

Blended and Online Instructional Practices

Strategies for Blended Teaching

1

PEDAGOGY

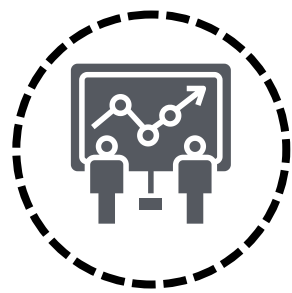
Goal: Maintain the **rigor** and **high-quality** of course content, and **engage** students and cultivate **active learning**.

Reflection questions:

- Do your materials align with digital formats?
- Does the lesson encourage students to engage in activities like activating prior knowledge, retrieval, reflection, connection-making, and discourse with core academic ideas?

Tips:

- Offer opportunities for students to share their personal experiences and interesting ideas
- Encourage group discussion through breakout rooms
- Use educational games to generate intensive interactions
- Provide guidance and materials for learning at home
- Have students create offline work products (e.g., posters, handwritten stories, illustrations) to demonstrate mastery



2

TECHNOLOGY

Goal: Ensure technology is **accessible** to all students, **easy to navigate**, **matched** to content objectives, and **consistent**.

Reflection questions:

- Do all of your students have universal access to tools, materials, and supports (physical and cognitive)?
- Are the resources and tasks easy to navigate?
- Do the technology tools you are planning to use offer the features and functions needed to support your objectives?
- Do students know where and how to get support?

Tips:

- Ensure all materials meet accessibility requirements
- Offer multiple means of access if a student lacks adequate home WiFi (e.g., downloads rather than streaming, mobile access)
- Record all lessons or offer multiple time-of-day options for students who might have trouble joining synchronous class
- Provide an online calendar mapping all of the learning materials
- Set up a virtual "help desk"



3

RELATIONSHIPS

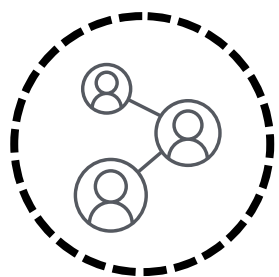
Goal: Build a sense of **belonging and connection**. Creating opportunities for students to deepen the relationship between learning tasks and their own goals and needs

Reflection questions:

- How do you build a sense of presence for students?
- How do you cultivate a sense of community?
- Do students take ownership in setting their goals and find alignment between the class content and their goals?

Tips:

- Set up "check-in" times for students to share their feelings and build relationships
- Record a video or audio for regular announcements or class update
- Set up group projects for students to collaborate and provide feedback with each other
- Host one-to-one tutoring as needed



References:

- Bart, M. (March 16th, 2009). *Strategies for teaching blended learning courses, maybe you (and your students) can have it all*. Faculty Focus. <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/blended-flipped-learning/strategies-for-teaching-blended-learning-courses-maybe-you-and-your-students-can-have-it-all/>
- The Learning Accelerator. (n.d.). *Problems of Practice: What are the design factors that drive quality in K-12 remote learning?* <https://practices.learningaccelerator.org/problem-of-practice/what-are-the-design-factors-that-drive-quality-in-k-12-remote-learning>