Strategies to Enhance Motivation, Engagement, and Communication in Online Learning Environments

Practical Tips to Support Online Learners

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Learning Objectives

01 Describe common motivation, engagement, and communication challenges experienced by online learners and faculty members

02 Understand the importance faculty play in promoting student success

03 Obtain practical strategies to enhance students’ motivation, engagement, and communication in online learning environments
Who are our Students?
Challenges: Motivation, Engagement, and Communication

- Lack confidence
- Feel unsupported
- Don’t see value
- Overwhelmed
- Disconnected
- Prefer different learning modalities (e.g., face-to-face communication)
- Struggle with prioritization and time management
- Seem apathetic about learning
- Late assignments and discussions
- Lack of participation with peers
- Do not respond to emails
- Do not communicate about life challenges
- Disconnect between students, faculty, and advisors
- Low academic achievement
- High attrition rates
Importance of Faculty in Student Success
What Challenges Have You Observed Related to Motivation?

- Feeling unsupported
- Don’t see value in coursework
- Lack confidence
Strategies to Enhance Motivation
What Challenges Have You Observed Related to Engagement?

- Teacher presence
- Interactions and collaboration
- Feedback and student self-regulation
Strategies to Enhance Engagement and Participation
What Challenges Have You Observed Related to Communication?

- Access/timely communication
- Misinterpretations of written text
- Feelings of isolation and a lack of sense of community
- Communication breakdowns
- Cultural and generational differences
Strategies to Enhance Communication
You Make a Difference!
Summary

01. Describe common motivation, engagement, and communication challenges experienced by students and faculty members

02. Understand the importance faculty play in promoting student success

03. Obtain practical strategies to enhance students’ motivation, engagement, and communication in online learning environments
Questions/Comments
References


