PENNSTATE

Theory Application Assignment #2

The purpose of this assignment is to use multiple theories to inform the creation of a program that enhances student development. You may choose to build on Theory Application Assignment #1 or create an entirely new program for your office or department using student development theories discussed in class (or others if approved by the instructor). This program should be innovative, purposeful, and benefit both students and practitioners.

This activity's learning objectives require you to:
>Construct a program using theory as a foundation
>Demonstrate a clear understanding of how theories are used to benefit groups of students
>Integrate multiple theories in program design
>Explicitly connect theory to the program activities and/or policies

This paper should be approximately 15 pages in length. The parts of this program will consist of an overview, a discussion of applicable theories, the details of the program and how the theories enhance it, and recommendations for implementation including potential limitations and roadblocks. It is due in class on April 21st and is 30% of the course grade.   APA format is required.

Suggested Outline for the Paper

Introduction

Overview of the office
        Scope of functions (i.e. the broad picture)
        Mission
        Programming for students
        Use of student development theory

New programming idea
        History
        Warrant for change
                Integrate theory
        Explanation of idea
        Learning outcomes
                Learning theory
                Psychosocial theories
                Cognitive theories
        Recommendations for implementation
                Student involvement
                Assessment
        Limitations or potential roadblocks
        Future possibilities (e.g. collaboration)

Conclusion
        Highlight benefits of program
        Discuss how theory was used to develop program
        Mention how the program fits within the scope of the office