



Adjunct Faculty Academic Calendar

Upcoming in November:

11/8/19 Last Day to Withdraw with a "W" Grade

Workshops

10/3 Windows 10 Tips, Cool Tricks, and Keyboard Shortcuts
9:30 AM Z115

10/11 Outlook on the web - Learn what's new
10:30 AM Z115

10/15 Canvas: New Gradebook
10:00 AM Z 115

10/23 Why Use Open Educational Resources (OER)?
3:00 PM Z223B

10/24 Use Microsoft Stream to Share and Tag Media
11:00 AM Z115

Register for these and other workshops at: svsu.edu/workshops

Campus Safety and Emergency Procedures

A few faculty contacted us after recent severe weather conditions regarding the policies and procedures for circumstances related to the safety and sheltering of their classes. As a result, we decided to share with you what we know.

In terms of campus safety, SVSU's Police Department is responsible for ensuring that our campus environment is safe and that any emergency procedures are instituted and communicated to all members of the campus community.

If you go to the University Police webpage at, <https://www.svsu.edu/universitypolice/campussafety/>, you will find three links. The first link goes to the *Emergency Procedures Guide*. There you will find contact information for the University Police, as well as, several situations where you might need information for how to act to protect yourself and your students. These situations include, Tornado/ Severe Weather, Active Shooter or Medical Emergency procedures.

The second link is to *Emergency Notifications*. There, the page notes you can register for *Campus Alert*, which sends emails, texts, and phone messages in the case of an emergency. This page also, includes a link to an app called *SchoolDude: Crisis Manager* which you can download to your phone. Other pertinent information is also located on this page. The final link goes to a page titled, *Safety and Crime Prevention Programs* which is an intentional approach by University Police to increase campus safety and minimize criminal behavior on campus.

There were two areas we did not see included on these pages. The first has to do with where faculty, staff and students can locate directions for where to go in the case of fire, tornado, etc. At the entrance to each building, there are thumbprints of the building along with instructions for where to evacuate or where to find shelter. Please be on the look out for these for each of your classes so that you are prepared should a crisis arise. In the case of any activity which you feel might endanger your classes, please know that there is a phone in every classroom that will allow you to call University Police should the need arise. As well, each classroom door, when shut, is locked from the outside so that intruders cannot enter. Be sure to close your classroom door, if you feel it necessary.



It's the 12th Annual Count the Candy Corn in the Head Contest!!!

Go to SE201 to enter!



Enter many X's to win!



Methods to Promote Student Engagement

Student engagement is correlated with student success. Implying that, if engagement practices are employed, students will become more successful, and the retention and persistence rates for the University will increase. All good things! So, what are some methods that you can begin to employ today to better engage your students?

- *Redefine participation-* Student participation involves more than just verbal discussions. Students can contribute to conversations and discussions on topics by utilizing electronic chats, discussion boards and other collaboration pieces on Canvas. In doing so, students, particularly those who are introverted, will more likely share their ideas and insights, which may be extremely valuable to the other students and their learning. As well, students need to learn to listen. Listening to what others have to offer is also a form of participation.
- *Be present as a teacher-* Weimer (2016), says that an, “engaging teaching presence is communicated by nonverbal behaviors that convey confidence, comfort, anticipation, and great expectations.” Classrooms are communities of learners, so faculty need to also be a part of this community utilizing the tools listed above. Faculty can do so by being present and engaged with their students, and in turn, the students themselves will be more engaged. Alternatively, you might reflect on a former professor who engaged and motivated you. Then try to model this professor’s teaching practices in your class.
- *Devote time to talk about learning-what it entails and why it’s important-* Help your students understand that achieving mastery requires a lot of hard work, supplemented by a diet high in complex carbs and proteins, lots of water, and a good amount of sleep. It is sad but true that many students entering colleges and universities do not enjoy learning for learning sake. It is your role, therefore, to make your class be the one that, “introduces students to learning that captivates their attention, arouses their curiosity, stretches their minds, and makes them feel accomplished” (Weimer, 2016).
- *Give students a stake in the process-* Students who have greater control over their own learning, whether it is helping to create some basic class requirements, like quizzes and study guides, or freeing up parameters regarding research papers and presentations, will become more engaged because they are making decisions about their own learning.
- *Design assignments that are authentic or use active learning experiences-* doing the work in a discipline is more valued and engaging than learning about the work of the discipline. If it is true that we humans learn by doing, it makes sense that course activities that are based on this premise will allow for mastery at greater levels. You might ask whether your students are ready to do a good job working in the discipline and Weimer (2016) says, probably not. But one lesson we all know is that mistakes create learning experiences. As well, by doing the work in the discipline, students come to understand its importance which, again, motivates further engagement.

To learn more about promoting student success, register for the workshop titled, Collaboration, Group Work and Active Engagement at www.svsu.edu/workshops. This workshop will be held on Friday, October 4th in Science East 203 from 12:30-1:30. Food will be served and adjunct faculty are compensated \$30.00 for their time.

Work cited:

Weinmer, M. (2016, June 29). Six things faculty can do to promote student engagement? *Faculty Focus*. Accessed from <http://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-professor-blog/six-things-faculty-can-promote-student-engagement/>