutes Viewing Activity: Approximately 1 hour Post-Viewing Activity: Approximately 0-1 hour, depending on choice of in-class or out-of-class assignments

Answer Key: Page 4

Video Transcript: Page 8

Instructional Guidelines: Pre-Viewing Activities

- Instructor introduces the video by discussing the various pathways people take to achieve a college education and by stressing that not all students take a direct route from high school to college. The average student age at the institution where they are enrolled might be of interest to older students. (At South Seattle Community College the median age of students enrolled on the main campus in 2008 was 32.)
- Instructor asks students to consider their personal pathway to the present educational moment.
- Instructor distributes the Pre-Viewing Activity – Discovery handout and gives students approx. 10 minutes to complete the brainstorming activity individually.
- Students are partnered and asked to share their experiences with their partners. Each student is instructed to take notes on the pathway of his/her classmate.
- Instructor distributes the Pre-Viewing– Vocabulary handout and helps students define the vocabulary. This can be done as dictionary work in-class or at-home, or through direct instruction. In a classroom with internet access, www.dictionary.com can be used.

Instructional Guidelines: Viewing Activity

- Instructor reviews note-taking skills, including the use of bullets and parallel structure.
- Instructor distributes Viewing Activity handout and plays the video. The video may be played repeatedly until the students have successfully completed the note-taking chart.
- Instructor encourages students to compare their notes with a partner between and after video viewings.
- Instructor completes chart on overhead or computer projection with student input.

Instructional Guidelines: Post-Viewing Activity

- Instructor reviews summary writing techniques and distributes Post-Viewing Activity handout.
- Students write summaries of the pathway taken by one of the three students in the video. This can be completed in class or as a homework assignment.
- If students have Transition Portfolios, instructor encourages them to save their work in Activity 5.c.

(Answers will vary. Some possibilities listed below.)

Planning a path to reach our goals, both personal and academic, is an important step in achieving success.

Brainstorm the path you have taken to reach this moment in your life. Think about the steps you are taking now and those that you will take in the future to reach your goal.

When you have finished, work with a classmate. Tell your partner about the steps on your path to reaching your goal, and take notes about your partner’s steps.

MY GOAL:	MY PARTNER’S GOAL:
PAST STEPS that I have already taken:	PAST STEPS that classmate has already taken:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>enrolled in ESL class</i> • <i>did goal setting activities in Transition Portfolio</i> • <i>changed to an evening work schedule</i> 	
PRESENT STEPS that I am taking:	PRESENT STEPS that my classmate is taking:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>attending ESL classes every day and doing all my homework</i> • <i>saving money</i> • <i>applying for financial aid and scholarships</i> 	
FUTURE STEPS that I will take:	FUTURE STEPS that my classmate will take:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>take the ESL COMPASS test</i> • <i>see an advisor</i> • <i>learn about child care services on campus</i> 	

(Answers will vary. These are from www.dictionary.com.)

In the video you will watch, students talk about the steps they have taken on their path to academic success and the experiences they have had along the journey.

Before watching the video, let's review some vocabulary that you will hear.

Vocabulary Word	Definition
empowering	verb: to enable or permit
aspirations	noun: strong desire, longing, or aim; aim; intellectual aspirations
Running Start	A program in Washington state that allows high school students to take college level classes during their junior and senior years
a four-year	A university or college that offers four-year bachelor's degrees
journey	noun: a traveling from one place to another, usually taking a rather long time; trip
pulling you down	verb: depressing you or discouraging you; causing you to do less than your potential (slang)
inspiring	inspiring: to fill with an animating, quickening, or exalting influence
hurdles	noun: a difficult problem to overcome; obstacle
liberating	adjective: to set free (a group or individual from social or economic constraints or discrimination, esp. arising from traditional role expectations or bias)
restored	verb: to bring back into existence or use; to bring back to a state of health or vigor
demystify	verb: to rid of mystery or obscurity; clarify
initiative	noun: an introductory act or step; leading action
obstacle	noun: something that obstructs or hinders progress
sole breadwinner	noun: only person in the household who is earning a salary (slang)
pathologist	noun: a person working in the science of study of the origin, nature, and course of diseases
encompassing	adjective: to include comprehensively

(Answers may vary.)

While watching this video, please pay special attention to the individual pathways described by three of the students. Take notes about the steps that these students took in the past, are taking now, and will take in the future on their path to success.

