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

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

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

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

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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