

Teachers' Moral Obligation to Students and their Learning

Session Overview

1. Identify and explain what faculty “owe” to our students.
2. Share ways to enhance student engagement and learning.

What are moral obligations university faculty owe our students (with anything less impermissible)?

1. Fulfill a duty of care (i.e., offer a helping hand, advice, and mentoring).
2. Respect and trust students while safeguarding their rights.
3. Communicate regularly and substantively.
4. Provide what students pay for—our expertise through sharing of knowledge and experiences and serving as an expert resource.
5. Be organized with clear, intellectually challenging assignments (i.e., set high expectations)
6. Provide constructive feedback on assignments and throughout each class.
7. Facilitate a student-centered learning environment.
8. Ensure fairness and justice to each student.
9. It is all about students learning.

Enhance student engagement and learning

1. Increase communications—meet virtually one-on-one with each student, send out weekly (at a minimum) course updates and upcoming deadlines, and provide suggestions for how to be more successful on each assignment, such as providing examples of outstanding work.
2. Strengthen relationships among students to encourage a sense of community (i.e., “we are all in this together”), such as asking each student to create a “selfie” introductory video, using discussion boards including commenting on classmates’ posts, and using Microsoft Teams or Zoom Breakout Rooms to facilitate work on group projects.
3. Interactive lecturing—limit length of live and video lectures recorded to no more than 15 minutes along with a low-stakes (i.e., a few points on the course grade), formative assessment connected with each and active learning.
 - a. Active Reading Documents
 - b. Know-Wondered-Learned
 - c. Advanced Organizers
 - d. Guided Notes
 - e. Blogs
 - f. Quotes to Affirm or Challenge
 - g. Bookends, Interleaves, and Overlays
 - h. Real-World Applications
 - i. Think-Pair-Share
 - j. Write-Pair-Share
 - k. Jigsaw
 - l. Concept Maps
 - m. Minute Papers

- n. Check for Understanding
 - o. Debates
 - p. Circle of Voices
 - q. Synthesis
 - r. Rotating Stations
 - s. Exploratory Writing
 - t. Fishbowl
 - u. Lino
 - v. Pool Everywhere
 - w. Bingo
 - x. Kahoot
 - y. Jeopardy
 - z. Quizizz
 - aa. Quizlet Live
4. Use FeedbackFruits on Blackboard, Edpuzzle, or PlayPosit to insert questions into videos view online to help students learn key concepts and make applications of what is being learned.
 5. Be sensitive to each unique student about technology problems, mental health issues, and life circumstances.
 - a. Demonstrate empathy for students who for a variety of reasons—financially, emotionally, physically, and mentally

Concluding Remarks

- Faculty owe students a caring, respectful, trusting, fair, and student-center learning environment. They deserve to learn from our knowledge and experience.
- Student engagement leads to increased learning. Faculty can achieve this goal through increased communications, strengthened relationships, interactive lecturing, and being sensitive to their uniqueness.