

Fall 2017 Professors responses to: What should you be sure to do?

# 1. Organization is Key. Be clear with the students what big questions, content, course goals and objectives, ideas, formulas you will examine in the class. Tell them how to prepare for class and let them know that the class works because of their contribution and participation.

Connect learning objectives to evaluation.

Do not use the last 5 minutes of class to speed up to cover new material. No one is listening. It can wait. Use the last 10 minutes to preview the next class, expectations for preparation and clear up confusion about anything.

What do students say they appreciate the most? Organization combined with **passion** and **enthusiasm** for the subject!

#2. Make connections. Make connections between what the students know and what you want to teach. Use current examples, problems, narrative, and questions to help students see the relevance and application of what they are learning to their lives.

#3. Call the students by their name. Insist on name plates every week. Have a way of finding out what they want to learn, what their goals are, etc. Just once this semester: When you ask a question that could have several answers, ask the students to write down their answer before you start. This is a good way to start a conversation.

#4. Review your slides. The rule is maximum six lines with six words per line. Your lecture fills in the rest. Ask the students to read a slide or focus on it before you talk about it. Consider asking them a question about the slide before you start in. The idea is sometimes to find out what they know about a topic before you talk about it.

#5. Consider a variety of ways to engage: Lecture and inquiry, in-class problem solving, respond to a short video, groups of two solving a problem. Ask a follow-up questions to a student that just answered a question.

#6. Challenge assumptions by asking questions. Challenge your own as well. You don't always have to be the expert.

#7. Stand away from the podium. Look at your students. Notice that you can be heard. Wear a mic if the class is quite large. Also, make sure students can hear each other.

(extra : humor is good, asking for feedback early in the course always helps)

Enjoy!

