Instructor – Student Interactions
Why Important?

Frequent communication initiated by and feedback from instructor is critical in creating student sense of a virtual ‘classroom’.

Successful achievement means students feel more closely connected to and engaged with class and College.
Required

1.) Accreditors: The need for regular and effective contact as a requirement for DE courses is specified in ACCJC “Guide for Evaluating DE Courses”

2.) HCC Certification/Recertification Requirements:

- Describe the activities/assignments you use in your course that promotes meaningful interactions between students and yourself, either synchronously or asynchronously.

- How do you communicate with your students? How do you communicate information (like changes in schedule, upcoming due dates etc.) to the entire class? What do you do to temper your students’ expectations regarding how often or how quickly you will respond to their communications?
**Students feel it will help**

1. Please answer these last two questions and click the DONE button. Your responses were successfully submitted to the "thank you" screen. If you do not see the "thank you" screen, there is probably a question you forgot to respond to.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yea (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
<th>Wouldn't make a difference (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would periodic reminders from the instructor (due dates, upcoming assignments, upcoming exams, etc.) help you to succeed in your DE course?</td>
<td>90.4% (282)</td>
<td>1.3% (4)</td>
<td>8.3% (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would an online &quot;success&quot; workshop teaching you basic computer skills and how to use the various tools in Laulima help you to succeed in your DE course? (completed prior to starting your course)</td>
<td>51.9% (162)</td>
<td>14.1% (44)</td>
<td>34.0% (106)</td>
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</tbody>
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‘Studies show’

- “The benefit of providing prompt and substantive feedback to postsecondary students in general is well supported in the literature. However, for online students, timely and thorough instructor feedback is not only essential in cultivating the learning experience but in fostering connections to the institution (Brown, 2001; Mayadas, Bourne, & Moore, 2002; Shin, 2003).

- A best practice is “…all students regardless of their performance in the course are given individualized feedback and an overall impression of how they are doing at every stage of the course.”

II. Teaching Methods

A) Establish and maintain connection

- Be visible as teacher (crucial to sense of a classroom): e.g. post introduction of self, could be a video introduction
- Maintain schedule of virtual office hours/chat sessions/Skype sessions
- Be ready to use traditional means – telephone and face to face.

B) Reinforce student discipline and time management

- Provide frequent announcements, reminders etc.
C. Give Feedback!

Key they do not feel in a void.

- Provide instructor prepared e-lectures or instructor introductions/explanations even if reliant on publisher created materials
- Be active in discussion forums (but not overbearing)
- Respond to questions promptly; let them know grading turn around time (or changes)
- Provide frequent and direct feedback on homework/quizzes/tests
III. Tools to communicate

A. Laulima Announcements (asynchronous; mass communication)

B. Laulima Email Archive (asynchronous; mass communication)

C. Laulima Chat Room (synchronous; individual or small group communication)

D. Remind101 (text message tool; mass communication)

E. Google Voice - requires personal account; cannot use with UH account (text message and voice tool; individual or mass communication)