

# I Will Survive!

## Using Mini Case Studies for Student Success

National Student Success Conference

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*Michelle E. Martin/Houghton Mifflin Co.*



# I Will Survive: Mini Case Studies



- A case study is an approach to teaching and learning
- Employs realistic situations related to material covered in course
- A case study can be
  - real life situation, current event, created by instructor, professionally produced
  - Short enough to be used as one activity in a portion of one class
  - longer to take a whole class period or for homework
  - comprehensive enough to serve as a long term project

# Case Studies

- Students work individually, in pairs, small groups, or whole class
- Purposes:
  - Inform students
  - Place theoretical information in a practical context
  - Stimulate discussion about the issues involved
  - Develop critical thinking skills
  - Involve students in active learning
  - Experiment with several options without risk
  - Utilize various modes of communication
  - Allow students to “practice” with fictional people or situations first, then personalize

# Benefits of using cases in a Student Success course

- Encourages students to explore issues critical to their first year of college
- Involves active learning
- Involves each student in the learning process
- Involves situations with many perspectives/points of view
- Allows students to evaluate/analyze common situations for all students during their first college year
- Allows students to see different ways to cope with problems
- Teaches students to approach problems systematically, brainstorm ways to solve it and determine what the best resolution may be

# Topics relevant to first year of college

- Academic Issues
  - Study skills
  - Time management
  - Advisement situations
- Social Issues
  - Money management
  - Balancing commitments
  - Campus policies
  - Effective communication
- Personal Issues
  - Motivation
  - Stress Management
  - Relationship Issues

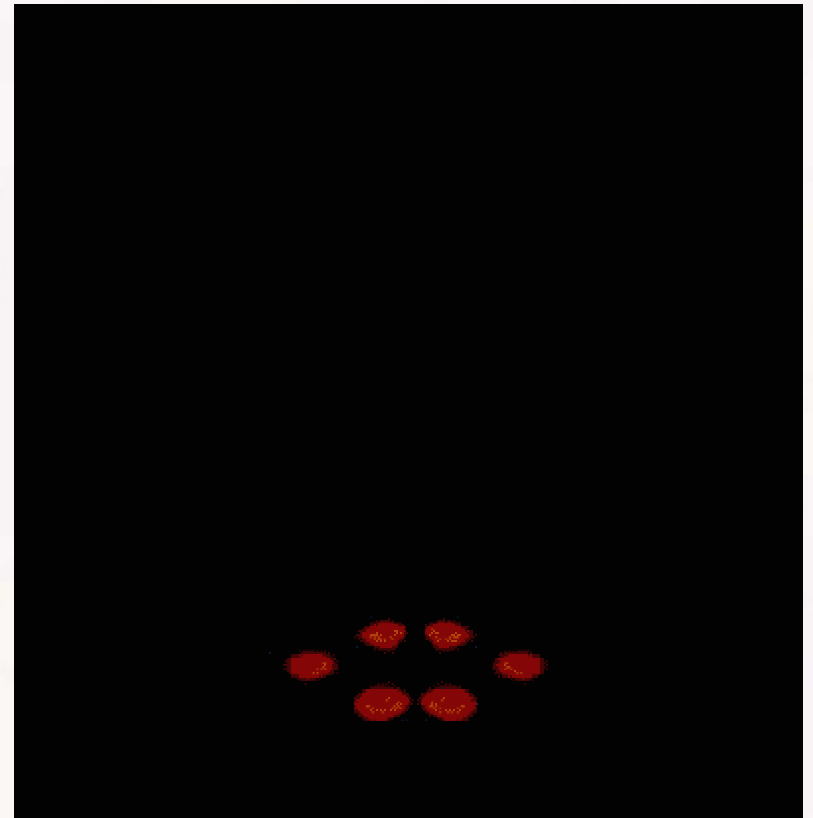


# Some cases...

- The bad day (or, my first day of college)
- The roommate situation
- Joe and Mary
- Worst Case Scenario
- Let me tell you where to go
- What do I take next semester?
- Professor Hope's Class
- Found Money

# Evaluation of cases

- Participation
- Journaling
- Checklist/rubric
- Extension of assignment for homework
- Other?



# References

- Skrabalak, Mary Kay, University at Albany, SUNY, Peer Leader Program 2004-2005
- Baron, Leonora, Case Studies: Conceptual Frameworks, Academy for the Art of Teaching, [academy@fiu.edu](mailto:academy@fiu.edu)
- Bain, Ken, director, Advanced University Learning, NYU center for Teaching Excellence, Case and Problem-Based Learning
  - <http://www.nyu.edu/cte/pbl.html>
- [www.oncourseworkshops.com](http://www.oncourseworkshops.com)
- Teaching with the Case Method
  - [http://www.iub.edu/~teaching/handbook\\_2.html](http://www.iub.edu/~teaching/handbook_2.html)

# Celebration!

- Reflection
  - Take a moment to think about one thing you can celebrate related to the workshop today.



# Evaluation, please...

- Please take a few moments before you leave to fill out an evaluation form.
  - Title: I Will Survive
  - Session 6
  - M. Martin
- Leave completed form on table.



Thank you for coming!

