Show Me The Data

Teaching Enhancement Workshop
June 29, 2020

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The coronavirus pandemic is pushing America into a mental health crisis

Anxiety and depression are rising. The U.S. is ill-prepared, with some clinics already on the brink of collapse.
“As the [undergraduate] class stands today, it is also the most racially diverse class welcomed to Loyola, with 34% of applicants identifying as students of color, and it boasts the highest average high school GPA the University has seen. Incoming students from Maryland stand at 29% of the class, which would mark the largest in-state enrollment for an incoming class in more than a decade...The Class of 2024 is also the strongest academic incoming class on record with an avera... See More
Flexibility

THIS IS NOT NORMAL
What did we ask?

1. What surprised you most about the difference between virtual instruction and how courses were taught prior to online change? (2,531/513 responses)

2. How did the transition to virtual instruction affect your learning? (2,584/660 responses)

3. What advice would you give to Loyola faculty to enhance the use of technology to improve your learning? (2,132/629 responses)

4. Please provide any other feedback, to Loyola that was not solicited. (723/243 responses)
What did our students say?

1. Students appreciative of faculty work in uncertain times (gratitude)
2. Students would have liked more interaction with professors (connection)
3. Students would have liked consistent organization within and across courses (organization)
4. Students had difficulty concentrating/motivation due to COVID (context)
5. Students had a difficult time learning from home and needed more flexibility (context)
• Reported difficulty navigating 5 courses with different layouts (takes more time)
  • *Research shows that course organization is predictor of course satisfaction*
• Reported faculty *added* assignments to syllabus after online switch
• **Equity issue:** Need to ensure students can easily access course content, especially for students who do not learn easily on their own
• “If something like this were to happen again, there should be more consistency across the board in how online learning should work. It's bizarre to me that some of my peers have zoom classes every day of the week, while I have only had ONE zoom class since being sent home.”

• “You should force all professors to use the same platform for video class and the same way of posting assignments so that I am not clicking 50 different things to find an assignment for all my classes. They should all be posted on Moodle and in the same location so that it is easy to find them because they are all in the same location. Consistency with programs professors use is my HIGHLY recommended fix.”

• “The transition was difficult for everyone but there needed to be a standardized way of conducting classes. There were many professors conducting their classes in many different ways which was difficult to follow.”
Assess and Tweak

• Most of us don’t teach hybrid (F2F and Online)
• Need to gather feedback from students quickly and often
  • Will allow for differential instruction (HIP!)
• Options:
  1. Weekly or bi-weekly feedback
  2. Bare Minimum: Mid-semester feedback (even if I’ve taught the course many times before)
  3. Others?
Let’s Support Each Other

• Discipline-specific support
  • Within your department – brown bags, mentor program, buddy system

• Do what works for you and your students
  • Assess and Tweak

• ODTL

• Digital Pedagogy Fellows

• High Impact Practices Fellows

• DSS Info

Faculty Fellows 2018-19
Preparing to teach our most diverse class (maybe)

• Having conversations in the classroom

• Join: diversity reading groups; accountability groups

• Organize summer (Zoom) brown bags with colleagues to discuss discipline-specific pedagogical tools for infusing course with anti-oppression content
  • Find a buddy you trust

• How will you engage in anti-racist/anti-oppression acts?
Take Home Points/Where to Start

1. Eye for design – Check out the Moodle Template and Tweak
2. Get Support – Colleagues, ODTL, Fellows
3. Pre-survey students?
4. Be patient with yourself and each other (we’re all in this together)
Let’s Discuss