What Makes the Biggest Impact on Student Learning?

SURVEY RESULTS

68 students responded

76% Females
24% Males

65% Psychology Majors

22% Seniors, 40% Juniors, 21% Sophomores, 18% Freshmen

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

67 responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	49%	16%	0%
#2	Your interest level in the class	18%	19%	25%
#3	Class activities and assignments	9%	15%	19%
#4	Textbook / assigned readings	13%	18%	18%
#5	Comments/feedback/communication from the professor	3%	16%	16%
#6	The ability to apply classroom knowledge/skills learned to real world situations	6%	6%	10%

Note: #3 and #4 were very close

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

68 Responses

Overall	Category	#1 Factor	#2 Factor	#3 Factor
#1	Receiving a good grade	26%	28%	13%
#2	Professor's teaching style and student engagement in the class	28%	10%	21%
#3	Your interest level in the class	16%	15%	13%
#4	Self-fulfillment, sense of accomplishment	13%	22%	16%
#5	Acquiring knowledge/skills for use in real world situations	6%	10%	26%

Note: #4 and #5 were very close

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

67 responses

60% - The professor engages and encourages student interaction / class discussion (student-centered classroom)

30% - Traditional one-way lecture by the professor with minimal, if any, student interaction

10% - 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?

65 Responses

72% - Multiple-choice / Short Answer tests
54% - Written Assignments/Papers
26% - Creating individual projects/products
15% - Oral Presentations
15% - Group Project / Paper / Presentation

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

68 Responses

63% - Multiple-Choice / Short Answer tests
50% - Written Assignments / Papers
41% - Short pre- and post-quizzes on the class material
41% - Short Anonymous Surveys gauging comprehension of the class material
32% - Student Self-Assessments
25% - Student-created projects/products
24% - Student Evaluations at the end of the semester
13% - Oral Presentations

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

68 Responses

75% - Yes
19% - Indifferent / Does not matter
6%   - No

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

68 Responses

93% - Yes, but it depends how effectively the technology is used in the delivery of the course
6%   - Does not make much of a difference

8. What are the biggest advantages of using Blackboard?

68 Responses

93% - Viewing course content
93% - Viewing your grades/feedback on assignments/tests
71% - 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?

65 Responses

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

26% - 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)

17% - Professor's inexperience with using Blackboard

17% - Course structure/design was poor, unclear, or needing improvement / course was not easy to navigate / not very visually appealing

14% - Professor's lack of communication/feedback or there was a delay in receiving feedback

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

Useful, if used
99% Announcements – 67/68 responses
92% Email/Messages – 48/52 responses
72% Discussion Board – 23/32 responses
72% Calendar – 23/32 responses
72% Journals – 13/18 responses
67% Blogs – 12/18 responses
59% Wikis – 10/17 responses

Not useful, if used
53% Groups - 10/19 responses

Never Used
83% Synchronous Chat – 52/63 responses
74% Wikis – 48/65 responses
72% Blogs – 46/64 responses
72% Journals – 46/64 responses
70% Groups – 45/64 responses
52% Discussions – 34/66 responses
51% Calendar – 33/65 responses

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

68 Responses

40% - Never participated in an online discussion

29% - Depends on the class and the discussion topic being discussed

16% - 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.

15% - Makes little to no difference on learning; just viewed as a requirement (e.g. 2 posts and a reply) or busy work

Removing those who have never participated in an online discussion

49% - Depends on the class and the discussion topic being discussed

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.

24% - Makes little to no difference on learning; just viewed as a requirement (e.g. 2 posts and a reply) or busy work.