

## Success and thriving at Grinnell – A two-part short assignment

TUT 100-17 – Exploring the Magical World of calvin and hobbes – Fall 2016

There are two parts to this assignment.

First, I want you to think about what “success” at Grinnell might mean for you. Try to imagine yourself far in the future, maybe 5 years or 10 years after you graduate from here. What do you think that future you will see as aspects of a spectacularly successful experience at Grinnell? Graduating is a given in this scenario; you can assume you’ll walk across the commencement stage to shake Raynard’s hand in May of 2020. What might you do between now and then that will make the future you look back and think “wow, that was really a great four years”? Be broad in your thinking about what can have impact. Academic accomplishments might be important, though maybe not. How about relationships with other students and/or staff and faculty members? What role does involvement in extra- and co-curricular activities play for you? How about opportunities like off-campus study, internships, or research experiences? Remember that earlier paper about passion? Is it important for you to find a passion or continue to develop an existing one? Or what is important to you that I have not listed?

Consider starting with a freewrite like we’ve done in class. Set a timer for 10 minutes and do your own freewrite. Then organize what comes out of that and give it all a little context so it makes sense to me when I read it.

To be clear, there is no correct answer here; I’m not looking for anything beyond as honest and insightful a response as you can manage.

In a committee I’m on we talk a lot about helping students “thrive, not just survive” at Grinnell. Let’s take that as our goal. For the second part of the assignment bring yourself from the future back to the present. What have you learned this semester about what it takes for you to thrive at Grinnell? When have you been thriving this semester and what supported that? You have almost finished your first semester so I expect you have relevant experiences to draw on. How is Grinnell different from your high school and what do you need to do differently here compared to there? What supports are you relying on here? What behaviors help or get in the way of you thriving here?

Write a 2-ish page report on your thinking about these two topics. As with earlier short papers I won’t give you feedback on the quality of the writing, but I expect it to be reasonably polished. Your report is **due in class Thursday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring a paper copy with you to turn in.