

Lecture 2

KEYS TO SUCCESS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDY

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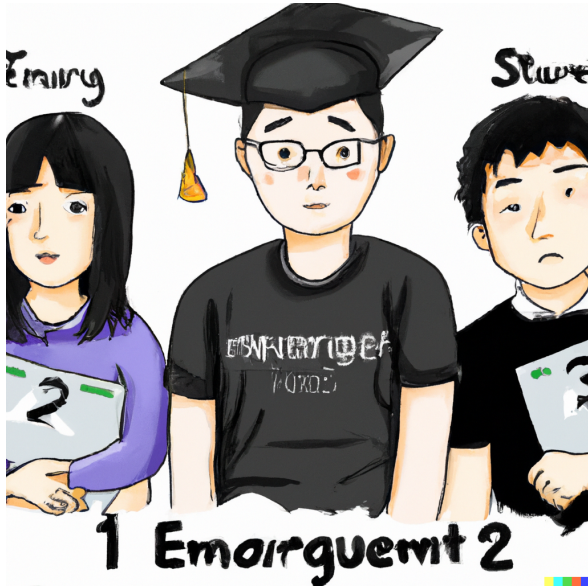
August 27, 2023



Lecture Overview

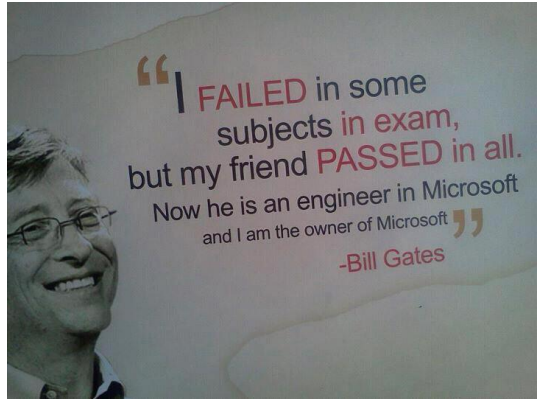
- 1 Potential for Success
- 2 Foundations of Success
- 3 Keys to Success
- 4 Summary

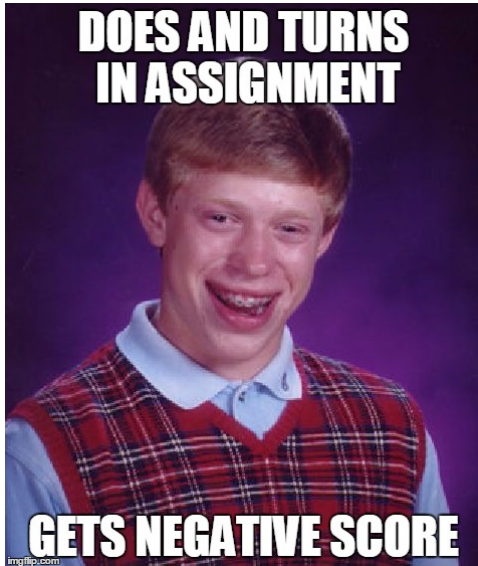
Potential for Success



"Each and every one of you has the potential to successfully graduate and earn your BS in Civil Engineering degree"
— Someone, somewhere, sometime...

*Poorly prepared students have
succeeded*





Highly qualified students have failed

What happened?

How can a student succeed or fail.???

Potential for Success

A reason for their failure is **Overconfidence**.

Those who succeeded definitely found a way to become an "expert" on success.

And it's something that anyone can do.

What is success?

???

What is success?

...generally refers to the achievement of a desired outcome or the realization of a particular goal

— ChatGPT 3.5, August 2023

What is success?

there can never be success without desire, plan, or attempt

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- 1 Lack of intention - students do not have a clear educational and/or career goal
- 2 Lack of commitment - students do not have motivation and drive to work toward attaining their goal

Identifying a clear goal, and committing to it are the two most important steps in attaining success.

Foundations of Success

Goal Setting

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Goal Setting

Have specific ideas what you want to accomplish in short and long term. With this you will be able to:

- 1 Have a direction in life
- 2 Have something to measure your progress with

So what is your Goal?

Short Term? Medium Term? Long Term?

Making a Commitment

Regardless of your reasons for selecting Civil Engineering, it is important to develop a strong motivation to succeed.

Civil Engineering is a very demanding field of study. Even students with excellent preparation and strong ability will not succeed without a high level of commitment



He Is a Man of



He Is a Man of

■ Focus



He Is a Man of

- Focus
- Commitment



He Is a Man of

- Focus
- Commitment
- and Sheer F***** Will

Strengthening your Commitment

The following strategies can help in strengthening your commitment:

- Clarify your goals
- Learn as much as you can about Civil Engineering
- Prepare a road map
- Don't let adversity stop you

Clarifying Goals

Strengthening your Commitment

Clarifying goals helps you understand their value to you.

By better understanding their value, the more you become committed to your goal

Learning more about Civil Engineering

Strengthening your Commitment

Increased knowledge brings increased motivation.

We tend to like things we know a lot about.

Know where to go

Strengthening your Commitment

Develop a "road map" that will lead you to graduate in Civil Engineering.

Knowing the subjects you need to take, and how they relate to the subjects you're currently taking boosts your commitment to succeed on it.

Don't let adversity stop you

Strengthening your Commitment

Strengthened commitment develops determination.

Determination means having an unwavering commitment to your goal: the goal of graduating in Civil Engineering

Keys to Success

Keys to Success

Setting a goal and making it important to you are only the first steps.

The real challenge remains - achieving the goal.

Keys to Success

Once your goal is identified and you have done everything you can to develop a strong commitment to that goal, achieving it requires that you adjust both your attitudes and your behaviors

Keys to Success

- Attitude - "Think positively"

Keys to Success

- Attitude - "Think positively"
- Approach - "Work Smart"

Keys to Success

- Attitude - "Think positively"
- Approach - "Work Smart"
- Effort - "Work Hard"

Attitude - Think Positively

Keys to Success

Positive attitudes produce positive results. Negative attitudes produce negative results.

Attitude - Think Positively

Keys to Success

Among those negative attitudes that could produce negative results in engineering study are:

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Keys to Success

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- Unwillingness to seek help
- Resistance to change your behaviors and attitudes
- Tendency to procrastinate
- Avoidance of areas of weakness
- Reluctance to study with other students
- Negative view toward authority figures
- Weak commitment to the goal of graduating in engineering

Approach - Work Smart

Keys to Success

Approach refers to how you go about your engineering studies.

It means that you work not only hard, but smart.

Approach - Work Smart

Keys to Success

Your approach to the study of engineering can be likened to a game.

To become a pro gamer (i.e., master student), you must not only play the game (i.e., be a student);

you must also devote time and energy to learning how to play it (i.e., learn to excel as a student).

Effort - Work Hard

Keys to Success

People succeed not because of their ability. People succeed because of their effort.

Effort involves committing time and energy.

Accomplishing an academic task, like completing a homework assignment, will require you to devote adequate time and to focus your mental energy. These are things that you can choose to do or choose not do.

Summary

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The steps to the "success process" is:

- 1 **Setting goals** - Do I want to be a civil engineer?
- 2 **Strengthening commitment to goals** - How important is it to me to become an engineer?
- 3 **Changing negative attitudes** - What attitudes will interfere with my goal of becoming an engineer?
- 4 **Changing non-productive behaviors** - What do I need to do differently to achieve my goal of becoming an engineer?

The End

Questions? Comments?