Strategies for Faculty to Communicate with Students

Communicate with Students: To reduce student anxiety, confusion, and misinformation, communicate with students early and often. Highlight changes to the University’s status, policies, and specific details about your course.

- Showing Students Love in the Time of Coronavirus: 5 Instructional Compassion and Equity Reminders
- Let your students know how they will hear from you (e.g., email, LMS announcements, text messages) and how often (e.g., daily, weekly) they will hear from you.
- Tell students how best to communicate with you (e.g., email, LMS inbox, text message, phone).
- Advise students of the expectations for attendance and participation under your modified teaching plan.
- Outline for students how the class will operate during the period of instructional modification.
- Direct students to appropriate campus resources for technology-related questions or problems.
- Direct students to appropriate campus resources for non-instructional needs (e.g., health and wellness, transportation).
- Encourage students to monitor official campus communication resources for updates: University of Pittsburgh Office of Public Safety & Emergency Management.
- Urge students, teaching assistants, and colleagues to practice preventative care: Wash/disinfect hands frequently. Avoid touching face, mouth, nose, or eyes. Disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, and school.