

Keeping Students Engaged Post Spring Break

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Activity

- Introductions
 - Name
 - Department
- What are you hoping to get out of this workshop?
- What types of challenges or issues have you encountered keeping students engaged?



Reflection

Goals of activity:

- Introverts vs. extroverts
- Mix up the classroom structure
- Put responsibility back on the students
- Set up an engaging environment → active learning
- Let students' needs be heard & allows students to share with others

Do you think this activity achieved these goals?

Encourage an open dialogue and reflection between you and your students



PIE BREAK!

Get some refreshments and introduce yourself to someone new!



Objectives

- Offer opportunity to share pedagogical issues concerning student engagement and brainstorm solutions
- Provide tangible activities/methods to reset your classroom environment



Hitting the Reset Button

Midterm evaluation to get feedback

- Ways to do it
 - TABS/SPCI forms (<https://distance.fsu.edu/instructors/evaluating-courses-methods>)
 - Qualtrics survey
 - Informal response (anonymous or not)
- What it achieves
 - Opportunity to fine tune before actual evals
 - Gives you a heads up about any potential problems
 - Shows the students you are invested



Hitting the Reset Button

Try new activities

- Student led discussions
- Critical thinking exercises
 - Applying class topics into a discussion/activity
- Contemporary relevance
 - Using engaging materials like media, current events, pop culture
- Collaboratively working through class assignments, review sessions, etc.



Hitting the Reset Button

Change up the classroom dynamics

- Switch chairs around/or teaching position
- Continually vary class structure
 - Activity, lecture, discussion - mix and match!
- Student led classes and presentations



Wrap It Up

Things to keep in mind over the remainder of the semester and beyond

- Create a comfortable environment
 - Inviting/asking questions, sharing experiences, reminding them it's safe space
- Relate to their lives and their education
- Keep it simple and clear
 - Asking students to recap what you've been discussing
- Reviewing the syllabus - Reality check!
- Laugh at yourself and laugh with your students!



THANK YOU!

Any Questions?

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