

Motivating and Engaging Online Learners



PROVIDE EASY ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Remember that students come from all walks of life, and online learning may not come easy to all students. Providing resources that give them access to help or tutoring keeps them from being too challenged to continue.



USE A VARIETY OF INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Video, research projects, interactive notebooks are just a few things that you can use to mix up a lesson. All students learn differently: the more you can stray from tradition, the more engaged your learners will be.



PLAN AND ORGANIZE FOR PROJECTS AND INTERACTIVE LESSONS

Online learning doesn't have to be just lecture, students can work on projects and submit pictures and files related to the material. Remember to accommodate for the time difference spent in interactive lessons compared to lecture based lessons.



ALLOW LEARNERS TO TAKE CONTROL

If there is a subject that needs to be researched and reported on, give students the option of how they can complete a task. For example, maybe instead of responding to a poem, they can make their own rap, song, or video.



CREATE SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CLASS

Social and emotional learning is important for online courses. Students must be able to have social engagement opportunities with one another as well.



RESPOND WITH PERSONALIZED FEEDBACK

Students need to know that you care about them. Feedback should be personalized for every student to let them know that you are interested in more than just their learning.



SHOW THEM YOUR PERSONALITY!

Did you see a funny post on the weekend? Share it with your students! Students love to see that their teacher is a real person, so don't shy away from showing off who you are.



SET UP PEER GROUPS

Peer groups are a great way to allow students to interact with one another on a smaller group scale. Set up group conversations and topics to see students interact with one another.



TRY TO SET UP REAL-TIME LIVE INTERACTIONS REGULARLY

In addition to your office hours, make sure that students are receiving live contact from you. Setting up check in meetings with each student will allow for personal one-on-one time and will help build relationships.