Strategies and Best Practices for Distance Learning
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Don’t Expect The Class To Teach Itself

- Students need interaction
- Positive reinforcement and guidance can help students stay engaged
Proactive Course Management

• Plan to keep students on track to keep them from falling behind
• Monitor student participation and give “nudges” when needed
Establish Patterns

• Maintain a predictable course pattern of course related activities
• Predictable patterns allow students to manage their time more effectively
• Use LMS communication tools to send reminders
• Add due dates and exam availability dates to the LMS calendar
Plan For The Unexpected

• Be prepared for course interruptions
• Explain to students how the course will function during interruptions
Effective Communication-Rules of Engagement

- Define the netiquette rules for your course
- Hold students accountable to a set of engagement rules
Define The Communication Expectations

• Let students know how long it will take to reply to email and respond voice mail
• Let students know how long it will take to grade activities and provide feedback
• Provide students with virtual office hours
Active Learning Techniques

• Utilize various means of delivering content that cause students to “do something” other than just reading text
• Incorporate “classroom” assessment techniques
• Ask students to create multimedia rich projects
Quality Counts

• At different times during the term give students the opportunity to provide informal feedback and suggestions
• Plan and implement methods to address the quality of the course
• View the class content from a student’s perspective for grammatical errors
Test, Test, Test

• Evaluate the technology from a student’s perspective
• Make sure all hyperlinks are functional
• Test download times for audio and video
• Provide links for students to download any apps that may be required for students to access content
Plan A Good Closing And Wrap Activity

• Develop an interesting ending of course experience
• Provide opportunities for reflection
• Tells student what you learned as the instructor
• Ask students which learning experience stood out the most to them
Questions
References


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