

Developmental Mathematics Online: Can it be done successfully?

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Best Practice Research

- Online coursework should be precisely defined and structured
- Increased communication between student and instructor
- Teach online learning skills
- “Learners are more likely to focus more on learning and benefit when online courses are carefully planned through clear expectations and guidelines”

Retention Research

- Screening student who take online classes based on study skills
- Students need to be made aware of expectations when signing up for an online developmental course
- Informational website should be set-up for online students to examine prior to enrolling in an online course
- Students who choose to take an internet course for personal reasons have a better retention rate than those placed in the course
- Provide tutoring and support options early in the class and/or make it a part of the course to examine the support options of the class



INSTRUCTION DESIGN TIPS

Learner Support and Resources

- Information about being an online learner
 - Link to resources on the college
 - Testing center
 - Disability services
 - Library
 - Tutoring Services
 - Contact information for the help desk at your college
 - Netiquette guidelines
 - How to navigate the course

Learner Support and Resources

- Course Specific Resources
 - Contact information for instructor
 - Links to purchasing the materials for the course
 - Contact information for publisher technical support
- Resources Supporting Course Content
 - Links to relevant websites
 - Kahn Academy - www.kahnacademy.org

Online Organization and Design

- Course Navigability and Organization
 - Syllabus is easily located
 - All links, media files, and images work
 - Course content is organized in a logical format
 - Course schedule is available in a printer friendly format
 - All menu items contain active content

Online Organization and Design

- Syllabus Includes
 - Course objectives (Student learning objectives)
 - Course grading criteria
 - Turnaround time for contact with instructor
 - Course schedule
 - All course due dates should take into consideration a wide variety of student schedules

Online Organization and Design

- Aesthetic Design
 - Spelling and grammar are accurate
 - Font type, size, and color are readable and appropriate throughout the site
 - Design keeps course pages to a comfortable length with white space
 - Images used in course are of good quality and sized appropriately
- Consistency in Course
 - Navigability is clear, simple, and user friendly
 - Clear directions are given for each assignment
 - Sentences and paragraphs are brief

Instructional Design and Delivery

- Promote Interaction and Communication
 - Students introduce themselves
 - Instructor introduces himself/herself to model interaction
 - Students are encouraged to respond to classmates
 - Netiquette is enforced
 - Reading and writing requirements are consistent with student abilities

Instructional Design and Delivery

- Alignment to Learning Objectives
 - Pace of the course is manageable
 - Learning objectives are clearly defined in the course
 - Learning activities support stated learning outcomes
 - Specific directions on where to access needed resources for the course

Assessment and Evaluation

- Rich and Rapid feedback
- Students have online access to current grades
- Date/time an assignment is available
- The number of times an assessment may be taken
- If a proctored test is required contact information for the testing centers is provided

Structure of Navarro's Online Developmental Math Classes

- Diagnostic pre-tests over each chapter
- Weekly assignments with late penalties
- Bi - Weekly discussion boards
- Lecture videos
- Outlines for note taking
- Weekly emails to struggling students
- Full-time instructors only

Changes for the Spring 2013

- Organizational Meetings
 - Study and time management skills
 - Expectations in an online class
 - How to use the Technology in the course
- Alternative Testing Times

Remember:

- Highly structured class
- Late penalties
- Flexible when needed or deserved
- Constant contact between instructor and students



QUESTIONS?

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