GREGORY ALVARADO	LEANNA PATRICIO	VINCENT BEARDSLEY
Major: <i>Transfer</i>	Major: <i>Speech Pathology</i>	Major: <i>Culinary Arts</i>
PAST STEPS	PAST STEPS	PAST STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>graduated high school</i> • <i>3 months @ U. Miami in engineering</i> • <i>dropped out</i> • <i>worked for 2 years</i> • <i>learned about self</i> • <i>applied for scholarships</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tested into Running Start</i> • <i>Graduated Cleveland H.S. with diploma and SSCC with AA at same time</i> • <i>transferred to University of Washington</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>dropped out of high school 10 years ago</i> • <i>sole breadwinner – supported wife and disabled daughter</i> • <i>decided to return to school</i>
PRESENT STEPS	PRESENT STEPS	PRESENT STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Gates Millennium scholar at SSCC</i> • <i>working towards AA degree</i> • <i>activity is student life on campus</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>senior at UW</i> • <i>proud of herself for going to college</i> • <i>earning major in speech and hearing science</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>dealing with financial problems due to income drop</i> • <i>studying culinary arts and hospitality management</i> • <i>not 100% set about what he wants to do</i>
FUTURE STEPS	FUTURE STEPS	FUTURE STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>four year degree and graduate school will be paid by Gates scholarship</i> • <i>will continue his studies</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>will become a speech and language pathologist</i> • <i>will be a writer on the side</i> • <i>will continue her education</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>will select from hospitality and management options</i> • <i>will be able to go anywhere to work</i> • <i>will get a better life in the end</i>

(Student summaries will vary.)

You have viewed a video and taken notes on the pathways to college success taken by three students at South Seattle Community College. Please select one of those three students and write a summary of the information from your notes to tell the story of that student's journey.

DeShawn Harding (Automotive Student)

If you don't have a destiny or a goal to reach, then you are going to be trapped. If you go and put yourself out there and accomplish goals that you want, you are setting yourself free every day. That's what I feel coming here.

Gregory Alvarado (Transfer Student)

...no actually, like, coming out of high school I really didn't, uh. I went to a four year after I graduated from high school and then after three months of being in the engineering program at the University of Miami I decided that it wasn't something that I wanted to continue. So, I took two years off and then I did, I got a lot of different jobs and learned a little bit more about who I was. And, after those two years though, I came to South Seattle Community College.

Nicole Alefaio (Transfer Student)

I don't know, it was kind of empowering, just 'cause, I don't know, I felt good that I was, like, I was going to college.

Nigel Farr (Transfer Student)

Everybody wants and has these goals and aspirations, but like I said, you have to, you have to have a plan, and part of education is a plan, because it's a certain amount of time and certain amounts of things that you have to do, and being very regimented.

Narrator

College life. Success here is a journey taken one step at a time. The many stories of achievement at South Seattle Community College are inspiring, as you'll see.

Leanna Patricio

Hello, how are you doing?

Ted Coskey (SSCC Instructor)

Okay.

Narrator

Meet Leanna Patricio. Her college adventure began at South. Leanna is now a senior at University of Washington with a major in Speech and Hearing Sciences. She's back to say 'thank you' to her instructors.

Leanna Patricio (Graduate)

When I didn't understand stuff, I realize you gave me good feedback on my papers.

Narrator

Through a special program in high school, Leanna got a huge jump on college.

Leanna Patricio

The biggest thing about Running Start was that I got to graduate from both my high school and college at the same time. So, as I graduated from Cleveland High School, I also graduated from South Seattle with my A.A. degree.

Narrator

As a Running Start student, Leanna was able to take college classes and receive college credit while she was still attending high school. So with her credits from South, Leanna transferred to the 4-year university. She's a real stand-out in her family.

Leanna Patricio

I'm the first person in my family to go to college. Both of my parents had gone through high school. My mom, she went here to finish her GED and started some college. I think she got her A.A., but I'm the first to go to a four-year.

Narrator

More of Leanna's journey is ahead. First, let's hear about some of South's current success stories—the people who make up South's diverse population. Every one of these students has turned adversity into triumph through hard work. Some of them may still struggle from time to time. Each of them can pass along some great advice on navigating the path to higher education.

Petersen Chem (Transfer Student)

And especially, like your friends, sometimes if they are pulling you down you've got to break out from that crowd, you know. If they're calling you up, and, you know, you should be studying 'cause you have an exam the next day, you know, you got to tell yourself, okay, I think I'm hanging in the right, the wrong crowd right now. They're not motivating me, they're not inspiring me.

Kathie Pham (Graduate)

The advice that I would give to students who are struggling with hurdles right now is that everyone is struggling right now, like whether that's in the classroom and not knowing the subject, being behind in homework, not getting the resources that you know you could possibly get for saving money and text books - the list could go on and on. But the thing is you go out there and do the research because the resources are available on campus.

Narrator

Many had to overcome cultural and personal hurdles.

Hibo Sahal (Transfer Student)

It would be like, for me it was like the English problem. I was scared that I won't be successful because of my English. Then, once I started, I talked to myself and said 'okay, I spoke four different languages apart, besides, English before,' so I said, 'you learned those languages.' Even though I learned those languages at a younger age, it still didn't make a difference because I learned them and they weren't all mine.

Olga Garces (Transfer Student)

It's, uh, big families, families where they have six, seven kids and they just waiting to the kids to get out from high school in order to get a job and help to support the family. And they think, they always think that if they support them to go to college it's wasting money.

Narrator

But it's not a waste. In fact, just the opposite. One after another, these students have taken the first steps for success, however difficult those steps are.

