





Center for Innovative
Teaching and Learning

Why Don't Students Read My Syllabus?

About me...

- Otis Wilder
 - University of South Florida St. Petersburg
 - Professional development coordinator
 - Adjunct faculty – Psychology of Learning
 - Certified peer-reviewer
 - Certified online facilitator
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Tell me about it...

- What are your objectives?
 - What drives you crazy?
 - What kind of questions do you hear?
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Why don't they read it?

TL;DR

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Save...

Copy

Decline


Agree

What is a syllabus?

- A contract between faculty and students that provides a roadmap to success.



What is in a Syllabus?

- Instructor name
 - Office hours and location
 - Contact information
 - Course name and number
 - Credit hours
 - Course description
 - Course objectives
 - Required texts and materials
 - Grading scale
 - Grade breakdown by course deliverables
 - Classroom policies, including attendance policy
 - Calendar of major events, including final exam date and time
 - Information about or links to university information about academic deadlines, religious holidays, attendance, academic honesty and disability services
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A plan for success

- The Integrated Syllabus
 - Just-in-Time Design
 - Leveraging QM's principle of alignment
 - Your LMS


Just-in-time-design

- Any and all instructions should appear
 - Where they are important
 - When they are important


Align your course

- QM definition

“Critical course components should reinforce one another to ensure that learners achieve the desired learning outcomes.”



Critical Course Components

- Learning objectives
 - Assessment and measurement
 - Instructional materials
 - Course activities
 - Learner interaction
 - Course technology
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What is important?


- What are the three most important things that you wish every student would leave your course with?

Support what's important


To Learn:

- Attention
- Understand what is expected
- Value/Relevance


To Master:

- Practice and repetition
 - Apply and elaborate
 - Reflection
- 


Values

- Be aware of *your* values
 - What is important to you?
 - Let them know!
 - Be explicit
 - Repeat yourself
- 

Be explicit

- What resources should students use?
 - How much time should it take?
 - Can I work with a friend?
 - Can you provide examples of good and bad work?
 - What is the purpose?
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Repeat yourself

- Instilling Values
 - Highlight what you value in the assignment
 - Rubrics
 - Purpose
 - Link activities to values and objectives
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In Summary: Let's repeat

- Don't make the syllabus a ToS
 - Share your values through:
 - Alignment
 - Just-in-time design
 - Leverage your LMS
 - Be explicit
 - Repeat, repeat
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