

PRE-COLLEGE-PREP

A Guide For Real-Time College Experiences

By

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**COLLEGES ARE NOT JUST FOR LEARNING VOCABULARY,
BUT ALSO, FOR BUILDING CHARACTER**

This book is for school-age children to adults whose intention is to take the educational journey through college at a point in their lives, be it 18 or 80. This book will prepare you for the journey, Mary Maria Crosby holds a Master of Science Degree in Guidance and Counseling, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Graphic Design. Mary is Certified in Business Management. As a Self-Published Author, Mary enjoys serving the Lord and loves to help people draft meaningful books.



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PREFACE

Colleges have a designated discussion panel beyond the classroom. Students should be prepared for constructive critiques, comments, and honest feedback about their work. No matter where the discussion occurs, one must become engaged to the point of understanding. After reading this guide, you will be fully informed about the expectation of college life, whether online or on school grounds. With that said, let's share the vision.

VISION OF THIS BOOK

Make it plain!

*My **vision** is to educate High School-Age Children and beyond who are inspired to attend college. My **mission** is to help you understand what to expect in college and how to adjust accordingly. This book is vital for your educational journey and will help you to have a smoother journey in accomplishing all your courses with integrity.*

DEDICATION

This book is for school-age children to adults who intend to take the educational journey through college at a point in their lives, whether 18 or 80. This book will prepare you for the journey. Colleges have a designated discussion panel beyond the classroom. Students should be prepared for constructive critiques, comments, and honest feedback about their work. No matter where the discussion occurs, one must become engaged to the point of understanding. After reading this guide, you will be fully informed about the expectation of college life, whether online or on school grounds. With that said, let's share the vision.

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VISION OF THIS BOOK

Make it plain!

My **vision** is to educate High School-Age Children and beyond who are inspired to attend college. My **mission** is to help you understand what to expect in college and how to adjust accordingly. This book is vital for your educational journey and will help you to have a smoother journey in accomplishing all your courses with integrity.

DECLARATION

The Word of GOD confirmed it in the following.

Scripture: Scriptural foundation: Philippians 4 verse 13. (KJV). I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me. “The battle in mind will tell you that (you can’t go to College and finish strong)! I Silence that voice in the name of Jesus! God Said, “I CAN!” and is consistent with this book’s vision of “I CAN!”

YOU’VE GOT WHAT I WANT; I’VE GOT WHAT YOU WANT!

You’ve got active listening, and I got options for concrete change
LISTENING for success?

WE’LL BE TRANSPARENT, AND YOU’LL BE RECEPTIVE!

WE CONNECT TO IMPLEMENT

Yes, you will be back as an alumnus of the college that you entered and find that this book was transparent with you and that you were well prepared for your encounters with college critiques, comments, and panel discussions for your growth and development.

Design to equip the student for college:

Discussions you need to know and learn before you matriculate into a college.

What you will learn:

You will learn about students' situations, work submissions, penalties, and advocacy. Critiques, comments, feedback, and solutions are given for all students' growth and educational development. Real-Time Students and Instructors give real-Time critiques, feedback, and solutions about students' work.

Student Submission:

*Critiques from numerous students will always follow the submission of work. They are strictly based on the assignment you presented. *All Names will be eliminated and replaced with a fictional name. Spelling and grammatical errors are not tolerated in college. Download Grammarly for your convenience. Students lose points for grammatical errors**

Student Situation:

I had trouble uploading my assignments, of which some of my files were not uploading. A student may commit to informing the instructor when the student is experiencing difficulties, but informing the instructor about the difficulties does not exempt the student from the 10% deduction for a late submission. Unless a considerably valid excuse exists, the penalty still applies in some cases. Following policies and procedures are paramount.

Use your imagination to connect with this response.

Mary: Response to the Reading Assignment the Excerpt:

After reading the excerpt, it was challenging. As I read and listen, topics such as quantum mechanics get my thinking cap moving. I sometimes say yes, I got it, and then, a further explanation later, the content got me scratching my head, especially in the movie. I watched how two elements pointed at the board, and when they reached the board though it was a different element, it seemed as though when they hit the board, they would produce a different result, but then it

bounced off as a light and produced a different outcome. Another subject is Quantum Mechanics and the physical interpretation of the state function. The square of the absolute value of the state function is (proportionate to the probability of finding the observable variable inside a specific range).

