Improving Academic Engagement

Canvas Pages

- Provide a PDF syllabus and an interactive web page syllabus (IWS)
- Split the IWS into sections by week w/ all necessary materials, and assignments
- Consider accessibility concerns in web page design
- Prominently display a reoccuring Zoom link on the Canvas homepage
- Update the canvas page each term the class is taught
- Post assignments and materials at least two weeks in advance
- Share all materials (articles, videos, presentation slides, etc.) used in class
- Use clear & non-awkward submission times, considering time zone differences
- Create consistency within and/or across departments

Resources

- Teach with free and open source textbooks where possible
- Utilize Dartmouth accessible academic journal articles and news articles
- Ensure online access to books on reserve
- Provide online access to software offered on campus (Adobe, ESRI, etc.)
- Alert students in advance of optional reading & textbooks (early purchases)

Support

- Offer copious/flexible office hours (time zone & class period aware)
- Schedule office hours using a prominently displayed Calendly link
- Send an early email blast inviting each student by name to office hours
- Make office hours less formal & intimidating (lunches, groups, etc.)
- Organize virtual study groups (especially for first year students)
- Leveraging TA's as informal & inviting student supports
- Engage students with compassion, flexibility, and understanding
- Provide flexibility and guidance for major/minor/modified requirements

For questions, contact:

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This document was formed from survey responses from ~25% of the Class of '21 & gathered between July 9th - 16th.