Academic Strategies Lesson Plan

Objective
You will expose students to effective study strategies related to textbook reading and note taking, and will give them experience anticipating quiz questions based on a lecture and text.

Description
This lesson contains two parts:
1. Academic Strategies Discussion: Lead class through a discussion on the need for effective academic strategies, and explain the intent of this assignment is to give students additional ideas and resources to complement the study skills they already have.
2. Academic Strategies Assignment: Students will watch a brief video about effective strategies for annotating text and taking notes. They will have the opportunity to put what they’ve learned into practice by watching a lecture and taking notes. They will complete a quiz and a reflection on how they performed and how they will overcome potential academic challenges in the future.

Instructional Time: 30-90 minutes
Required Assignment: YES
Points: 75

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<th>Relation to the Big Questions</th>
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Lesson Plan
This assignment involves several parts; you can arrange to do any or all of them as a class. What parts of the assignment you have the students do in class or on their own is completely up to you. You can also substitute the text and lecture for a subject you are familiar with, and write your own quiz for them to practice.

Materials and Resources:
- Academic Success Center idea sheets at [http://www.usu.edu/asc/assistance/idea_sheets.cfm](http://www.usu.edu/asc/assistance/idea_sheets.cfm), which provide resources for many study strategies including note taking and listening, test preparation, reading, test taking, time management, self-management, and more
- Peer mentor and instructor experience with their own academic skills
- Materials found at the instructor resource website including:
  - Academic Strategies Video Lecture
  - “When Breath Becomes Air: An Interview With Dr Lucy Kalanithi” video (available on the website)
  - *When Breath Becomes Air*: Epilogue
  - Samples of well annotated pages from the Epilogue
Sample quiz on the *When Breath Becomes Air* that you can hand out if doing a hard-copy quiz in class

**Make a Connection:**

Prompt students to consider the following:

1. After reading chapter 4: “Principles of Learning” in *Becoming A Learner*, discuss with a classmate how taking responsibility for your own learning is an important academic strategy.
Academic Strategies Assignment

1. Academic Strategies Video Lecture: Students will watch a brief video teaching effective strategies for annotating text and taking notes. It will also inform them of available resources found through the Academic Success Center.

2. Text Annotation Practice: Students will practice annotating the epilogue of *When Breath Becomes Air*.

3. Note Taking Practice: Students will watch an interview with Lucy Kalanithi and practice taking notes.

4. Quiz: Students will take a sample quiz on the interview and epilogue, with points based on completion and not accuracy (quiz is available in Canvas or a hard copy is available on the instructor resource website).

5. Academic Strategies Reflection: Students will reflect on how well they predicted the quiz questions, and how they will overcome potential academic challenges in the future.

6. Discuss, as a class, which quiz questions they were able to anticipate, and which caught them by surprise. You can have them do the challenge-resource-action reflection at the end of the assignment, or discuss as a class.