The Coaching Chronicles

ISSUE I VOLUME 33

THE CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (CAE) ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ARE CONTINUING!

Our current topic is **WITHDRAWALS/RETENTION**

Tuesday October 20 3:30pm
Friday October 23 12:00pm
Wednesday October 28 10:00am

Blackboard Collaborate Link

2020 COACHING CHRONICLES NEWSLETTERS

https://www.faytechcc.edu/faculty-staff/instructional-coaching/#newsletters

Advice | Distracted Minds: 3 Wa... www.chronicle.com

Want the attention of your students? The first and most important step is to pay closer attention to them.

MANAGING ONLINE LEARNING

If you are facilitating an online learning environment, here are nine suggestions for successfully managing your group.

1. **Build an engaging online environmen**t. Elementary teachers create a habitat that has multiple areas—for example, a library/reading area, work areas, and areas for discussion. Create virtual spaces in your blended classroom that serve different purposes. Perhaps there's a "lounge" or chat room for side conversations?
There's the area for your agenda, syllabus, assignments, and deadlines. Have a "parking lot" area for questions that can be answered by fellow participants (and regularly checked by the instructor as well). You should also have an office time and space. Some teachers use Google Hangout or Skype, but you can also go a step further and use Minecraft or Second Life.

2. **Build community**. Students won't treat each other well if they don't know each other. Think of this step as proactive classroom management. By building community right from the get-go and encouraging it throughout the course of the class, you'll save yourself from some issues later on.
Present norms and expectations, and build some together. Have small groups create contracts about how to work together. There's nothing more frustrating to an online student than feeling isolated during group work. And frustration leads to missed deadlines, growly posts, and rude interactions. Find ways for participants to learn about each other, to learn about you, and to find commonalities in their experiences. Humanize the voices behind the writing.

3. **Curate answers in an organized way**. Students can get ornery when they're confused. Find ways to curate resources and responses to questions so that participants can find them easily. There's productive struggle and there's disorganization of resources. Manage the latter and students will be more likely to work through the former. Don't just make organization practical—make it user-friendly.

4. **Be present**. Don't leave the learning for the students to do independently without your help. Make sure you and they are participating in discussion threads. When a discussion is dying down, inject your thoughts into it to give it a boost. Many teachers avoid actively teaching how to be independent and assume that because the student is online, they must know how already. False. So be sure to give scaffolds and strategies to help students become more independent.

5. **Establish norms for office hours and video conferencing**. My norms include a dress code when meeting with me on Google Hangout (no pajamas). I also teach my middle schoolers how to ask questions without interrupting the current speaker. For instance, when on camera with a group of talking heads, I ask students to hold up the index finger to indicate a response to what's being discussed and two fingers to indicate they want to bring up something new.

6. **Don't group randomly**. Use criteria to group participants. (Don't know your online learners well? Here are some strategies to change that.)

7. **Teach about plagiarism**. Check with your institution and use simple strategies for ensuring work is original or cited. It's easier to cheat online, but it's also easier to catch improprieties. Be proactive and teach what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

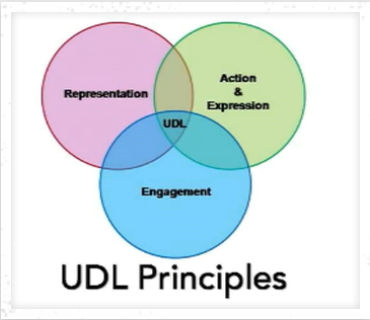
8. **Don't shy away from difficult conversations**. Sometimes online teachers avoid going down the rabbit hole when issues occur. Stay on top of issues as they arise. Immediately.

9. **Use various means to contact participants**. Contact small groups of students and also the whole class routinely, but know when it's time to do a behind-the-scenes intervention and email a participant directly (or even call). Use this sparingly and it will have impact.

Online learning can be an amazing experience for both the educator and the student. But the teacher must model awareness that there are humans at every keyboard. Set up a recognizable environment that is structured and engaging. Make sure it honors the learners in it, and you'll have fewer issues to manage in your online class.

