



Ball State University

10 tips for faculty to help students achieve early academic success

Tips for Week 1

TIP 1

Find creative ways to learn students' names and start using them right away!

Use the student's name in class. This is one of the most powerful tools you have. Everyone loves to hear the sound of their own name. Take advantage of this fact.



Tip 2

Collect information about each student.

HAVE STUDENTS FILL OUT INDEX CARDS THAT INCLUDE THEIR NAMES, CONTACT INFORMATION, PERSONAL GOALS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DATA.

Tip 3



**Be Proactive. Front load
resources on canvas and in your syllabi to help
students with course content on the first day!**

Students will benefit from knowing how and where to get course-related assistance.

TIP 4

Tell students how you prefer to be addressed (Dr., Professor, etc.) so they will not feel awkward asking questions or speaking with you.





Use all features of Canvas. Canvas information will be pulled into AVISO for automated early alerts.

Tip 6

Make Course Content Meaningful

Access prior Knowledge

Techniques that require students to access prior knowledge and personal experiences help make the learning more meaningful.

Adopt a student-centered approach

When students are more involved in designing their learning experience, they end up having a better grasp of the goal of the lesson and are more attached to the learning outcomes.





Tip 7

Encourage students to engage in academically purposeful co-curricular events and activities on campus.



TIP 8

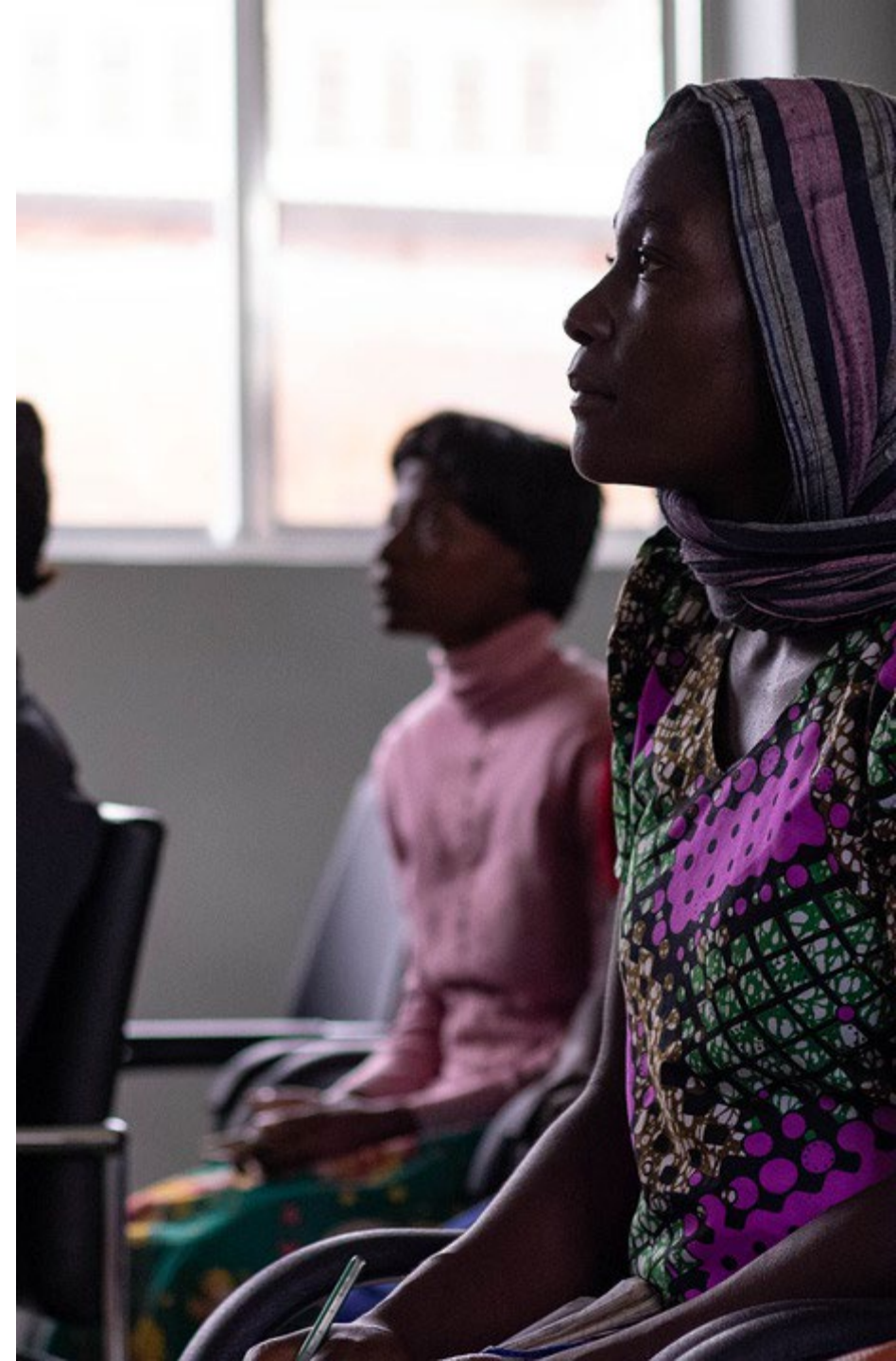
Provide opportunities for, and encourage, students to connect with and support each other.

In a recent study, students indicated that a lack of peer to peer interactions is a significant obstacle to their learning. Students are a critical and often untapped resource of support for one another. Help students connect with one another by creating study groups, assigning project work, instituting a buddy system, setting up discussion groups in canvas, and facilitating peer mentoring opportunities.

Tip 9

Incorporate opportunities for students to share their personal and family history and culture in assignments.

Help students feel valued and seen in the curriculum! Students appreciate being provided the opportunity to share their backgrounds and experiences in ways that show their perspectives and contributions are valued. Students also value seeing their culture and identities reflected in course content and materials.





Tip 10

Assign activities that keep students engaged and encourage them to think critically.

Students benefit from being engaged in their learning. One way to encourage student to think critically is to design assignments that teach them to take notes as they go through new content. One way to do this would be to create guided notes or outlines that students can fill in as they acquire information. This can then be used as a study guide later.

These tips are compiled by the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

For additional resources on how to help students get involved visit, <https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/student-life/student-organizations>

For additional resources related to your syllabi, <https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/student-life/student-organizations>

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