I am surprised that it was not a specific number, amount, or mass but a range of an amount. Very interesting. Thank you for sharing this excerpt. To help develop my critical thinking skills and more. Image from The Nine Planets, a Multimedia tour of the Solar System by Bill Arnett <http://seds.lpl.arizona.edu/nineplanets/nineplanets/nineplanets.html>

Instructor to Student:

Excellent observation, Mary! As an instructor, hearing from the student concerning the reading assignment is excellent. We seldom hear from students in this resource section, as it's not a requirement. Thank you for your response. May I share your response with the author of the excerpts, Bill Arnett? He would be happy to hear from you. Have a great day!

Student to Instructor:

You are very welcome. You most certainly can share my response with Bill Arnett. Have a fantastic weekend.

Instructor:

Thank you, Mary!

Student-to-student Discussion: Mary:

Hi Jan! I love what you did with this assignment. I like your patterns and the inspiration I received from them. I like how you create interactivity for the user, including me. I would have taken full action using the call-to-action area. You made it easy for me to navigate through your project. I always look forward to seeing your project, as you do a great job and give constructive feedback that helps others. I wish you all the best with all your upcoming assignments. Great job!

Student-to-Instructor: Hi, Miss K!

This video tutorial is impressive. I always do pattern the long way. Learning the keys helped me to do a “Clipping Mask” and use the “Pathfinder Tool” in addition to helping me to eliminate extra steps etc. These are skills for a lifetime. Thanks!

After the student created a set of cards from a deck.

Instructor Response to Student:

Great concept! This is such a unique and visually exciting theme. I can see the influence of several artists and styles, from traditional to contemporary. Consider a couple of the suggestions from the class review to create a more functional and cohesive deck. We talked about adjustments to the card back design to further distinguish it from the fronts. An overall pattern of berries would be lovely. We also discussed how clear and consistent card identification is essential when using an expressive illustration style, so you may wish to differentiate the two suit colors in a more obvious way. I would love to see how this idea evolves into the rest of the deck. (-5 pts. Craftsmanship).

Student-to-Student:

Good morning, Mary, and I hope you are having a wonderful weekend so far. It's great to see you have completed this part of our assignment, but I do believe it needs some work. I have a few suggestions for you that I am confident will help evolve your work. First, suggestion: It is essential that we, as the designer, ensure we are reading and following our client's instructions, in this case, our instructor. Not doing so will either make or break us in the design industry as, sadly, not many people will contract us because of such. I mention this because we were instructed: “It's important to remember that stamps are ONE COLOR ONLY.” You have two or more colors in all 5 of your designs (including the artboard's solid color). If you get an opportunity, I recommend changing the colors of your stamp designs to one sole color. You can create each stamp in any color you want, but it only needs to have one color per stamp. The best example I can have you look at is student #1,

student #5, and mine. Second suggestion: Simplicity is better for these types of projects, yes, you can become very detailed, but you must ensure that your details do not clash with your overall design. The first design you made for the ending message, “Thank You,” is all over the place. I suggest removing any objects that crash and make your design uneven. I would start with making your background (art board) white, centering the tree-like figure, and making it one sole color (maybe black), removing the object that has your scatter brush and blue center as it has no need to be in your design and lastly choosing a thick and bold font for your “Thank You” and placing it in a better position.

Please remember that this should be done on each design you have; look for what works and what does not, or ask yourself, “What can I add to better my assignment.” These suggestions I provided you with hopefully help you grow as a designer. Remember, we all have something to learn when getting feedback, even the most known designer. I hope you have a wonderful day, and I can’t wait to see if you complete the re-work.

