Helping Faculty Close the Achievement Gap through Grit and Growth Mindset

Linda Behrendt, Ph.D.—Human Development and Family Studies
Caitlin Brez, Ph.D.—Psychology
Objectives:

1) outline the growth mindset approach to learning as it applies in the higher education setting.

2) examine the multiple practices that extend growth mindset in the classroom (e.g. character strengths, grit, feedback).

3) demonstrate strategies, tips, and resources for implementing growth mindset into courses.
Background (Tough, 2012)

At risk students:
- Less likely to graduate
- Lower academic performance
- Lower retention
- Different family pressures
Growth mindset
Grit
Can you have too much grit?

“Whether or not a student is able to graduate from a decent American college doesn’t necessarily have all that much to do with how smart he or she is; it has to do instead with that same list of character strengths that produce high GPAs in middle school and high school.” – Tough, 2012, pg. 153
Are sustained effort and sheer perseverance more important than pure talent or opportunity?
The role of feedback

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of feedback</th>
<th>Giver’s purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appreciation</td>
<td>To see, acknowledge, connect, motivate, thank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>To help receiver expand knowledge, sharpen skill, improve capability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>To rate or rank against a set of standards, to align expectations, to inform decision making</td>
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Practical Strategies
Questions?
References


