

A stylized, colorful illustration of a landscape. The foreground features rolling green hills with dark brown soil. On the left, there is a green tree, a purple flower, and an orange flower. A small red bird is flying in the sky above the tree. The background consists of layered, wavy blue and white bands representing a sky or distant hills.

G2C at VSU

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Presentation Overview

- *Background of G2C initiative at VSU.*
- *G2C & student retention and success at VSU.*
- *VSU G2C course innovations.*
- *Current status of the G2C initiative at VSU.*

Background of G2C initiative at VSU

- VSU is part of the USQ's first cohort to participate in the John N. Gardner Institute's (JNGI) Gateways to Completion (G2C) study.
- G2C is designed to assist institutions in researching factors related to reduced student success, developing and implementing a plan to address the identified factors, and evaluating the impact of the implemented plan on improving teaching, learning, and student success.
- In the fall of 2015, VSU chose to work with faculty in the following courses: HIST 2112, MATH 1111, ENGL 2113, CHEM 1211/2, and BIOL 1107/8.
 - DFWI rates, number of students serviced by the course, and departmental recommendations and approval.
 - not necessarily representative of the courses with the highest DFWI rates at VSU.

G2C & student retention/success at VSU

- The Valdosta State University (VSU) mission has three parts: student, university, and region. The student mission states (VSU, 2014):
 - *To provide a diverse student population with an inspired education, a safe learning environment, a nurturing community, and a wealth of experience that assists students in molding their futures in a creative, conscious, and caring fashion while preparing them to be lifelong learners who will meet the needs of a changing global society.*
- VSU's strategic plan 2013-2019 consists of 5 goals related to student success, financial stability, mission engagement, creativity and scholarship, and human and physical resources. Goal 1 states (VSU, 2013):
 - *Recruit, Retain, and Graduate a Quality, Diverse Student Population and Prepare Students for Roles as Leaders in a Global Society*

VSU G2C course innovations

Discipline	Current	Future
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Think pair share activities• Active learning exercises• develop metacognitive skills• low stake assessments• open source textbooks study logs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• active learning exercises• lab practicals• lecture exams• low stake assessments• metacognitive skill development
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• active learning exercise in which students were required to explain the chemistry related topic that appeared in the movie <i>The Martian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• active learning activities• required online practice problem completion• strategies for providing additional course aids
English	Exam Wrappers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussions w/exam Wrappers• Non-exam related review sessions• Concept mapping

VSU G2C course innovations

Discipline	Current	Future
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily quizzes based on assigned readings & tied to attendance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily quizzes tied to exam wrappers
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• frequent assessment of student learning• designated review sessions with attendance requirements• provision of alternative assignments• opportunity to earn bonus points on exams related to a completion percentage of online homework assignments• reopening of online homework assignments to give students an opportunity to rework problems, improve homework scores, and study for the final exam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course restructure to focus more on preparation for stem/technical fields.• Course coordinator tasked with the continual assessment of the effectiveness of course strategies and revision of the course as needed.

Status of G2C initiative at VSU

- *Comprehensive Report & Plan*
 - *Review*
 - *Share*
 - *Implement*
- *Beginning Year 2*
 - *Innovations*
 - *Measurement*
 - *Evaluation*

Questions & Answers