Personal Note:

It is crucial to know where the instructions are in the learning module as instructors are all different and use different strategies as they often use what works for them. Similarly, students have different learning styles, and some learn at a faster pace than others. So, know your learning style. Are you a visual learner? If so, you will gravitate towards watching tutorials versus reading the instructions. As an auditory learner, you will want to listen to a lecture and hear instructions. **Refer to the reference page in this book to find out your learning style.** You will be more prepared to follow the instructions and thoroughly understand an assignment before wasting precious time on an assignment that you may have to redo.

Personal Note:

Be mindful of uploading the correct assignment rather than another project you are working on. Also, this is the real world, and know that

there is always one student in the bunch who will try their professional hand on you (practice profession, on you) to see how well they will appear professionally. DO NOT RETALIATE; MAINTAIN YOUR COOL! This does not mean you should not make yourself clear for your peer to understand if there was an issue.

Student:

Hi Mary! Sorry that my project has more than one color. I did not see the instruction, and I asked several students but have yet to get a specific one on the assignment instruction. Another instructor suddenly replaced the previous instructor and informed us she would not be taking any questions. I was directed to relate my question to the assigned instructor, but I am still waiting for an answer. The previously assigned instructor is on vacation. I looked at the other student's work and created my own. I did not see the instruction to use one color, but I will use one. About the scatter brush, I was working on it and uploaded the wrong file. Sorry about that. Thank you for the insight that I can make t his correction.

Student: Jan:

Hi Mary! I'm sorry you did not see the instruction. It was in the instruction module for all students. However, you have done a great job, Mary! I'm glad I was able to help.

Personal Note:

Oh yes, I can take the blame. I am here to learn. Challenges are good for me. I will come out as pure gold when I go through the fire. Can you take the heat? Yes, you can!

Student-To-Student Discussion Mary-to-Jane, on “Time Management”

Thank you for reaching out about the time management assignment. I genuinely love your honesty about your time management skills. I am

very grateful for the project Journal system to manage all our past, present, and future portfolios that we had done. That in itself is a lifesaver. I only sometimes managed my time well once I looked at how often the subject of time management and organization resurfaced. I had to get concrete about it. Jane, you have stated the journey of time management as prioritizing your schoolwork and getting it out the way first thing after you fuel up. Sounds funny but very true. One cannot fully concentrate if there is a famished feeling. Yes, we did the plan of attack together, which was very important then as it is now.

Like the instructors always say, these skills we do in each course, we will need them from the time we learn them, and we'll need them throughout our career and life. So true. You have started by getting your assignments out of the way first thing. Very important! So, let us maintain consistency in managing our time and organizing our files at home, school, and computer. You must have noted that being organized and managing our time go hand in hand. By doing this, we won't waste precious time endlessly searching for things when needed. Thank you for sharing that my writing on time management and mentioning "the plan of attack" helped to rekindle the need to be consistent. Sharing your experiences helped me remain organized and manage my time wisely. Thank you, Jane! Have a lovely weekend.

Discussion On Time Management

Yes, the title is funny, but it often seems to be the case. We can't find the time in our busy schedules to organize our lives. It gets very complex when you consider that everything, including your personal life, must be included, and juggled; it's just a matter of when. It's not a question of whether you will drop the ball. You HAVE TO make yourself available to figure out your schedule and NEED TO include everything. You can develop habits that make juggling much more accessible with fewer dropped balls! The following discussion As a few questions to get started.

Tim's Discussion on Time Management:

“Ok, I don’t mind saying that Time Management might be my biggest challenge. I am very disorganized and like to do things I am inspired to do. Those things that seem like drudgery always slide to the back burner. I find iCal extremely helpful, especially now that my computer calendar is linked to my phone through the “cloud.” I need to use To-do lists more, don’t use them quite enough.”

Mary's Discussion On Time Management:

Time Management is a subject that rests on my mind. Sometimes the plans I set to manage my time were disrupted by mishaps or other events that were not on my iCal. My purpose now is to decipher the essential things and postpone those that are not so important. But I am on the road to excellent time management.

Do you have a good grasp of time management?

Yes, I understand time management well, except when gravely interrupted. However, I focused on what I had set out to do and redirected myself back to my duties.

What method do you utilize?

I used a “plan of attack” from the moment I rose until the last event occurred. I begin my day with my gratitude journal and several daily routines before class.

