

Way to fail!

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I do something
wrong...



Productive Failure



... but something
useful comes of it

“Failure is a potent teacher and a scheduled stop along the road to success”

-- Burger & Starbird
*The 5 Elements of
Effective Thinking*

Why does
productive failure
matter?

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productive failure
matter?

“GVSU educates
students to
shape their lives,
their professions,
and their societies”

How do I genuinely value
productive failure
in my classes?

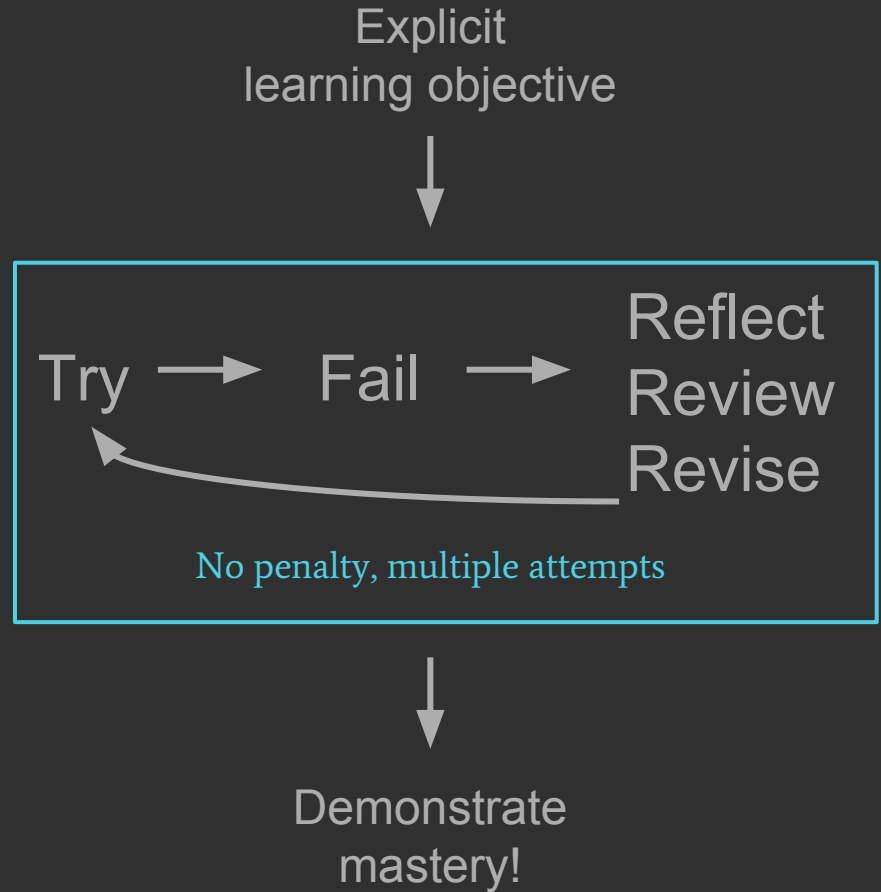
Inquiry Based & Flipped Learning

Pre-class
low-stakes
encounters with
new ideas

Inquiry Based & Flipped Learning

Students
present,
ask questions,
critique,
discover,
engage
with each other

Mastery Grading



Mastery Grading

“Failures were not seen as a bad thing in this class because it is an important aspect in learning. This created less stress on me ... I was able to focus more and show my improvements which really helped me to remember the key concepts taught in this class.”

Selling it

- Come from the student's perspective
- Teach new methods like you teach new ideas
- Use the language of productive failure

Reflection

- Reflection is a crucial part of **productive failure**
- ... it's also a crucial part of *teaching*

Some ways to screw up

Some ways to screw up

I've

ed



Some ways I've
screwed up

Not trusting my
students

Some ways I've
screwed up

Forgetting my
students are
human

Some ways I've
screwed up

Failing to sit on
my hands and
listen

Way to fail!

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