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What Makes the Biggest Impact on Student Learning?

SURVEY RESULTS - ALL STUDENTS

114 students responded

71% Females
29% Males

29% Seniors, 40% Juniors, 18% Sophomores, 12% Freshmen

Majors

39% Psychology
23% Communication
38% Other

1. Rank the most important factors that impact your learning in the classroom.

113 responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	52%	17%	4%
#2	Your interest level in the class	19%	20%	24%
#3	Class activities and assignments	8%	19%	21%
#4	Comments/feedback/communication from the professor	3%	11%	19%
#5	The ability to apply classroom knowledge/skills learned to real world situations	5%	12%	13%
#6	Textbook / assigned readings	11%	15%	11%

**Note: #4, 5, 6 were very close
27% rated the textbook / assigned readings last**

2. Rank the most important factors that motivate you to learn/do well in a class.

113 Responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Receiving a good grade	30%	25%	16%
#2	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	27%	15%	16%
#3	Your interest level in the class	17%	19%	13%
#4	Self-fulfillment, sense of accomplishment	12%	18%	19%
#5	Acquiring knowledge/skills for use in real world situations	8%	12%	19%

Note: #4 and #5 were very close.

3. In a class of 20-30 students, which classroom environment do you learn best in?

113 responses

72% - The professor engages and encourages student interaction / class discussion (student-centered classroom)

22% - Traditional one-way lecture by the professor with minimal, if any, student interaction

6% - The classroom environment has little to no impact on how I learn

4. What type of assignments do you find most beneficial to your learning?

108 Responses

68% – Multiple-Choice / Short Answer tests

56% – Written Assignments / Papers

44% – Creating individual projects/products

28% – Oral Presentations

24% – Group Project / Paper / Presentation

5. What are the most effective ways professors can measure student learning?

112 Responses

- 63% – Multiple-Choice / Short Answer tests
- 59% – Written Assignments / Papers
- 46% – Short Anonymous Surveys gauging comprehension of the class material
- 44% – Student Self-Assessments
- 43% – Short pre- and post-quizzes on the class material
- 43% – Student-created projects/products
- 26% – Oral Presentations
- 20% – Student Evaluations at the end of the semester

6. Do you expect professors to use Blackboard or technology to some extent in the classroom?

108 Responses

- 73% - Yes
- 19% - Indifferent / Does not matter
- 7% - No

7. Does the professor's use of technology in general (e.g. Blackboard, PowerPoint, video, clickers, other) improve your learning?

109 Responses

- 86% - Yes, but it depends how effectively the technology is used in the delivery of the course
- 12% - Does not make much of a difference
- 2% - No

8. What are the biggest advantages of using Blackboard?

109 Responses

- 95% - Viewing course content
- 94% - Viewing your grades/feedback on assignments/tests
- 72% - Communicating and/or receiving information from the professor and other students
- 62% - Submitting assignments/tests online

9. What are the biggest weaknesses or disadvantages to using Blackboard?

105 Responses

45% - Technical difficulties (e.g. trouble submitting assignments/tests, broken links, videos not playing, computer freezing/crashing, etc.)

42% - We had a Blackboard site for our course but the professor rarely used it. (e.g. he/she only uploaded the syllabus and a few files)

30% - Professor's inexperience with using Blackboard

28% - Professor's lack of communication/feedback or there was a delay in receiving feedback

27% - Course structure/design was poor, unclear, or needing improvement / course was not easy to navigate / not very visually appealing

10. What Blackboard communication tools do you find useful / not useful?

Useful, if used

99% Announcements – 107/108 responses

84% Email/Messages – 75/89 responses

76% Calendar – 39/51 responses

73% Discussion Board – 46/63 responses

60% Groups – 26/43 responses

56% Journal – 23/41 responses

54% Wiki – 14/26 responses

52% Chat – 12/23 responses

46% Blogs – 18/39 responses

Never Used

77% Synchronous Chat – 79/102 responses

75% Wikis – 78/104 responses

63% Blogs – 65/104 responses

60% Journals – 62/103 responses

59% Groups – 62/105 responses

51% Calendar – 53/104 responses

41% Discussion Board – 44/107 responses

11. How does participating in a required online discussion impact your learning?

109 Responses

35% - Never participated in an online discussion

28% - Depends on the class and the discussion topic being discussed

20% - Makes little to no difference on learning; just viewed as a requirement (e.g. 2 posts and a reply) or busy work

17% - Positive impact - I had more time to read other students posts and was able to provide more thoughtful responses more so than in a face-to-face class.

Removing those who have never participated in an online discussion

42% - Depends on the class and the discussion topic being discussed

31% - Makes little to no difference on learning; just viewed as a requirement (e.g. 2 posts and a reply) or busy work

27% - Positive impact - I had more time to read other students posts and was able to provide more thoughtful responses more so than in a face-to-face class.