



Best Practices for Teaching Online Courses

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Active learning is one of the key methods to success when teaching a class online. Cognitive theorists suggest that effective learning takes place when activities are inseparable from cognition. Therefore for instructors to deliver successful content in a face-to-face class and keep the momentum of engagement online, they need to include various forms of learner-centered activities. This module will discuss how faculty presence is essential to student engagement and contributes towards student's success and satisfaction in the classroom. In addition, by making appropriate use of a mix of technologies, students can feel increased connectivity with both their classmates and instructor.

As you begin the process of teaching in an online format and maneuvering through your learning management system (LMS) you will also quickly see that student engagement shouldn't just relegate itself within the LMS. There are a vast pool of new media tools and dynamic learning spaces that could enhance your teaching and the student learning experience. Nowadays, a distributed form of learning is the preferred instructional model that allows educators, students, and content to be located in different, non-centralized locations so that instruction and learning occur independently of time and place.

The learning objectives for this module include:

- Establishing rapport and faculty presence for improved student engagement
- Moderating online interactions effectively
- Best practices for assessing student learning and maintaining assignment integrity
- Learning to use student assessment tools
- Creating collaborative and dynamic learning spaces