Empowerments for Student Learning Exclusively for Adjuncts

Honoring learner-centered teaching activities and supportive teaching environments in a changing paradigm of higher education

Expand your knowledge. Broaden your resources. Spark students' inspiration.



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This tip from Staley and Staley (2015) is a good way to connect any discipline using math to college success.

Have students add up the cost of going to college for an entire term: tuition for one semester, the total estimated cost of all the gas needed to get to and from class for the term, books and supplies, a computer that may have been bought, child care, or any other expenses related to going to college. Have them write down every expense about which they can think. Have them divide the grand total by the number of hours in college for an entire term (number of weeks class is in session multiplied by the number of hours scheduled to be in class).

For example, if taking two 3-hour classes for a 16-week semester, the number to will divide by the grand total by 96 (6 hours x 16 weeks).

Completing this exercise will show students how much money they have invested in college. Students can compare their own "hourly rates" with those of their classmates and discuss the results as a group.

Staley, S. & Staley, C. (2015). FOCUS on college and career success (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

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