The Office of ADJUNCT FACULTY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Adjunct Faculty
Academic Calendar

March:

8-14	Spring Break
15	Classes Resume

Looking Ahead:

4/2*	Last Day to Withdraw with a "W" grade

Workshops:

24	Specific Methods to Engage Students in the Online Learning Environment at Noon on TEAMS
25	Specific Methods to Engage Students in the Online Learning Environment at 5:00 p.m. on TEAMS

Register for these workshops and more at:
https://appsc.svsu.edu/workshops/workshopsOffered

*Changed from March 19th to April 2nd

March 8-14

Spring Break

Maintaining Student Engagement

Are your students as engaged as you had hoped? If not, here are a few strategies you can use to revitalize your students and aid in their learning.

1. *Employ Active Student Learning*
   Active learning is a process where faculty create activities which engage students in reading, writing, discussion, or problem solving in class. This type of learning promotes analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of class content. Such activities foster deep learning and critical thinking, and, not by chance, these activities engage students in the learning process. For some specific ways to promote active learning, in an online environment consult this webpage: https://ctl.columbia.edu/.../active-learning

2. *Help Your Students Care*
   Dee Fink (2003) in developing his "Significant Learning Taxonomy" has the goal of *Caring* as one of the Taxonomy's elements. Fink posits that by creating learning experiences that involve *Caring*, students can grow to care more or differently about the events and ideas being studied, their own selves, their appreciation of others, or caring about the process of learning itself. To accomplish this, you might consider asking yourself what new feelings, interests, or values you would like your students to develop and then create learning experiences which will facilitate this change. To learn more about Finks' *Significant Learning Taxonomy*, you might consult this webpage:
   https://fliphtml5.com/mxaj/omjk/basic

3. *Be a Story Teller*
   Students love stories...stories are narratives that can hook and hold their attention. Stories also ready students for learning. The advantages to storytelling is that stories tend to get the student's attention, they create a stage for students to relate and respond to the story, they allow for the creation of a better connection between you and the other students. They also allow those students who typically don't share, the opportunity to do so. This is engagement!

Student engagement is often tough to attain, but with good planning and creative learning goals, it is achievable!

References:
Fink, D. (2003). Creating Significant Learning Experiences. New York, N.Y.: Jossey Bass

Buffo, S. (2015, January 9). The Power of Story Telling in the College Classroom. Accessed from:
http://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/effective-teaching-strategies/power-storytelling-college-classroom/

Shake It Up!

Are your students tired and dragging? Are they beginning to grow unmotivated? Try to shake it up and do some new and varied things in class. Some ideas for changing things up can include:

- Varying your instruction by using demonstrations, discussions, case studies, and group work.
- Making an effort to have 15-20 minute lecture cycles because we humans can't maintain our concentration for long periods of time.
- Put your students into diverse group rooms online and ask them to think, pair and share
- Try to use the Zoom polling feature or Poll Everywhere to assess how your students are understanding the concepts, theories, etc.
- Change the scenery especially in the online environment! Use a different backdrop or take your computer to a new location! Maybe go to Marshall Fredericks Museum and try to link one of the statues to your lesson!
- Create a treasure hunt exercise to have your students locate different information in their texts or online in a selected page/website.

It is amazing how, just by changing things up a little bit, students take notice and become more motivated!

Also…

Now that we are halfway through the Winter 2021 semester, there are a few subjects you might want to review with your students. At the beginning of the semester, students are often overwhelmed with information so reviewing some important information related to your class can be helpful. Such reviews could deal with your course policies and procedures, your course schedule/calendar, a reminder for when quizzes, exams, papers and other assignments are due, as well as, your policy regarding the use of technology…something they seem to easily forget! If you choose to do this, you might find that your students are better prepared to complete the semester armed with important knowledge and this makes for greater student success!

Do You Have Disappearing or Disengaged Students?

If so, please forward their names and the course you are teaching to Ann at acoburn@svsu.edu. She will pass these along to Advising who will follow-up with your students!

March Workshops

In the February workshops, many adjunct faculty in attendance were hoping they could learn more about engaging their students in the online environment. As a result, our office will once again be hosting the workshop titled, *Specific Methods to Engage Students in the Online Learning Environment.* This workshop will be held on TEAMS at Noon on Wednesday, March 24th and at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 25th. You will receive a meeting notice on the day of the workshop to attain the link to the TEAMS meeting. To register for this workshop please go to the following website and then go to *Tools for Teaching* in the drop down box: https://appsc.svsu.edu/workshops/workshopsOffered Of course, adjunct faculty who attend a workshop will be compensated $30 for up to five workshops a semester. We hope you will attend!