

From the faculty at Grossmont College

ENGAGING STUDENTS IN CLASS

From Clifton Quinn,

“For me, the two words I use when deciding what to include in any class are these: 1) relevance and 2) engaging. If the topic does not meet one of these or both, then students will not really get engaged. So, with those two words as a guideline, that is my briefest of brief philosophies. And 3) respect, as the students overwhelmingly deserve that unless they show they don't.”

Sara Ferguson: I just did a ‘culture show and tell’ in my Zoom session. Students showed me/the class something in their immediate environment that represents their culture. Since the theme for the unit is ‘The contributions of Immigrants’ and my students are from China, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Ukraine, this was a very warm and welcoming way to start the week. students are practicing Intermediate ESL, so they were motivated to describe their cultural artifact.

Nice idea, Sara! I will borrow in my 12:30 class! -June

Discussion Board topic: Please post how your family's ethnicity or family history ties into the topic of Biology. Try and think beyond genetics if you can--see my example below for what you could consider. Click on the reply button here at the topic of the conversation to post your information, and if you want to comment on another's post, click on the reply link directly below their post. Please be respectful and encouraging of others' posts. Thank you! **THEY HAVE GIVEN VERY HEARTWARMING STORIES AND REPLIES TO OTHERS' POSTS** (I talk about the Curandero tradition in my Latin culture and family) Michele Perchez

Wish my classes were not just computers. Biology goes right into backgrounds! **????**
Not sure what you mean? They are tuning out?

Send a welcome email

Sosha Thomas - I use a padlet and share about myself with pictures and encourage the class to do the same. IT looks awesome

Love that idea, Shosha! (Sara F)

ALways give students a three day grace period to submit work, no questions asked. No explanations needed .

Apologize if you make a mistake and thank students for being there and for learning. Make sure the confetti reward is turned on in Canvas for turning in assignments. It is fun. **~How do you turn on the confetti reward—I assumed it was default!** ~It is for Grossmont apparently (you can check by turning in an assignment in Student View). Students can turn it off if they don't like it in Settings—Disable celebration animations.

Steve Davis

1st Day I break class into groups of 4-5. A little icebreaker for them to know each other. Day 2 is much noisier when I walk in compared to the morgue-like silence of 1st day.

LOL

Liz Barrow - The CVT Program is rigorous and time consuming and so I share my story with my incoming cohorts about how I was working while I was in the program myself as well as had two small children. When I completed the program my husband congratulated me and then told me he wanted a divorce! My message to my students is to remember to keep life balance while they are in the program - have date nights with their significant other - take time with their kids.

Liz! THank you for sharing that story, THat is very humanizing, for sure. Awesome.

Evan Wirig - offers extra credit if the student will make an appointment to meet with him during office hours. He asks them how he can help them be successful.

Veronica Von Borstel - Goes over terms in class that might be confusing. Feels it is important to be a cheerleader for her students. Shares about her immigrant Latina woman experience.

Sharon Sampson - Two weeks prior to class, she sends her students a welcome email with information on how to navigate Canvas and her course.

Malia Molina - Turned the first 1 1/2 weeks of the semester into an orientation to give students the opportunity to get comfortable with her class.