

# Teaching Strategies for The First Week of (online) Class



## #1: SHARE YOUR TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Through an introductory video (or a medium of choice) you can share your background, teaching values, passions, and goals for your course.

Doing so reminds students that we care about their education.



## EXAMPLES

- Background
- Personal anecdotes (family/pets/hobbies)
- Education/passion for teaching
- Teaching values
- Purpose and SLOs of class

## SUGGESTED PROMPTS

- What is your cultural, linguistic, and educational background?
- What is your major and professional goal?
- What is your prior knowledge about the content in the course?
- What questions do you have about the course?
- What are you curious about learning and why?

## #2: INVITE STUDENTS TO THE CONVERSATION

You can invite students to submit their own Introductory Reflection via a Discussion Board, Flipgrid, or other technology.



This space allows you to get to know your students by giving them the opportunity to reflect on their prior knowledge and share their questions about the course.

# REFLECT ON REMOTE LEARNING.

## #3: ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO REFLECT ON THEIR CHALLENGES/SUCCESSES WITH THE TRANSITION TO ONLINE LEARNING.

The goal is to learn about students' unique circumstances so we may adapt our teaching as necessary and create a collection of learning and coping strategies for all students to draw on and succeed in the course.

### POTENTIAL REFLECTION Qs:

- What worked for you during the transition in the Spring semester? What didn't?
- What learning resources did you draw on?
- What types of concerns do you have about the pandemic impacting your education?
- How can I provide support and resources to improve your learning experience?

## #4: CREATE HIGHLIGHTS BASED ON STUDENT REFLECTIONS

This can be done via course announcements, PowerPoint or even a short video. Here you will summarize their insights, make connections among their responses, identify themes, and note effective learning and coping strategies.

- Refer to students by name.
- Make connections between posts.
- Identify themes on prior experience with the content & inquiries/questions.
- Emphasize learning strategies and how they are applicable.
- Introduce additional learning resources.



## THESE MOMENTS MATTER!

These teaching strategies during the first week of class can have a transformative impact for students as we build curiosity, community, and learning agency.

Access our suggested reading: "[How to Teach a Good First Day of Class: Advice Guide](#)" by James M. Lang

If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please contact us at [CTE@utrqv.edu](mailto:CTE@utrqv.edu)