

Transcript for “Wonderful World of McGraw”

Introduction

Banner: Welcome, First Year Students!

Right now, your life is full of challenges, being away from home, making new friends and settling into classes. The McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning is here to help! The Center is your go-to resource for all kinds of educational support, such as tutoring, learning consultations, and workshops. To find out how Princeton first-years discover and benefit from the resources available at McGraw, just turn the page...(start)

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At FitzRandolph Gate: Princeton at Last!

Thought bubble (Dan): Good Grades...Clubs...New Skills...New Friends...

(Sign: First Years This Way) “Mac, I’ve a feeling we’re not in Kansas anymore!”

Crowd thought bubble: “How am I going to get all of this done?” “So ready for class!” “I need to reach out to more people.” “My biggest mistake my first year was...” “So who should I ask for help?”

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Thought bubble (Dan): Maybe I’m not as prepared as I think I am...

I just don’t see the big picture. I’d better go study now and try to make sense of everything.

Later that night: What is the connection? (on Tim’s paper)

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Meanwhile (Leah): Oh look, there’s Dan, hard at work. Everyone seems to know what they’re doing except for me...

Wish I had started earlier... *sigh*

2 weeks earlier: (Netflix scene) Ughhh...What am I doing with my life? It’s taking me forever to write. High school was way easier.

D-Day: “Almost Done! Ahhhh....only 5 minutes left!!”

“My paper was so bad...Now I have to study for bio...Wait, I didn’t finish my problem sets that are due tomorrow!! I need a better strategy...”

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Sage: “Hi Dan! Can I ask you for advice?”

Dan: “Sure, Sage! What is it?”

Sage: “How do you stay on top of your work?”

Dan: “I usually break down an assignment into small, manageable tasks. The trick is “a little day every day, never miss a single day.”

“Get the most out of your class time by prepping beforehand. Trust me you’ll thank yourself later!”

Dan: "But sometimes I also have trouble with information overload. I want a more efficient strategy."

Sage: "Recently I've been getting emails from this place called McGraw..."

Dan: "Hmmm...I think I've heard of it..."

Sage: "Hi Tim! You're looking a little down today..."

Dan: "What's wrong?"

Tim: "Well..."

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Tim's story: This is worse than what I had expected..."

Thought bubble: What?! The test was sooo hard. The questions looked nothing like the h.w. problem sets.

Background: "Hey the test wasn't so bad..." "I know, right?"

Tim: "I don't get it! I studied so hard...But why do I feel so unprepared?"

Thought bubble: I'm scared to ask for help.

Hmmm...What is he saying?

Professor: "It's quite simple really. So here X is...Now do you understand?"

Tim: Must appear smart. "Yes I understand."

Professor: "Good."

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Tim: "...so yeah. I'm not sure I'm doing college right. Maybe it's just me..."

Sage: "It's not just you..."

Dan: "We're all still adjusting!"

Dan: "Hi, Leah!"

Leah: "Hi, guys!"

Leah: "Guess what?! I handed in my paper a week early and completed all of my to-do list activities for today! So now I have tons of free time to hang out with you guys!! So, did everyone have a productive week?"

Dan: "Well actually...The three of us didn't have the best week. We could definitely use some guidance...."

Leah: "Oh, I have an idea!"

Leah: "Let's go to...McGraw, Princeton's Center for Academic Support!"

Leah: "I found out about McGraw when I attended their Write-A-Thon event yesterday..."

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Leah's Story: So yesterday...I was up early getting a head start on my readings as usual...When I received an email about a Write-a-Thon event.

Leah: "Hmmm...What is a Write-a-Thon?" Naturally, I was up for the challenge.

At the Write-a-Thon: "Wow, so cool!"

Leah: "Hi! So what exactly is a Write-a-Thon?"

Student 1: "An event where students write course analyses for Principedia."

Student 2: "You can write a course analysis anytime but write-a-thons give you a chance to work in groups and share info."

Leah: "Principedia? You mean like Wikipedia?"

Student 2: "It's similar! Principedia is a student sourced wiki guide to learning in Princeton courses."

Student 1: "Students write detailed articles about classes they took in the past, touching upon course design, teaching style of the instructor and various learning strategies."

Leah: "That's awesome! Students are teaching and learning from each other..."

Student 1: "Why don't you write a course analysis? You can find out more about Principedia on the McGraw website! In the meantime, have a free T-shirt!"

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Leah's Story Continued: So later that day, I went on [principedia.princeton.edu]...And I was blown away by all the courses listed!

Leah: "So you see guys! It's super helpful—check it out!"

Sage: "Can you tell us more about how the course analyses are structured?"

Leah: "Sure! In fact, why don't you guys see it for yourselves? Follow me!"

Group: "What's happening?" "AHHHHH!" "Leah help!! Oh no, my papers!" "Guys relax!"

Inside the web: "Welcome!" "Woah" "We're inside the computer!!"

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Breakdown of a Course Analysis

Leah: "When I choose courses for 2nd semester, I'll use part I to see how the course is organized."

Sage: "It's so clear! It even tells you which subjects the professor emphasized the most!"

Tim: "This course seems to be well structured with weekly assignments. Maybe I'll take it...it fits my learning style."

Dan: "Wow! I can see how each course components fits together. I wonder if someone wrote a course analysis for my class...It's so helpful to see how the course builds on itself."

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Tim: "Maybe the reason I didn't do well on my test is because I relied too much on the textbook. What learning methods will help me acquire the skills most valued in my class? What are those skills?"

Sage: "If I had a clear strategy like this, maybe I wouldn't procrastinate so much..."

Dan: "Hmmm...I didn't think of using resources not assigned to the class. Since I'm a visual learner, maybe I should check out videos related to my topic."

Leah: "Part V. is great to understand how skills acquired in the course can be applied to different fields."

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McGraw Map

Sage: "This workshop is right up my alley!"

Tim: "So many options!"

Leah: "Here are the other resources offered by the McGraw Center."

Leah: "It's time to leave guys!"

Tim: "It's good to be back!"

Dan: "Be careful!"

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Leah: "Hope you guys enjoyed the trip! Now consider what kind of support you need..." "Do you want a more efficient reading or note taking strategy? Or maybe some tips on time management?" "Or maybe you want a more personalized learning approach like I do!" "So...are you ready to visit the center?"

Dan: "Since I can benefit from mastering large amounts of information and understanding where my course is headed, I'd better make an appointment with a Learning Consultant!"

Sage: "Hmmm...I'll go to McGraw later. I need to catch up on some shows on Netflix. No, no! Here I go again...I should go now! The semester is only going to get harder."

Tim: "In high school, I never had to go for extra help...what if I'm seen as a failure?" "But look at Leah—she's doing well in her studies, but still plans on using McGraw to maximize personal development! I'd better check out a course review session!"

Page 13 (end)

Dan: "Ok, let's go to the McGraw Center!"

Leah: "Great! Let's head over to {328 Frist Campus Center}"

Leah: (song) We're off to see the center...Where teaching and learning combine...Where students acquire the skills they need...To save themselves lots of time! "Almost there!"

THE MCGRAW CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING