

Video Title:	Getting a Strong Start
Video Length:	13:13 minutes
Audience:	Basic Studies Students, High School Students
Curriculum Correlation:	Transition Portfolio – Activity 5.c Videos
Summary:	Viewers learn some <u>E</u> arly <u>A</u> ctions for a <u>S</u> uccessful <u>Y</u> ear by following two students through the first days of a new academic term.
Vision Statement:	By watching this video, viewers will... LEARN what to do to be successful as new students; UNDERSTAND that getting a strong start by accessing college resources early can ensure their success now and in the future; FEEL a connection to their college community.
Learning Objectives:	LISTENING: Viewers will identify and sequence a variety of campus services mentioned in the video. SPEAKING: Viewers will share and compare information from the video and from personal experience. READING: Viewers will read a campus map and index. WRITING: Viewers will practice summarizing skills using bullet format.
Activity Time:	Pre-Viewing Activity – Discovery: Approximately 30 minutes Pre-Viewing Activity – Vocabulary: Approximately 30 minutes Viewing Activity: Approximately 1 hour Post-Viewing: Approximately 1.5 hours plus homework activity
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Instructional Guidelines: Pre-Viewing Activities

- Instructor introduces the video by writing the following question on the board or by distributing the Pre-Viewing – Discovery handout:

What can you do to have a successful first year in college?

- Class is divided into small groups and given ten minutes to share their thoughts.
- Instructor provides each group with an overhead transparency or a piece of poster paper and asks the groups to summarize their ideas in bullet format to share with the class. Instructor may need to review the technique of listing ideas in *bullet format* using *parallel structure*.
- Each group presents their ideas to the class.
- Instructor distributes the Pre-Viewing – Vocabulary handout. This vocabulary activity involves completing a matching exercise followed by viewing the video to self-correct.

Instructional Guidelines: Viewing Activity

- Instructor distributes Viewing Activity handout and plays the video. The video may be played repeatedly until the students have successfully completed all three parts of this activity.
- Instructor encourages students to compare their notes with a partner between and after video viewings.
- Instructor corrects on overhead or computer projection with student input.

Instructional Guidelines: Post-Viewing Activity

- Instructor generates a discussion around the “homework” assignment that Elaine gave Andrea in the video. What did Elaine want Andrea to do? (***Look at the SSCC Quarterly Schedule and find all the student support services and their locations on the campus map.***)
- Instructor provides students with a copy of the most current *SSCC Quarterly Schedule* (or similar document on your campus). If internet access is available, the SSCC campus

map can be accessed at www.southseattle.edu under Main Campus Information and a list of support services and resources is available under Student Resources.

- Instructor distributes Post-Viewing Activity handout and students work in small groups to review and create their own list of support services available on campus.
- Students are asked to visit one of the places on their list and return to the next class with information to share about the services provided.
- Students can share the support service information they have gathered by giving class presentations using a variety of different props, such as posters, handouts, PowerPoint. An alternative assignment might be to have each student provide a written summary of the information gathered.



You will hear the following word combinations in the video that you will view. Please match an adjective from the first column with a noun from the second column by writing the noun in the space provided.

X	uncharted <i>territory</i>	center
X	strong <i>start</i>	money
X	working <i>world</i>	groups
X	tuition <i>money</i>	territory
X	diagnostic <i>tests</i>	tests
X	Bachelor's <i>degree</i>	start
X	Quarterly <i>Schedule</i>	world
X	upcoming <i>events</i>	degree
X	tutoring <i>services</i>	services
X	study <i>groups</i>	events
X	resource <i>center</i>	Schedule

Part 1

Now that you have completed the Pre-Viewing – Vocabulary activity, let’s watch the video. As you watch, put an **X** in front of the combinations that you hear. The first has been completed for you. If you don’t hear your combinations, perhaps you need to make changes!

Part 2

In this video you will learn some Early Actions for a Successful Year. Put the following actions in the correct order. Write the number **1** in front of the first action a student needs to take, **2** in front of the second action a student needs to take, etc. The last one has been done for you.

3 or 4 Make sure all your registration paperwork is complete.

5 Attend class.

3 or 4 Learn about services before you need them.

1 Take a placement test.

2 See an advisor.

6 Meet with your instructors during office hours.

Part 3

What kinds of student services does the narrator mention in the video? Put an **X** in front of all the services that you hear mentioned in the video.

 CLIC

 Writing Center

 X Library

 X Cultural Center

 X Tutor Center

 Sports Center

 X Fellow Students

 X Math and Science Tutoring Center

 X Instructors

 Work Source

 X Financial Aid Office

 X Advisors

Part 4

When Andrea meets with Elaine, the advisor, she is given some good advice. Please write this advice on the lines below.

- 1. Find out if you need transferrable math and English for your program.**
- 2. Choose an advisor that you like and feel comfortable talking with.**
- 3. See your advisor each quarter.**
- 4. Follow up with the Financial Aid Office to be sure your paperwork is complete.**
- 5. Learn about services that are available before you need them.**

(Responses will vary.)

