Supporting Students During Uncertain Times

Rebecca R. Johnston

Interim Director, Center for Teaching, Learning and Leadership

University of North Georgia

Objectives

Examine student responses to shift online

Consider effective remote teaching techniques

Focus on promoting wellness

Supporting academic excellence remotely

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Rapid Transition Online

Change is stressful…

- What changed?

- What was the impact on us?

- What was the most difficult thing for us?

Rapid Transition Online

Change is stressful…

- What changed for our students?

- What was the impact on them?

- What was most difficult for them?

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Student Responses to Shift Online

Move to online made classes made courses more difficult

- Can't "free ride" during discussions, etc.
- Changed the way students required to engage

More work

- More reading and writing
- All instructions read
- All questions and responses written

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Student Responses to Shift Online

Students reported not knowing "what to do"

- Sudden expectation of self-directed learning
- Instructor expectations unclear
- "Expert" versus "Novice" learners

What are solutions moving forward?

Apply TILT

Transparency in Learning and Teaching

- Tell students exactly what to do
- Focus on the *why* and *how*
- Unpack the "hidden curriculum"

What are the characteristics of TILT?

Transparency in Learning and Teaching

Purpose

- *Why* are they doing this assignment?
- How does it relate to course goals?
- Program goals?
- Career goals?

Task

- What students will do
- Steps to follow/avoid
- How to execute steps

Transparency in Learning and Teaching

Criteria for success

- What does success "look like"?
- Characteristics of finished product
- How does excellent differ from adequate?
- Checklist of characteristics of excellent (self-evaluation)
- Exemplars

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Effective Remote Teaching Practices

Engagement

- Maintain virtual "office hours"
- Respond to communication quickly
- Frequently use name
- Make regular "announcements"
- Keep projects moving forward at short intervals

Effective Remote Teaching Practices

Proactive Feedback

- Scaffold assignments
- Immediate feedback
- Provide feedback for engagement
- Explain judgments
- Explain what students should do differently
- Discuss how student "feels" about academic performance

Effective Remote Teaching Practice

Personal Connection

- Hold synchronous "chats"
- Assignment debriefs
- Ask "how are you doing?"
- Share yourself
- "Team building" exercises

Promoting Wellness

Mindfulness

- Attention to the present moment
- Being aware of all stimuli
- Acknowledging
- Mitigating

Mindfulness Activity

Guided Mindfulness

- How did you feel?

- How do you feel?

- Did anything change?

Promoting Wellness

Growth Mindset

- Both *we*, and *they* need it!
- Abilities not determined
- Change can always occur
- Work *more* on things that are challenging
- Embrace the situation

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Growth Mindset

What are you not good at?

How do you feel about that?

Did repeated failure or difficulty make you feel that way?

Consider how the students feel…

Supporting Academic Excellence

Remind students they *can* succeed

- Acknowledge this is challenging
- Remind them abilities and outcomes are not fixed
- Support with feedback and engagement
- Teach them *how to think* and *how to work*, not *what to know*
- Clear is kind

Suggested Resources

Dare to Lead (Brene' Brown)

https://daretolead.brenebrown.com/

TILT

https://tilthighered.com/tiltexamplesandresources

National Institute for Excellence in Teaching

https://www.niet.org/

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Suggested Resources

Mindfulness

https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/consumer-health/in-depth/mindfulness-exercises/art-20046356

Growth Mindset

https://www.mindsetworks.com/science/