Assessment: Engagement in Learning
DSU Quality Enhancement Plan

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) has as its core concept increasing engagement in learning ... based on engagement as a means of fostering excellence in teaching and learning.

QEP Vision Statements:

(1) Delta State University will encourage, increase and improve student-student and student-faculty interaction by creating an environment of creative and interdisciplinary thinking.

(2) Delta State University will encourage feedback processes that will foster meaningful and productive communication and interaction that will ultimately result in improved instruction and optimal student learning. Progress may be measured by improvement in approachability, accessibility (time, place and technology) and accountability (flexibility to make changes based on assessment results).
Student Engagement at DSU

The DSU QEP states four major goals to enhance student engagement:

(1) Delta State University will enhance student engagement through increased student-student interaction and faculty-student interaction.

(2) Delta State University will enhance student engagement through increased use of technology and web-based communication in classroom activities and assignments.

(3) Delta State University students will grow in the knowledge and practice of a variety of communication skills by having these skills reinforced in all courses.

(4) Student engagement in free-flowing, multi-directional communication with faculty and other students will increase. Communication related to current performance and its relationship to long-term student achievement and academic career decisions will improve through the increased use of departmental review boards.

What is Student Engagement?

Qualities of Engaged Students:

(1) Sustained involvement in learning activities
(2) Positive emotional tone

Engaged Students:

• Select tasks at the border of their competencies
• Initiate action when given the opportunity
• Exert intense effort and concentration in the implementation of learning tasks
• Show generally positive emotions during ongoing action including enthusiasm, optimism, curiosity, and interest
Disaffection: Lack of Engagement

Qualities of Disaffected Students:

(1) Passive
(2) Do Not Try Hard
(3) Give Up Easily When Challenged

Disaffected Students:

- Are bored, depressed, or anxious
- Are withdrawn from learning opportunities
- May be angry about their presence in the classroom
- May be rebellious towards teachers and classmates

Responsibility: The Road to Engagement

Whose is responsible for YOUR learning in college?
Responsibility for Learning

Teacher

Student

Primary School

Secondary School

College

Graduate School

SSC 101: ENGAGING THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Who is Responsible?

YOU!!!
Learner Centered Education

“To teach is not to *transfer knowledge*, but to create the possibilities for the production or construction of knowledge.”

—Paulo Freire