In the video you just viewed, Elaine gave Andrea an assignment. She asked her to look in the *SSCC Quarterly Schedule* and find all the student support services and their locations on the campus map. Now it's your turn!

Please review the quarterly class schedule and website for your college to find a campus map and a list of student support services available. If you are at South Seattle Community College, go to the *SSCC Quarterly Schedule* or to www.southseattle.edu.

With your classmates, create a list of support services that are of interest to you:

Now, each member of your group needs to select a *different* Support Service from the list above and prepare an individual class presentation.

- You will visit that Support Service to gather information about location and services provided.
- You will share your Support Service information with the class using appropriate presentation techniques, including but not limited to, the following: note cards, posters, handouts, PowerPoint, etc.

Narrator

It's a brand new school year at South Seattle Community College. You can feel the excitement in the air. Anticipation and exhilaration. For many of these students it's uncharted territory—the first experience with college. For others, it's a fresh start—a new beginning with the promise of a bright future. Today, our focus is getting a strong start—doing all the “right things”—right off the bat. *EASY*, you might say. Yes, *EASY*. Early Actions for a Successful Year.

Today, we meet two students who will show us just how easy it really is. Andrea is a brand new student. It's her first time at college, and as you'll see over the next few minutes, she really is doing all the right things. And there's Mike. He's returning to school after many years in the working world. Mike would eventually like to own his own restaurant. And this time around, he is making sure that he's getting a strong start. We begin with Andrea's story.

Andrea Oprel (Student)

Hi, I want to attend the college, and I was wondering if I had to take a test for that.

Sharon (Testing Technician, South Seattle Community College)

Yes. You're a new student? Yes, you do. You get to take the COMPASS test. It's our placement test here. You weren't going to do it today?

Andrea Oprel (Student)

No.

Sharon (Testing Technician, South Seattle Community College)

Good, and I say good because that gives you a chance to prepare. This is our schedule. So, anywhere you see COMPASS/ESL COMPASS means that we're giving the test. These are start and stop times, so you want to come at a start time on any of these days that you choose. It's especially good to prepare because when you come here you want to place just as high as you can so you're not wasting tuition money or your own time.

Narrator

Every student who starts at a community college and has never taken college-level credits before must take a placement test. If you're a new student, the COMPASS test is an essential part of a strong start. The results can help evaluate skills in Math, Reading and Writing. Plus, the COMPASS test can help connect you with the resources you need for academic success.

Sandra (Assessment Director, South Seattle Community College)

What we're looking at here are some diagnostic tests as well, and basically anything below 80 in here if you want to study up on, you can come back in 90 days and retake the test if you wish. But this looks like a great score. This looks like an excellent score. I think you did beautifully.

Andrea Oprel (Student)

Thank you!

Sandra (Assessment Director, South Seattle Community College)

Sure. Great. Right through there for the advisor. See you.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

So you're new to South?

Andrea Oprel (Student)

Yes.

Narrator

So, with test results in hand, Andrea begins building her network of support, mapping out a good plan with Elaine, an advisor at South Seattle Community College. When Andrea has questions, Elaine has answers.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

English? You're at college level so you're ready to go. That's fabulous for English. And let's see for math. Same thing. You're ready. You're at college level, so that's great. That means you won't need to do any developmental classes to get you brushed up and ready. You'll just be set to start the program. So for Culinary your next step would be to actually head down and talk to the Culinary Arts office and find out if there's still room in the program for this next quarter or what you need to do to enroll.

Narrator

Andrea is interested in the four-year Bachelor's degree.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

Now, here's the catch for you. If you know you're going on for a four year school, you're going to want to take the college transfer version. So for English and Math there are two different versions, the applied version for professional-technical and the college transfer version. Since you know you want to do the BAS right now, go ahead and take the college transfer version. That means it will transfer to any four-year school. Easy as cake. Good to go.

Narrator

Along with other important information, Elaine lets Andrea know that, even if it is not a requirement, she should check in with her advisor at least once each quarter. This is good advice for any student.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

Any advisor works. If you have one that you're comfortable with, I recommend sticking with that one. But I always say, it's just like going to the doctor. If the first advisor you meet with, you don't connect with, you wouldn't stop going to the doctor. You'd find another one. So let's say you leave here and you're like, that Elaine girl, I'm not really sure about her. I wouldn't be offended at all if you didn't come see me. Just go and see someone else. Sometimes when students self advise, they get into trouble. So if you ever have questions, make sure you ask.

Narrator

Some of those answers might be found here in the Quarterly Schedule or Course Catalog. It provides information on courses, important dates for the quarter, and upcoming events.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

The best thing about this entire guide is the map. Okay, so I'm going to show you where some of the cool support services are on campus, so you make sure to go to those. There is a Math and Science Tutoring Center just across the courtyard for help if you need it in Math and Science. All you have to do is go in, sign in, raise your hand and they'll help you in any math or science class that we have on this campus. You can also get a tutor for free right here, and they can help you one on one if you need that in any of your classes. So, there's a lot of support services, but it's on you to go to them. So that's kind of the difference between high school and college is that there isn't necessarily going to be someone tracking you down to make sure you go to the math and science tutoring center, but you just know if you need help, that's where you need to go. That was a lot. Any questions?

