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LIF101 Final Project: My Guide to Success

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LIF101 Final Project: *My Guide to Success*

Overview: This project is an opportunity for LIF101 students to reflect on their first semester at LaGuardia, to review what they've learned in the *First Year Seminar for the Liberal Arts: Social Science and Humanities*, and to create a plan that serves as a resource for their academic and professional success moving forward. *My Guide to Success* requires students to think carefully about their time at LaGuardia and be intentional in planning their next steps through graduation, and beyond. The paper is worth 15 points out of 100.

Project Components: *My Guide to Success* includes two components: a written paper and an oral presentation. The written paper, must include the sections and sub-titles below, include answers to the corresponding guiding questions and follow these guidelines: 1) a minimum length of 4 pages, typed in Times Roman 12 font, double-spaced, and with 1-inch margins all around. 2) a paper copy must be handed in and a digital copy uploaded to ePortfolio. The 3-5 minute oral presentation will be an overview of the *My Guide to Success* and should include some information about you, the most important thing you've learned this semester and what you expect to have achieved by the time you graduate.

I. My First Semester:

Part I

1. How have you grown as a college student since your first day of classes at LaGuardia? Consider what you have learned in your classes this semester, the study habits you have used, and the time management skills you have needed. In addition, identify any changes you may have made, the new activities you have tried as well as the friends you have made. What has helped you grow this semester?
2. What was the most difficult thing for you this semester at LaGuardia? What did you like best this semester at LaGuardia?
3. Is there anything you wished you had done differently this semester? Explain. If there isn't, why not?

Part II

What have you learned in the *First Year Seminar for the Liberal Arts: Social Science and Humanities*? Be specific about:

- Class topics: the value of a liberal arts major, time management, student advisement responsibilities, habits of mind, growth mindset, the importance of co-curricular learning,
- The core text: *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy's Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League* (Peralta-Padilla) and other class readings
- Guest lecturers and presenters
- The ePortfolio work you have done
- Co-curricular events/activities
- College resources you've been introduced to (library, *Single Stop*, *LaGuardia Foundation*, etc.)

II. Strategies & Resources: After you have reflected on what you have learned in this course, select one strategy that you will use to support your academic success moving forward and answer the questions below. What is the strategy?

1. Why have you selected it?
2. How will you use it throughout your time at LaGuardia?

In addition, choose and describe one resource that you would like to keep in mind throughout your time at LaGuardia. Possible resources might be academic, financial and social.

1. What is the resource?
2. What does it offer?
3. When will you consider using it?

III. Applying What You Know: Planning for Graduation & Transfer:

Part I

To obtain a degree from LaGuardia Community College, you will have to register for *Intent to Graduate*, during your final 12-week session here. What will you do in future semesters to ensure that you will successfully make it to completion?

Part II

As a way of thinking about your next steps after you graduate from LaGuardia, sketch a basic transfer plan. Many careers require a Bachelor's degree, and some an advanced degree.

1. What would you like to achieve by transferring to a four-year college?
2. What will you need to do to be successful in transferring?
3. What ideas do you have right now about 4-year schools to which you'd like to apply? Name one, along with a description of the program you are interested in and why. Be sure to include the URL for the website you obtain your information from.

IV. Your Future Professional Self

Think about a career that you are considering pursuing and answer the following questions:

1. What career is it?
2. What will you do in this career?
3. What do you like best about it?
4. How does it match your skills, interests, strengths and values?

Explore each of the resources below to learn more about your possible career path and answer the following questions:

1. What can they offer you?
2. How can they help you as you develop your career?

Career Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics

www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/careers/career-exploration.htm

LaGuardia's Center for Career & Professional Development

<http://www.laguardia.edu/careerservices>