

Suggestions to Promote Student Learning During a Faculty Absence

Religious holidays, illness, or quarantine may prevent faculty from attending class. With advanced planning, it may be possible to maintain student learning during a limited faculty absence.

Faculty must [notify the School](#) of any absence.

Communicate via e-mail and Blackboard announcements to students and provide instructions regarding tasks to complete and any change to class meeting location. Create a folder in Blackboard to facilitate student access to instructions and activity materials during a faculty absence.

Maintain Class Meeting Schedule

Ask a Stockton colleague to **guest lecture** for the class(es) you are unable to attend. Although faculty participation is preferred, you may request a [library instruction session](#).

Student Learning Activities

Plan a learning activity that contributes to the learning needs associated with the course and student learning outcomes. Use Blackboard or Google Classroom if you cancel a face-to-face class session.

Sample activities for initial class sessions:

- **Syllabus Review:** Ask students to review the syllabus and complete a quiz or activity on Blackboard related to the syllabus to demonstrate mastery in reading and applying the syllabus.
- **Introductions:** In a creative way, student use the Blackboard Discussion Board tool to introduce themselves to the class and explain why they are taking the course. Another option: students interview another class member and introduce that student to the class.
- **Text reading:** Students read the introductory chapter of the textbook or an article and discuss something about the chapter/article that was interesting or meaningful (or confusing). The discussion may be posted for comment by peers in Blackboard or [Padlet](#). Another option: students create a [concept or mind map](#) showing how the concepts in the course, introductory chapter, or article relate to student career goals or lived experience.
- **Creative Assignments:** Ask students to explore their world for examples of concepts related to your course. You may request students take a photograph, write a poem, build something, or engage in another activity to share learning about the concept prompt provided.

Faculty work is evident in the planning and designing of an effective learning experience.

For additional ideas during faculty or student absence, view this resource on [alternate course delivery](#) on the Center for Teaching & Learning Design (CTLTD) webpage and explore [creative pedagogy](#) ideas.

Need ideas specific to your course? Review resources on the CTLTD [website](#) or [request an appointment](#) with a member of the CTLTD team.