To-Do List?

It doesn’t hurt to use a “To Do List.” Indeed, when I write things down, it’s like a live reminder in my brain to get it done. My sister Grace never stopped hammering me to write things down in my journal and sometimes placed a note on a nearby “event board,” reminding me to do it. This changed my habit as I’ve seen the notes often enough to adapt to maintain appointments outside or inside the home. This strategy has been working well

so far.

iCal? I use iCal to remind me of current and upcoming events, which works well. Though these strategies are not uncommon, I hope that

someone might be rekindled or gather something from this reading. To learn more, please refer to the reference page.

Student-To-Student Discussion Mary:

Hi Tim! I can relate to you managing your time last month with the interruptions between your new car and moving. I just moved from New York to Georgia to care for my mom and finish school. Moving is not easy; having school and managing the legalities with your new car is important, as well as settling down with your schoolwork. Time management is a great asset to maneuver not only in the activities of daily living but also when unexpected events go through a curve ball and force you to become attentive in and out of school and places of business. Though your life tends to get busy, you have managed it well. This is key to efficient time management, especially when you have full knowledge and an understanding of what to do. I encourage you to get a good grasp on what is to be done, such as schoolwork. Once you know the assignments, even if you're not at the computer, you can begin thinking about how you might attack that assignment. The same strategy applies to daily living, as I stated above. You have a handle on this. You have even done this assignment before me—great job, and all the best with your new car and managing your time well.

Student-To-Student:

Mary: Hi Kay! Though I have my responses already, I will make another response to your discussion. I am grateful for a person like you. Why? You are a single parent, you ran a business, and you are rebranding. You created a T-Shirt to encourage yourself while home-schooling your son and completing your schoolwork. You are a super mom, indeed. I'm a high school guidance counselor, and I sometimes help anyone in my community who needs help as I am not working in the school system. For me, it's challenging to work and do school at the same time. I volunteer to counsel or tutor someone whenever possible and focus on my journey here at the college. I take my hat off to you for managing your time so well.

Moreover, you find the time to encourage others. I love your energy and how you manage your time and stay organized. I am very proud of you. If there is anything that I can do to help, please do not hesitate to ask. We are here to help each other grow and finish strong. I do love your honesty. You will make it in life and go far in your endeavors. I encourage you to stay strong and continue to manage your time wisely as you're doing. I admire your willingness to share your regimen with your fellow student. I am also not a fan of drinking coffee, but when I lose energy, I grab a cup to finish my work. The only downfall for me in drinking coffee is that I can't sleep when I need to, as caffeinated tea is so strong, and if I use decaffeinated coffee, it makes me sleepy, and I like to sleep naturally and dream. I am glad you shared your Mashic Tea, and I will try it. I am even more thrilled that you are getting your assignments done. Thank you for sharing your story of how you manage your time. After hearing your story, I am inspired to manage my time consistently. All the best in your endeavors, and have a great weekend.

Kay: Hi Mary! Your post means so much to me. Yes, I work very hard and try all I can to get my work done and encourage myself, as sometimes it takes effort to get real help without significant issues. I can't let my family or myself down. I MUST DO IT MYSELF when I want to get things done right. Thank you, and have a lovely weekend.

Mary: Hi Kay! You are very welcome. Likewise, have a fantastic weekend.

Student-To-Instructor Situation:

Course site, instructor, and student's names are omitted for security purposes. I regret to inform you that I was very dissatisfied with the instruction I received throughout the "this course" process, as I had to search for the instructions. This has been happening since the pandemic. All the instructors combine in one area, and sometimes it becomes difficult to figure out who is my primary instructor. I had to go into the people section to know who my instructor was. Of course, I felt as though I was in a self-taught program.

When I asked Instructor what was due, he referred me to the videos I had previously viewed and mentioned nothing about what was due and how to do the assignment. I would reflect on what I learned in previous courses and what I did not understand; I would ask on the discussion panel, where it is more prompt to get answers when they are needed immediately. After asking the instructor and still did not know what to do, I would reach out to other students, google my questions, or take an entire course and get a certificate on Course Site, to get the desired answer that I am seeking to complete my assignment.

