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#STUDENTLEARNINGMATTERS

Enhancing Content Delivery to Increase Learning and Retention



If you are looking for ways to increase engagement and retention in your online courses, consider the strategies below.

ASK YOURSELF...

ARE YOU BECOMING MORE COMFORTABLE WITH YOUR ONLINE TEACHING, OR DO YOU STILL FEEL LIKE YOU ARE REACTING TO THIS CHANGE? IF YOU ARE NOT AS PROACTIVE OR PRODUCTIVE AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE, CONSIDER THE STRATEGIES BELOW.

1 ONLINE LEARNING IS NOT A NEW CONCEPT...RESOURCES EXIST

INSTEAD OF RECREATING EVERYTHING YOURSELF, REMEMBER ONLINE LEARNING HAS BEEN AROUND FOR YEARS. SEE WHAT OTHER RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO USE OR BORROW (E.G., LIBRARY RESOURCES, YOUTUBE VIDEOS, VIRTUAL FIELDTRIPS, ETC.) ALSO, MANY STRATEGIES YOU ALREADY USE EASILY TRANSFER ONLINE. NEED IDEAS, LOOK AT THE SLEG.

Click Here 

2 PLAN YOUR TEACHING SCHEDULE

EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE NOT PHYSICALLY MEETING IN A CLASSROOM EVERY DAY, IT IS STILL BENEFICIAL TO SCHEDULE TIME TO INTERACT WITH YOUR STUDENTS. SCHEDULE TIME TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR ONLINE COURSES EVERY DAY. DETERMINE HOW MUCH TIME IS NEEDED TO ANSWER EMAILS, UPLOAD CONTENT, PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS, ETC.

3 INCREASE COMMUNICATION

REGARDLESS OF HOW ORGANIZED YOUR ONLINE CLASSROOM IS, CONFUSION AND MISCOMMUNICATION WILL STILL OCCUR. INCREASED COMMUNICATION EQUALS DECREASED ANXIETY (FOR YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS). PROVIDE EXAMPLES. EXPLAIN EXPECTATIONS. CONSIDER SENDING WEEKLY EMAILS AND/OR ANNOUNCEMENTS TO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE COMING WEEK, REVIEW THE PREVIOUS WEEK, OR BOTH.

CONTINUE TO HOLD OFFICE HOURS

OFFICE HOURS LOOK DIFFERENT ONLINE, BUT ARE STILL IMPORTANT. SET UP A SET TIME EACH WEEK FOR STUDENTS TO SCHEDULE TIME TO TALK TO YOU. ZOOM IS FANTASTIC FOR OFFICE HOURS BECAUSE STUDENTS FIND COMFORT IN SEEING YOUR FACE.

USE VIDEOS

VIDEOS ARE AN EASY WAY TO EXPLAIN A COMPLEX TOPIC OR ASSIGNMENT, AS WELL AS, CLARIFY MISCOMMUNICATION. THEY ARE ALSO HELPFUL WHEN TEACHING CONTENT. KEEP VIDEOS AS SHORT AS YOU CAN (LESS THAN 15 MINUTES) AND DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THEM BEING PERFECT. SCREEN-CAST-O-MATIC IS A FAVORITE AS IT IS FREE, RECORDS EVERYTHING YOU ARE DOING ON YOUR SCREEN, AND HAS EDITING CAPABILITIES.

BE YOURSELF

MOST PROFESSORS ENJOY TEACHING IN PERSON BECAUSE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT WITH STUDENTS, SHARE OUR PASSION FOR A SUBJECT, AND WATCH UNDERSTANDING DAWN ON THEIR FACES. OUR PERSONALITY MAY CONTRIBUTE TO WHAT MAKES US A GOOD TEACHER. FIND WAYS TO CAPTURE YOUR PERSONALITY AND YOUR PASSION USING METHODS THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU MIGHT DO IN PERSON, YET AUTHENTIC.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

PUT YOURSELF IN YOUR STUDENTS' SHOES AND THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WOULD NEED AT THIS TIME.

- 1. CREATE A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS**
- 2. RETURN STUDENT WORK IN A TIMELY FASHION**
- 3. PROVIDE CLEAR DIRECTIONS**
- 4. ASK YOURSELF WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE STUDENTS TO TAKE AWAY FROM YOUR COURSE AND RETAIN ONE YEAR LATER**
- 5. PROVIDE VARIOUS TYPES OF ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT DIFFERENT STUDENTS' LEARNING STYLES AND ABILITIES**