Introduction

Students returning from academic dismissal face multiple barriers to successful degree completion. These include the requirement to raise a low GPA, the emotional toll involved, and feelings of isolation. Additionally, returning students are likely to repeat the same mistakes that led to their original failure and are very likely to give up quickly when they struggle in classes. Historically, only 14% of students who return to Georgia Tech from academic dismissal ever completed a degree. An intrusive support system was developed to assist these students in the form of a required one credit hour success seminar.

Lesson Topics

- Putting Return from Dismissal in Perspective
- Doing What Makes a Difference
- Putting Campus Resources to Work
- Recognizing your Approach to Learning
- Brain Based Learning and Self-Regulation
- Study Strategies
- Learning From GT 2100 Alumni
- Recognizing the Importance of Mindset and Grit
- Negotiating Success
- Managing Your Choices
- Dealing with Stress
- Preparing for Finals

Academic Coaching

Academic Coaching is an integral part of the student success seminar. Each student meets with the instructor for two individual coaching sessions and once for a group session that has three or four students. During the individual sessions issues specific to each student are discussed and a direct plan of action created. The group coaching session gives the students an opportunity to share their experiences with implementing their success plans and returning to Georgia Tech. These coaching sessions are crucial to the overall success of the student.

Results

Since the implementation of a mandatory success seminar more than 50% of the students have graduated or are making academic progress.

Those students who are academically dismissed do so at the end of their first semester returned. This is often the result of low overall GPA that a single semester of what would normally be good grades cannot overcome.

Those students who succeed in progressing to a second semester have a high probability of continuing, and eventually graduating.

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<th>Spring 2014</th>
<th>Fall 2014</th>
<th>Spring 2015</th>
<th>Summer 2015</th>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Summer 2016</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
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Probation

1 Graduated (4%), 17 Continuing (63%), 7 dismissed (21%), 2 No longer Here (7%)