REIMAGINING STUDENT SATISFACTION AND PERSISTENCE IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3

Exhibit Presence - Enhance Discussions - Innovate Assignments

Dr. Jan Spencer
A Bit About Your Presenter

Dr. J. Louis Spencer
Department Chair, Educational Leadership and Student Life, American Public University System
Student Satisfaction and Persistence

AND

Student Interest and Instructor Involvement
ONE:

Exhibit the Rules of the Road for Online Presence
Which of these rules do you already observe?
Basic Rules of the Road for Online Presence

- Presence is Being Present
- Regular Check-in
- Answer Questions
- Do More Than Expected
Video Activities

- Video Introductions
- Video Announcements
- Assignment Explanations
- Zoom Meet & Greet
- Office Hours

Frequency in Discussions

- First week connection with all students - by name
- First Week - Daily visibility
- Following Weeks: Every other day (minimum) presence
- Make a list w/one-line bios
Your group will discuss areas of Presence beyond what was presented; report back to the attendees
TWO:
Enhance Forum Discussions
Before we talk about Discussion Strategies . . .

Let's talk about Discussion Guidelines
Discussion Guidelines

Why do we do discussions?

The Discussions provide a great opportunity for delving into topics as they relate to the assigned course material, but they also provide a wonderful platform to learn from one another and to share our various opinions, research, and experiences. Please take advantage of your time in the discussions area to connect with your fellow classmates and professor, and enjoy the ongoing dialogue!

What are you required to do?

Responses to other learners should be substantive posts that contribute to the discussion by asking questions, respectfully debating positions, and presenting supporting information relevant to the topic. APA style for in-text citing is not required, but is optional. However, naming/ attribution for in-course readings’ authors and out-of-course readings’ authors is required as a way of giving appropriate credit to sources for ideas, data, or information. A reference list of in-course readings mentioned is not required, but a reference list for any outside sources mentioned is required.
Discuss Considerations and Enhancements

Consider How Many Posts and When They Are Due
Align with school/course expectations

Consider Response Approaches
Besides text, perhaps video or audio may prove effective and engaging.

Consider Rules for Netiquette
Always make sure that discussion forums are a safe place for expression
DISCUSSION IDEAS

Which of these forum ideas might you already use?
Group Debate

Arrange students into two groups on opposite sides of an issue.
Simulation

Present a scenario and have students propose/discuss solutions
Scavenger Hunt

Students search for specified elements and report findings
The first discussion in a class is the sharing/telling about a collage that each student creates.
Your group will consider areas of Discussion beyond what was presented; report back to the attendees.
THREE:

Employ Innovative Strategies for Assignments
ASSIGNMENT IDEAS

Which of these ideas might you already employ?
Video News Story

Students write script and record it
Use a PowerPoint

Students research or assess something and report using PowerPoint
Interview

Students create a video interview with a person with topic of note
Create a Collage

Students assemble pictures that tell a story
Your group will discuss areas of Presence beyond what was presented; report back to the attendees
Questions?

Dr. J. Louis Spencer
304-620-2716
jspencer@apus.edu
Evaluate Sessions and Win!

- Navigate to specific session to evaluate
- Select “Evaluate Session” on session details screen
  - Complete session evaluation*

*Each session evaluation completed (limited to one per person per session) = one contest entry. **Five (5) $25 gift cards** will be awarded.