Andrea Oprel (Student)

I think you answered all of my questions.

Elaine (Advisor, South Seattle Community College)

Okay, so your homework is to look through this and then also to make sure you've talked with financial aid to make sure you're all set up there. You always want to follow up with them to make sure you aren't missing any documents.

Narrator

Because this is Andrea's first quarter, Elaine—or any advisor— will help with the registration forms at the end of the appointment. That's standard for new students. These few initial steps on the path to success are essential. Andrea is getting a strong start. And though it is up to her to seek out help, you can see that there is plenty of assistance available.

Successful students share some common traits. Take Mike Chareunsap. He's coming back to school after almost a decade.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Just a year ago, I never thought, I never thought, I'd be on unemployment, you know. I never thought I'd be out of work for almost a year.

Narrator

Like Andrea, Mike is also working to build a network of support. Today he's exploring on-campus study groups.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Hey you guys, how are you doing? So, this is the Cultural Center? You guys come here to study?

Student

Yeah, sit down.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

So, what else are you guys doing here?

Student

We have a whole bunch of stuff here. We have the multicultural library which is right behind you, and we have a...

Narrator

Mike still hopes to one day open a restaurant and he's enrolled in the Culinary Arts Program at South Seattle Community College. Reaching out to peers for help is a great step toward a strong start. Mike wants to improve his writing.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

If I ever want to open my own business, I have to write out business letters, memos to my employees, make sure everything's well written and everyone understands it—make sure I get my point across.

Narrator

Like Andrea, Mike took a placement test.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

In math, it will take me another three more classes so I can get to college level math and in English, it will be another class... one more class and then I'll be at college level.

Roxanne (Tutoring & Support Services Director, South Seattle Community College)

Hi Mike, I'm Roxanne. Nice to meet you.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Nice to meet you. I was wondering if there was any tutoring services that I can get here.

Roxanne (Tutoring & Support Services Director, South Seattle Community College)

Available on the campus, and you're a student here?

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Yes.

Roxanne (Tutoring & Support Services Director, South Seattle Community College)

Good for you. And what program are you in?

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

I'm in the culinary program and I also might be taking math and English classes as well.

Roxanne (Tutoring & Support Services Director, South Seattle Community College)

Some extra classes along with it. That's fine. We have tutoring available free of charge for all students. We even have tutoring for the Culinary Program and for all of your English and Math classes. There's a variety of opportunities available. So come on next door, let me show you...

Narrator

At South Seattle Community College, the only requirement for tutoring is a student ID and a desire to learn. The tutoring services are free of charge and many students consider the study area a home away from home. Mike won't be saying "If I only had known" at the end of the term. He's seeking out the resources before too much time passes to ensure a strong start.

Shireen (Librarian)

And, do you know how to get to the library website?

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

I don't.

Shireen (Librarian)

Okay. So from the website for the college there's a link to the library at the top in the center and that'll take you right to the library's website. If you're looking for books in our catalog, you could click on the link to the catalog.

Narrator

Remember, the library is a high powered resource center. Besides a wide range of books, magazines, newspapers and other media materials, the library is a research center with online access to newspapers, magazines, academic journals, subject specific reference sources, statistics and other research sources.

Shireen (Librarian)

If you want, I can show you where...

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Yes, that would be nice.

Narrator

The librarians will help you locate these resources and also conduct workshops to increase your knowledge of other resources available to you. There are also media services available, study areas, and more.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

700. That would be over here.

Narrator

Mike is covering all of the bases— finding resources that some may not discover until it's too late. Getting back to school, for Mike, has been a lesson in preparation, and he shares some of that wisdom.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

If you're registering for school and you're not getting all the proper paperwork done, it's going to be a hassle because sometimes you go in and they say, "Oh have you filled this out? Have you filled..." And there's so many different forms you have to fill out. So you've just got to make sure that you have a checklist and colleges will provide that for you.

Mr. Stowers? How're you doing?

Allen (Instructor)

Good to see you again.

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

Sorry I missed class yesterday.

Narrator

And Mike keeps in close contact with his instructors as well.

Allen (Instructor)

I'm glad you've come to see me because I encourage students to come see their instructors, just in general, to get to know the instructors and to answer any questions.

Narrator

Mike is a great example of a strong start. Often times students don't take action until they're struggling. Mike is taking action ahead of time: getting to know his instructors, seeking out campus resources, and getting to know fellow students. But the real motivation? What's at the heart of Mike's success?

Mike Chareunsap (Culinary Student)

My mom was a big influence. You know, I mean, she raised three kids, all pretty much by herself, and even got two degrees! So, that was a big motivation.

Narrator

There are services on campus for everyone. But it's up to you to seek out those services. Your advisors, instructors, tutors and fellow students are all there to help. So, as you take your first steps on the road to a good education, remember that a strong start is easy.