How to be a Top Notch Distance Instructor!

Joyce Valentine, M. Ed.
Manager User Support Team
NC Department of Community Colleges
valentinej@nccommunitycolleges.edu

NC State University Doctoral Candidate
Educational Leadership, Policy Analysis and Workforce Development (ABD)
Session goals ...

- **F**ierce online thinking
- **I**nnovative strategies
- **T**echnology use
- **C**ompliance *(Students and teachers with disabilities)*

Let’s be FIT C!
A little bit about me!
Who is my distance ed audience?
Fierce online teaching is about...

1. Fostering Student engagement
2. Stimulating intellectual development
3. Building rapport with students
1 - Fostering student engagement

- Community of learners
- Student-to-faculty and student-to-student interaction
- Strategic use of humor
- Use videos, chats, podcasts, wikis, and discussion forums
- Blogs allow reflective thinking, collaborative learning, and knowledge instruction

WHAT DID WE COVER IN CLASS LAST WEEK?
IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS.

WHAT'S YOUR LATE HOMEWORK POLICY?
IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS.

WHEN ARE YOUR OFFICE HOURS?
IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS.

HOW WILL MY GRADE BE COMPUTED?
IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS.

IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS

This message brought to you by every instructor that ever lived.
WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM
2 - Stimulating intellectual development

• Creates learning environments
• Generate actions, questions, statements
• Reflects on students’ inaccurate and incomplete preconceptions or mental models
• Use technology to create engaging and authentic content
3 - Building rapport with students

• First day activities to get to know your students
• An office visit
• A phone call to establish contact
• Share your teaching philosophy
• Use emoticons
• Address students by name

You don’t teach a class. You teach a student (Bain, p. 97, 2004).
Watch the following introduction video. Then…

*What was good about it?*
*What could be improved?*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZ9P-kYRxmo
Innovative ...

YouTube

TED

Ideas worth spreading

North Carolina Community College System
Technology!
Compliance: Students and Instructor with Disabilities
Disability Discrimination: Higher Education Lawsuits

AHEAD is the premiere professional association committed to full participation of persons with disabilities in postsecondary education.

U.S. Department of Education

Student Loans Grants Laws

LAW & GUIDANCE / CIVIL RIGHTS
Disability Discrimination

National Association of the Deaf

North Carolina Community College System
Federal Laws and Distance Education ...

Three federal laws:

- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990**
- **Section 504** of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*
- **Section 508** of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*

*Amended in 2008, 1998, and 1999, respectively*
Federal Laws and Distance Education...
“My right eye is weaker than my left eye, and it moves to the side. When I try to study, my eyes lose focus during long periods of study. The computer compounds all these problems, and makes my eyes fatigue quicker.”
Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Quality Matters (QM)

- Simple and Intuitive
- Perceptible information
- Tolerance for Error
- Low Physical Effort
- Size and space for approach and use
- Instructional climate
- Evaluation and assessments
- QM Rubrics and Standards
So what can we do?

- Apply guidelines
- Use captions and videos (for ESL students)
- Use a noiseless system
- Use captioned video clips
- Review accessibility early
- Assistive technology
- Accessible web sites
Improve the accessibility of online courses for students (and instructors) with disabilities!

**Accessibility Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)-Inclusive Online Course Design.** Being offered by Blackboard. Four-week online professional development course.

*Fall: Oct. 16th – Nov. 10th, 2017  
Winter: Jan 8th – Feb 2nd, 2018*
Be FIT C!

- Fierce online thinking
- Innovative strategies
- Technology use
- Compliance (ADA, QM, and UDL)
References


https://www.qualitymatters.org/qa-resources/rubric-standards

http://go.blackboard.com/AXMOOC