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What Makes the Biggest Impact on Student Learning?

SURVEY RESULTS

46 students responded

63% Females
37% Males

52% Communication Majors

39% Seniors, 41% Juniors, 15% Sophomores, 4% Freshmen

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

46 responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	57%	17%	11%
#2	Your interest level in the class	22%	22%	22%
#3	Class activities and assignments	7%	24%	24%
#4	The ability to apply classroom knowledge/skills learned to real world situations	4%	20%	17%
#5	Comments/feedback/communication from the professor	2%	2%	24%
#6	Textbook / assigned readings	7%	11%	0%

Note: 46% of the students rated the textbook/assigned readings last

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

45 Responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Receiving a good grade	36%	20%	20%
#2	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	24%	22%	11%
#3	Your interest level in the class	18%	27%	13%
#4	Acquiring knowledge/skills for use in real world situations	11%	13%	9%
#5	Self-fulfillment, sense of accomplishment	9%	11%	24%

Note: #2 and #3 were very close; #4 and #5 were very close

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

46 responses

89% - The professor engages and encourages student interaction / class discussion (student-centered classroom)

11% - Traditional one-way lecture by the professor with minimal, if any, student interaction

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

43 Responses

70% - Creating individual projects/products

60% - Multiple-Choice / Short Answer tests

58% - Written Assignments / Papers

47% - Oral Presentations

37% - Group Project / Paper / Presentation

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

44 Responses

- 73% - Written Assignments / Papers
- 70% - Student-created projects/products
- 64% - Multiple-choice / Short Answer tests
- 63% - Student Self-Assessments
- 55% - Short Anonymous Surveys gauging comprehension of the class material
- 45% - Oral Presentations
- 45% - Short pre- and post-quizzes on the class material
- 14% - Student Evaluations at the end of the semester

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

40 Responses

- 70% - Yes
- 20% - Indifferent / Does not matter
- 10% - No

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

41 Responses

- 76% - Yes, but it depends how effectively the technology is used in the delivery of the course
- 22% - Does not make much of a difference
- 2% - No

8. What are the biggest advantages of using Blackboard?

41 Responses

- 98% - Viewing course content
- 95% - Viewing your grades/feedback on assignments/tests
- 73% - Communicating and/or receiving information from the professor and other students
- 63% - Submitting assignments/tests online

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

40 Responses

68% - 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)

53% - Professor's inexperience with using Blackboard

50% - Professor's lack of communication/feedback or there was a delay in receiving feedback

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

43% - 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

100% Announcements – 40/40 responses

84% Calendar – 16/19 responses

74% Discussion Board – 23/31 responses

73% Email/Messages – 27/37 responses

71% Groups – 17/24 responses

Not useful, if used

71% Blogs – 15/21 responses

57% Journals – 13/23 responses

Never Used

77% Wikis – 30/39 responses

69% Synchronous Chat – 27/39 responses

51% Calendar – 20/39 responses

48% Blogs – 19/40 responses

41% Journals – 16/39 responses

41% Groups – 17/41 responses

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

41 Responses

29% - Makes little to no difference on learning; just viewed as a requirement (e.g. 2 posts and a reply) or busy work

27% - Never participated in an online discussion

24% - Depends on the class and the discussion topic being discussed

20% - 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

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