Vincent Beardsley (Culinary Student)

I had dropped out of high school about ten years ago, and so it was my first time being back in school in about ten years, and so it was just a really liberating experience for me.

Julie Rowe (Technical Student)

I felt in a funny way like I was a teenager again, because I am also a returning student, and I am not the age of a lot of the students who are enrolling for the first time. So in a funny way I felt kind of like my youth was restored.

Emma Schuster (Transfer Student)

When I first go there, I was really nervous. Just stepping foot on the college campus, it was really nerve-racking and that was because it was just different. It was the first few months I had moved to the States.

Olga Garces

Like in my case, I always thought that I could never do it because I didn't have the money or the support from my husband, but I found the ways to do it. Because I have a good advisor who will always guide me and help me to do the papers that I had to do to get some money from the scholarships and from the foundation.

Narrator

This program is one of many, each year, at South, to help students find the right direction. Whether it's English as a Second Language (ESL) or motivational guidance, new students see the opportunities up close. Special workshops and course introductions help demystify the college

process and expose new students to what the college has to offer. Students learn about classes like English, psychology and science and what is needed to enroll in these courses, what will be expected of them, and how the credit will help them earn their Associate of Arts degree and help them transfer to a four-year university or college.

Tim Sowell (SSCC Advisor)

Electricity, got the idea? Okay, now there's classes going on, so we're going to have to...

Narrator

Students also see, first-hand, the professional technical courses available on campus. Colleges can offer a wide variety of training, from auto body shop, auto engine repair, airplane engine repair, wine making or culinary arts. The high level of training you can receive at a community college will help you find great jobs and help you start your own business. One important milepost on the road to higher education is funding: how to pay for college. That's where scholarships and federal financial aid can help.

Gregory Alvarado

The money is out there. There's scholarships out there, there's grants out there. That's, that's how I'm here. I am actually a Gates Millennium Scholar. I, uh, all of my undergraduate and graduate schooling is going to be paid for because I took that initiative to apply for those, for those, scholarships. So do that.

Nigel Farr

Yes, I'm on financial aid. The process, was, it was easy. It wasn't too hard. It was just information on me. I did it online.

Vincent Beardsley

Finances is probably the biggest obstacle that we've been dealing with. I have a disabled daughter and my wife is a stay at home mom. So, I was pretty much the sole breadwinner of our household. So for me to be back in school, we've definitely taken a drop in income in the household and so it's just, again, it's just one of those things where you push forward, and you make it through this and it's just going to get better in the end.

Narrator

Back on campus, Leanna Patricio meets with another one of her instructors.

Leanna Patricio

I loved that class. That was such a good class

Bob Dela Cruz (SSCC Instructor)

And then, also we're adding, for this Asian Pacific Islander grant that we received, I added a different or a new book.

Mike Hickey (SSCC Instructor)

Hey, Leanna.

Narrator

Leanna is grateful to the faculty for showing her the road to success in higher education and for their part in helping her learn strategies for success.

Leanna Patricio

What I study now is not going to be, it's not going to determine who I am for the rest of my life. If it turns out that I end up continuing on in Speech and Hearing Sciences, and I become a speech language pathologist, I can still do everything I've wanted to do. I can still be a writer on the side.

Narrator

Leanna has company. Many current South students see all the choices on the path ahead.

Julie Rowe

In terms of grades, I've been able to be successful. But also, it opened some doors to me, and I'm a reporter for the campus newspaper, so I'm getting some experience that's different from even from what my major is.

Vincent Beardsley

I'm not 100% set on what exactly I want to do. I've always had a love for culinary and food, like that. And, the main basis for me going into the Hospitality Management is hospitality is a lot more encompassing than just cooking. So, that, that in itself will open up a lot, a lot, more doors for me. And beyond that, it's a management degree. So if I get out of the program and decide that I'm tired of working with people and I don't want to do anything with hospitality, I have management training. So I figure it's a very well-rounded degree that I can literally go anywhere in the world with.

Narrator

The opportunities at South are just a few steps away. There is support and guidance from a dedicated, intelligent and compassionate faculty. There's encouragement from fellow students, a culturally diverse population with so many views and different interests. And there are funding opportunities along the way to help with the cost of a quality, higher education. The most important step is up to you.

Kathie Pham

Though it might be scary, the first step will actually lead you to a pathway. And, all of the students are, you know, going through the same thing, though different degrees, of struggles and hardships, they will be there with you as well as the staff and faculty and everyone on campus.

Leanna Patricio

I'm really proud of myself for going to college. It's not a given for everybody to go to college. I've realized some people can't, you know, struggle through high school, and so to make it as far as I have I feel pretty good about it, and I know that there's a lot more college to go still, but I think attending class and really trying to put in the effort, I'm proud of myself for sticking it through even when I had trouble.

Melanie Meligro (Leanna's Mom)

When she was in high school, I knew she would do well. She, you know, she did Running Start and I thought that was wonderful. And she did really well. But as a college student now, I think that because she truly wants this, I truly want it for her. And so when she talks about it, it just kind of warms my heart.