

# Join the 'collaboration conversation'

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- Collaborative wiki QR code (ask me about contributing content).
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# **Believe, achieve, persist: Collaborative strategies that counter academic hopelessness in developmental education**

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# Session goals, objectives and outcome

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- Goals and objectives:
  - Introduce the Theory of Academic Hopelessness.
  - Share examples of collaborative teaching methods created and/or used that have effectively countered academic hopelessness.
  - Create a topic-based community of practice.
- Outcome:
  - Attendees will have a broader understanding of collaborative methods that can target the negative effects of academic hopelessness in developmental learners.

# Dissertation / Theoretical background

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- [Direct link to Blundell's dissertation](#)
- Studied the academic information search process (AISP) experience of developmental English undergraduate students.
- Began study with 12 participants – 6 dropped out of study before conclusion.
- [Thematic analysis](#) revealed sense of 'academic hopelessness' in 3 participants.
  - "I feel like a tire stuck in the mud – I'm trying and trying and not getting anywhere."

# Ken Bain on motivating the unmotivated *(from extrinsic to intrinsic learning)*

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- Ken Bain – Educator and researcher, author, reformer.
  - 2014 @ Kent State – Building the best (teachers, students and syllabi)
  - Differences between extrinsic and intrinsic students and learning.
- To move students from extrinsic to internal learning:
  - Learning must have ‘greater purpose,’ be tied to continued academic performance.
  - Learning through trial and error before grading, and students must believe it is possible.
  - Learning must give students a ‘deep sense of autonomy and control.’

# Demographics: University of Akron

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- Fall 2017 statistics\*
  - Approximately 22,104 students (18,802 undergraduate; 2,837 graduate)\*\*
  - Average SAT/ACT scores of enrolled freshmen:\*\*\*
    - SAT Math – 528 (Remediation free at 530 or higher – ODE)
    - SAT Critical Reading – 514 (Remediation free at 480 or higher EBRW – ODE)
    - SAT Writing – Not reported
    - ACT Composite – 22 (ELA of 18 or higher, Math 22 or higher – ODE)

\*Retrieved from [UA's Institutional Research website](#) and [Ohio Department of Education College and Career Readiness Test website](#).

\*\*Excludes misc. student figures, e.g. professionals, part-time, etc. \*\*\*Available via [Collegedata.com](#)

# Demographics: Youngstown State University

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- Spring 2017 statistics\*
  - Approximately 12,252 students (10,984 undergraduate; 1,268 graduate)\*\*
  - Average SAT/ACT scores of enrolled freshmen:\*\*\*
    - SAT Math – 493 (Remediation free at 530 or higher – ODE)
    - SAT Critical Reading – 485 (Remediation free at 480 or higher EBRW – ODE)
    - SAT Writing – 455 (Remediation free at 480 or higher EBRW – ODE)
    - ACT Composite – 22 (ELA of 18 or higher, Math 22 or higher – ODE)

\*Retrieved from [YSU's Enrollment website](#) and [Ohio Department of Education College and Career Readiness Test website](#).

\*\*Excludes misc. student figures, e.g. professionals, part-time, etc. \*\*\*Available via [Collegedata.com](#)

# Collaborative strategies: 'Greater purpose'

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- @UA – Akron Experience Career Literacy (Partners: Faculty, students)
- @[YSU](#) -
  - CMST 3757: Group project – Rebranding (Partners: Librarians, Marketing Dept.)
  - JOUR 2822: Reporting public events (Partners: Youngstown city clerk, local media)
  - General: Online professional portfolio (Partners: Career Svcs, faculty, local media )

# Collaborative strategies: Trial & error, support

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- @UA – [Librarian and Communications faculty collaboration.](#)
- @[YSU](#) –
  - Multiple drafts of papers/assignments prior to final submission (Partners: librarians, Writing Center, classmate peer critiques)
  - In-class discussions and presentations/workshops on critical news issues (Partners: Faculty around university, visiting professionals, EIT, local media).
    - Live-stream collaborations facilitated with other universities via [Facebook](#)
    - Collaborated with EIT for long-term abilities – now through BB Collaborate.

# Collaborative strategies: Autonomy/control

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- @UA – Shared meaningful collaboration strategies with other librarians.
- @[YSU](#) –
  - [YO magazine](#) Students control platform, content, deadlines, staffing (Partners: Students in magazine courses, student media personnel, journalism faculty, faculty around university, YSU alumni).
  - JOUR 3761: Students control platform, content, deadlines (Partners: Journalism faculty, YSU student body, EIT, local media).
  - CCAC 1500: Final project (Partners: CCAC Dean, dept. heads, YSU student body).

# Assessments and oversight

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- Assessments -
  - End-of-class surveys regarding content, outcomes achievement
    - Use results of survey and SSI data to reflect on courses, improve.
  - Program-level assessment for journalism
    - Developed to be assessed at different stages in program (freshmen, midpoint, end).
  - PollEverywhere® assessments
    - In-class, can make anonymous, instant feedback for all involved.
- Oversight - Syllabi and grading reviewed by faculty in program and department.

# Final Thoughts

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- The process “before Day 1” for a developmental undergraduate student.
- Need to encourage more collaboration/participation between faculty and ‘service/administrative’ departments on campus.
- What works best for you?

# Questions?

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- [sblundell@ysu.edu](mailto:sblundell@ysu.edu) – Please email me if you'd like to sign up to collaborate on the wiki!



- <http://devedreform.pbworks.com>
- #DevEdReform

# References

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- Bain, K. (2014, October 6). The promising syllabus. *What the best college teachers do seminar*. Lecture conducted from Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
- [University of Akron Institutional Research.](#)
- [Youngstown State University Institutional Research – Enrollment.](#)
- [Ohio Department of Education – College and Career Readiness Test website.](#)
- [Collegedata.com – University of Akron](#)
- [Collegedata.com – Youngstown State University](#)