



11th Grade Lesson Plan

2-year Colleges vs. 4-year Universities

I. Objective

Students will research and discuss the differences (advantages, disadvantages) between attending two-year colleges and four-year universities.

I. TEKS Used in Lesson Plan

ELAR, Speech (Elective Credit).b.2. Expressing and responding. The student develops skills for expressing and responding appropriately in a variety of situations. The student is expected to: (A) use appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication skills in interpersonal situations; (C) explain the importance of using tact, courtesy, and assertiveness appropriately in interpersonal situations; 4. Informing. The student expresses and responds appropriately to informative messages. The student is expected to: (A) research ideas and topics to acquire accurate information from a variety of primary, secondary, and technological sources; (B) use appropriate communication skills to request, provide, and respond to information in interpersonal conversations; (C) use appropriate verbal, nonverbal, and listening skills in interviews;

II. Materials

- 2-year vs 4-year PowerPoint
- Computer access

III. Procedure

Warm-up Activity:

Begin by talking about the college choice process. Ask students questions like:

- How many of you will be the first in your families to go to college?
- Do you plan to attend a local college/university, in-state or out-of-state?
- Have you done college research? Do you know what you want to major in? Do you know which colleges offer your intended major?
- Have you considered a transfer program?
- What do you know about the differences in admissions standards between two-year and four-year institutions?



Then, open the “2-year vs 4-year” PowerPoint presentation and present up to the first stop. At this point, split the class into two teams and have Group A research advantages of starting at a two year and disadvantages of starting at a four year, and have Group B research advantages of starting at a four year and disadvantages of starting at a two year. Students may choose to have one or several group representatives to support their side. Allow time in class for students to complete research, or assign research as homework (students will discuss/debate the next class period).

Once students have prepared, allow them to discuss the pros and cons of attending 2-year vs 4-year institutions. Let students challenge each other and ask questions of each side. Complete the PowerPoint presentation and check for comprehension.

IV. Check for Comprehension

- What did students learn that they didn't already know?
- Did the information they learned change their mind or perspective on 2-year or 4-year institutions?
- Will this information help them as they make decisions on where to apply to college?
- Are they more sensitive to the other side of the debate? Does this help them to better understand their classmates' college choices?