

Tips for Developing Online Presence

Creating a sense of presence is one way to ensure students have the guidance they need to be successful online. Each of the areas below gives you strategies for applying presence effectively in your online course.

Managing the Course

- Attend to any course setup tasks like group setup
- Reinforce due dates and assignments
- Return grades with feedback and maintain & update the gradebook
- Share strategies for how students can be successful in the course and with the material

Engaging Students

- Communicate the importance of cooperation and interaction among students
- Check in frequently to see how students are progressing toward the learning objectives
- Ensure a safe, secure, accessible learning environment by monitoring student behaviors online

Supporting Students

- Give meaningful and accurate performance feedback with strategies for improvement
- Interact with students in a professional manner that respects cultural and personal differences
- Let students know what services are available for non-academic matters
- Show students how they can be successful in your course

Bringing and Being Yourself

- Use personal examples to help students develop curiosity and context
- Relate professional experience and real-world examples to the discussions and activities
- Observe progress and personalize reinforcement to promote student educational success

Students may not readily translate classroom communication expectations to the online environment. Conveying your presence helps you and your students maintain a sense of connection.