Putting Students First during COVID-19



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A big and quick shift happened when COVID hit.

Confusion and fear from both students and teachers



This presentation will focus on how understanding student learning can affect us as faculty.

- → Ask
- → Understand
- → Implement
- ➔ Evaluate



Survey differences

Survey 1: Start of remote teaching

- Identifiers
- Focus on assisting in transition
- Wellness checks
- Tools & technologies
- Access

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- Promote remote study habits
- Concerns

Survey 2: End of spring semester

- Anonymous
- Focus on reflection & experience
- Demographics
- Experiences
- What is helping
- What is not helping
- Concerns
- Stories

- Survey 1 Results





Review the tips for being successful and check if you are using them and how useful these are currently to you. Making a schedule

Having structure in my day

Doing course assignments when class is scheduled

Communicate with professors personally when I have questions

Read and understand the expectations of my courses

Taking breaks throughout

Staying active several times during the day

Being kind and flexible with myself

Being kind and flexible with instructors



I do not believe this would be useful Can be useful but not using it Useful I use this every day

100%



Resilience

"I'd like to emphasize how useful zoom would be especially for classes like [..] and [..] I hope this will be seen by someone and we can put this into effect ASAP This is going to be a new and challenging experience. I know that this is a hard time for all of us but I just want to thank the teachers for being able to set up online classes in the time that they did. I hope you're all staying home and healthy and may we meet again someday.

I am looking forward to finishing the semester as strong as possible.

I am in the army reserves and I am currently activated right now to help out with the outbreak. I got called in last weekend. So far, I have downtime at night to complete assignments and create instructional content for the kids but I don't have the ability to take videos of myself as a form of instructional content.

I think this survey was helpful I think we will all be able to get through this and complete the semester as long as everyone stays on top of their responsibilities and stays positive.

Steps taken as a faculty

- Sharing of results to enhance understanding
- Discussion of easy tips and strategies
- Consistency:
 - LMS organization
 - How to communicate online zoom, webex, Teams, etc.
 - Online Office Hours
 - Checking in with students
- Assisting with creation of videos for physical activity specifically
- LMS Buddies
- Offer one on one assistance
- Emergency teaching what is it?
- Back to basics outcome review

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Survey 2 Results

Demographics: Freshman - 6% Junior - 34% Sophomore - 26% Senior- 30% Graduate - 4%



Device used to completing assignments: Phone: 4 % Laptop: 84 % Shared laptop: 11 %



Reliable Internet



Quiet Space



Questions Survey 2

- What are you doing right now that is helping you learn remotely?
- What are your professors doing right now that is helping you learn remotely?
- What has been the most challenging part of completing your coursework remotely?
- What could help you be more successful in learning remotely?
- Look ahead into the near future, what are some of your fears/concerns or questions?
- Everyone is experiencing this in their own unique way. If you like to please tell us about your context and experience of being a student at this time.

Students	What h	elps?	Faculty
Waking up early to complete work	Doing work in the middle of the night	Keeping in touch	Being available
Drive to my grandma's place to do work	Staying organized	Structure	Frequent check ins - email, webex,
Making schedules	Talk with peers about assignments	Clear Directions	Voice over Presentations
Making a list	Use resources	Being flexible	Virtual meetings
Keeping a routine	Nothing - I feel like I am not learning	Announcing due dates early	Adapting course work for lighter work load

- Stories

It's just so hard because my I only have my mom, and I have 6 younger siblings, my mom is still working so it's my job to make sure they are doing their school work, showering, keeping the house clean etc. I feel like I have a full job at home and on top of that I need to be a student as well.

I feel that I have a lot of assignments now and it's sometimes difficult to find time to relax and take a break because I always have work to do. The first couple weeks of distance learning seemed to be okay, but then I feel that I got overwhelmed with a bunch of assignments after that. I am taking 18 credits, so I have a lot of classes to keep up with and I feel some things are harder to learn online than it would be in face to face classes.

I've had a lot of breakdowns already because of the workload and it's just very tough mentally

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I am from Rockland County, one of the heaviest hit places by the coronavirus. I have 7 family members that have gotten it, and sadly one who has passed away from it. My mom is a nurse in a hospital and her whole floor has been turned into a COVID-19 ICU. She has had to recently transition from working days to nights which has been extremely difficult for her. Since we live in the same house, I am potentially being exposed unknowingly every day. With all of this going on, my classes have been at the bottom of my priority list. I just want all of this to be over so we can transition to a new normal, since what we knew as normal will never be the same. It is going to take a lot to move on from all of this, and the fact is some of us may never emotionally recover from the damage this virus has done. As a student, I feel that at this point the only thing that can keep us driven to complete our work is support from our faculty at SUNY Cortland.

This just is so annoying, I know I'm not going to do great, I can't keep up! I have too much tedious work that would be non existent if I was sitting in a classroom. I'm dropping out of school if this continues to fall because this is not how I learn

Summary of Spring Online

Lack of time Lack of space Lack of motivation Many distractions Time management Connection Motivation Understanding Feedback Availability Clarity Organization Less work

Reality

Needs

Wants

Tools and strategies

- Our world (everyone's) has changed
- Make steps to **transform**, rethink your classes
- Our attitudes, behaviors and dispositions will mirror the students' attitudes, behaviors and dispositions. If we want our students to be resilient, we need to show resilient first.
- Set clear expectations
- Simplify and unify our LMS structures
- Teach towards varieties of modalities of learning (UDL strategies)
- Have conversations with students: see and hear your students often!!
- Listen to them and consider their thoughts, feelings and ideas (at beginning, mid, end)
- Let's work together, share, get creative and be transparent
- Evaluate and reflect often

- Q and A

- What resonated with you?
- What tools are you using to understand students?
- What strategies have you implemented amongst faculty to help students
- How has remote teaching inspired you to reimagine/ reinvent your courses, assignments, assessments?
- What have been some of your challenging during this transition?
- What have been some surprises during this transition?