10 tips on how to succeed as an online student
You want to do well in your studies and your teachers and University will help you to do this.

This document looks at what YOU can do and what your TEACHERS will do to help you learn online.
Online learning is different to learning in a physical classroom, as you can’t see your fellow classmates and teachers and you need to rely on finding them online. Your teachers will create an online environment that will help you feel at home, so that you know when they will be online, how to talk to them and how to talk with your classmates. This is called creating an online community and there has been a great deal of research into this over the last 25 years. Experience tells us that if you participate in online discussions and other activities, you are more likely to succeed.
Your teachers will:
Put up their Welcome message and their picture on the page to introduce them. They will also give you an idea of how the subject fits into your course and how you can contact them.

Why:
They will do this as it will help you to feel more settled in your studies and so that you know who your teacher is.

So what do YOU need to do?
Watch the video, read their message and participate in any discussion on the forums so that you can make connections with other classmates.
Your teachers will:
Retain up-to-date content such as your subject outline and have a plan for what you need to do to participate, pass and do each week.

Why:
This will help you to plan your time to complete readings, quizzes, activities etc before they are due.

So what do YOU need to do?
Read your outlines, participate in the forums and ask questions to clarify your learning so that you know what you need to do.
Your teachers will:

Share resources either a note or Podcasts or videos or PowerPoint file etc that explains your assessments plus any concepts that may be difficult to understand.

Why:

This will help you to better understand the subject and learn more deeply.

So what do YOU need to do?

Check out the Marking Guide so that you know what to do in your assessments.
Your teachers will:
Set up live Collaborative learning opportunities, so that you can ask them any questions about your assignments and discuss content.

Why:
This will enable you to talk with your teacher and classmates.

So what do YOU need to do?
Join when invited, participate (through chat or voice or both) and watch the recording again when available so you can understand all parts of your assessments and connect with others.
Your teachers will:
Set up both Open forums (for any general comments) assessment forums (for each assessment item) and your weekly subject forums (to discuss your materials).

Sometimes you may be asked to ‘start’ a forum or ‘wrap’ it up. This is a way that you can contribute to your own learning and the learning of others, as it has been proven that the best way to learn is to ‘do’ it.

Why:
These forums will help you to find out what is happening, share your learning and know what you need to do to succeed.

So what do YOU need to do?
Try to do more of the 90% when you can! This will help you to master all the skills needed to become a graduate in your field.

The Learning Pyramid
How we tend to comprehend...

#5

10% of what we read
Reading

20% of what we hear
Hearing words

30% of what we see
Looking at pictures
Watching a movie
Looking at an exhibit

50% of what we hear and see
Watching a demonstration
Seeing it done on location

70% of what we say
Participating in a discussion
Giving a talk
Doing a dramatic presentation

90% of what we say and do
Simulating a real experience
DOING THE REAL THING!
Your teachers will:
Set up various threads within the Forums as other ways of connecting with you.

Why:
This will enable you to talk with your teacher as well as other students and ask questions that will help you learn.

So what do YOU need to do?
Join the conversation – please note if any are compulsory – so you can talk with your teacher and classmates. Remember students who participate on forums are 60% more likely to pass their assessments.
Your teachers will:
Add a Wiki (a document you can write together with your classmates) or a Padlet etc.

Why:
You will be able to add your own comments and edit those of others.

So what do YOU need to do?
Use the tools provided to work and collaborate with your teacher and classmates.
Your teachers will:
Add any relevant Videos and other items to enhance the quality of your learning material.

Why:
These will provide you with a good visual reinforcement of what has been covered in the text of material.

So what do YOU need to do?
View them and integrate your thoughts about them into your learning.
Your teachers will:
Check how you are going and contact you if they notice you have not logged on for a while.

Why:
Your teachers want you to succeed and will offer assistance and support for you.

So what do YOU need to do?
Respond to any requests from your teachers.
Your teachers will:
Give you feedback on your assignments within 7 - 14 calendar days from submission by you depending on type and time during the trimester.

Why:
We know that assessment drives learning, and that you are keen to receive the results of your work as quickly as possible. By keeping to these time frames, this could help you to build your next assignment on top of the initial ones.

So what do YOU need to do?
Take onboard the feedback and incorporate it into your next assignment.