ATTENTION GRABBERS

NCCCS PERKINS SPONSORED FREE UDL (UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING) ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES



Last spring we had scheduled a 2-day workshop on Universal Design for Learning. Because of the pandemic, we had to cancel it. We were pleased to learn of Lillian Nave, of Think UDL and a professor at Appalachian State University, and her work with some of our colleges in implementing UDL. We have contracted with her to present **4 free online sessions on UDL** for North Carolina Community Colleges. Please let your colleagues know about this professional learning opportunity.

Participants must register for each session separately, though we hope you will decide to attend all 4.

1. What is UDL and Why do we need it right now? Oct 20, 2:30-3:30
2. The WHY of Learning: Engaging ALL students (not just the ones you wish were in your class) Oct 27, 2:30-3:30
3. Th HOW of Learning: Assessment with UDL Principles in Mind. Nov 3, 2:30-3:30
4. The WHAT of Learning: Creating Resourceful, Knowledgeable Learners. Nov 10, 2:30-3:30

Information and registration is at www.ncperkins.org/udl

Let me know if you have any questions.
Have a good day,

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BLACKBOARD HOW-TO VIDEOS

Not quite sure how to load something into Blackboard? Check out these videos for quick step by step instructions!

Instructors: Building Your Course www.youtube.com

A set of short video tutorials that help instructors build online courses using Blackboard Learn.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Greetings,

Professional development about diversity, equity, and inclusion can be difficult to deliver in an engaging and participatory manner. Fortunately there are several faculty and staff, at our colleges, that serve as experts on these topics.

Register now for these exciting and informative workshops! Professional development certificates available. You will be sent the Zoom links after registering for the workshops.

Deficit Minded to Equity Mindedness: Fixing the Pond - Level I: This open, accepting, and interactive virtual workshop will explore how to transform from being deficit minded to

actualizing more equity mindedness. Learn more about this workshop HERE. Use the link to register for Deficit Minded to Equity Minded on one of the available dates (Nov. 12, or Nov. 20).

Courageous Conversations: This virtual workshop will support adults in having the conversations necessary to make progress on difficult subjects such as race, privilege, bias, stereotypes, and ethnicity. Learn more about this workshop HERE. Use the link to register for Courageous Conversations on Nov. 23.

Recruitment, Retention and Success for Hispanic/Latinx Students: This 3 part series of Zoom Meetings will be facilitated by The College Foundation Inc. and NC Community Colleges. Learn more about this workshop HERE. Use the link to register for Recruitment, Retention and Success for Hispanic/Latinx Students on all three dates, Oct. tbd, and Nov. 10.

Thank you,
Susan Barbitta
Executive Director, NC Student Success Center

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INCLUSIVE ONLINE TEACHING WEBINARS

A series of engaging virtual discussions about inclusive online teaching.

Webinar Series: Effective Online ... acue.org

Moving a course online — like being assigned to a classroom — is just the start. Hear from experts in online teaching & ensure quality instruction online.

COFFEE WITH THE COACHES – UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FILL OUT THE COFFEE SURVEY

LET'S TALK ABOUT THESE CHANGES...

WHEN

THURSDAY, OCT. 22ND, 10AM

WHERE

BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE LINK

MORE INFORMATION

Please join us on October 22nd (Blackboard Collaborate Link) as we have a candid talk about the changes YOU want to see in our Coffee with the Coaches Chat. We will address some of the feedback you have provided in our survey. If you still want to reply to the survey, please click below:

COFFEE SURVEY

SCHEDULE A COACHING SESSION

Do you have specific questions you want to have addressed? Would you like a one-on-one conversation with your Instructional Coach to get some ideas regarding instructional strategies?

2201 Hull Road, Fayetteville, N...
faytechcoaches@gmail.com
(910) 678-8415
faytechcc.edu/faculty-staff/in...

YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED

The Center for Academic Excellence needs your input! Whether you have read the newsletters; had a coaching session; maybe even participated in the Coffee with the Coach Chat, YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED. Click the button above to submit your feedback.