I came to the college to be taught everything I needed to know. I have written to the Instructor, the Student Advocacy, and Director for instruction. What was due and when, but they referred me back to the plan of attack, which I followed religiously after viewing many videos.

In light of not wanting to fail, I watched all the videos before getting to the assignment, with little time left to do the assignment. Given my record in previous courses, I never had to search for instructions, and I succeeded. I had support from other students as often as I could. Since I had to search for instructions for “this course,” I had no break from communicating as usual.

Moreover, each time I communicate, I seek information on what to do and how to do it, or I compliment other students on their fantastic work and encourage them to keep up the excellent work. I take my education seriously, as I have to repay the federal government for student loans, and cannot risk retaking a course I might have to repay. I do not have finance like that, as I am not from a wealthy family. There were times that I went to the student discussion board, and that is when I discovered that there were instructions there as well to create two posts and mention an assignment due. I specifically did not see that anywhere else. I was to make a post on the last Thursday of the class and was informed by the instructor after the fact. I apologized and asked the instructor if there was anything that I could do to make up for the grade that I received. I am still waiting for a response to my question about how to get a better grade for the two posts. The instructor stated

that I would receive a grade for the assignments that I had submitted. I spent numerous sleepless nights trying to figure out the instructions and assignments that were due and how to do them. Watching the time pass is very nerve-wracking, and I am still trying to figure out what to do. This had never happened to me in previous courses. Watching the videos does help. However, if the moderator in the video missed a step, I missed a step that resulted in an undesirable outcome. When this happened, I slowed the video to see what I missed but did not miss any step. I would then turn to student support on another platform.

Student's Discussion Continues...

For my final project in this course, I could not figure out how to fold the mockup package for branding. I reached out on the discussion platform to inquire about support from other students and was able to do the assignment. Upon submitting my presentation, the instructor stated in his feedback that I submitted the presentation late and still needed to. He might not have opened my presentation and stated that he could not at this time. If the instructor viewed my video presentation, he would have given me a better grade. In his feedback, he stated that I could have mentioned why I chose the color and discussed why I did what I did in the project. If he had watched the presentation, he would know. Please investigate the difficulties I encountered seeking instruction for the course I am paying for. I would have known what to do promptly and more efficiently if my question had been answered. Please investigate my final video presentation submission's date and time in your system so that I may receive at least a satisfactory grade. If I must repeat "a course," I request to do so without repayment to repeat the course. Above all, I would like to be taught how to do an assignment before being given the task. Thank you in advance for looking into my concerns. Here the student resubmitted a required assignment presentation again and received extra points.

Personal Note:

This portion of the prep is to help students communicate their questions when uncertain. Be sure to submit your question verbally and in written form. Please be mindful to submit all assignments promptly. When dissatisfied, never jump over your instructor's head. Begin with the instructor and proceed up the ladder with your issues.

Student Communication:

Hi Mr. Walls! I hope this message finds you well! I am in the process of creating my presentation. I made the animated Web Ad, but when I exported it, it was not playing. I forgot where to locate the short video resource that explained what to do when you exported the video, and it was not playing. Please tell me how to make it play when I export the animated ad. I think the speaker did say to make sure not to use the link in the browser, or I could get an HTML link with nothing when you received that animation link. I am speaking of the animated Web ad that should change while I watch. That is the only challenge at this time. I don't want to get stuck with playing the animation during your off hours on the weekend.

The animated ad plays in the Photoshop presentation; my only concern is to let it play when I export it to you. How do I proceed to get the link to share the animated video? I did it the first time but needed to remember how to do it again. Thank you in advance for your consideration. I hope that you have a great weekend.

Mr. Walters:

Hi Mary! The tutorial is in the week two lecture. Please let me know if you need any further assistance.

Mary: Hi, Mr. Walters, Thank you, I will do that.

Instructor-to-Student: Mr. Walls:

Good morning, Mary. Thanks for sending over your files. I recommend resending this today as one day late so you can include your outdoor advertisements, they're missing from the