

Section Innovation Plan Spring 2017

Action Plan Report by Response

Biology

Date: 10/12/2017

Status: Not Started

Status Summary:

Summary

Term	Total Actions	Completed Actions	Incomplete Actions	Resource Requests
Spring 2017	18	15	3	6

Detail by Response

Section Level Responses					
Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1500 >> Section 40 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	<p>Some of them struggled with the amount of work required to advance from the basic course requirements to the higher-level concepts and critical thinking. Most of them put in the time and effort to build that knowledge while others never tried hard enough to move past the basic level.</p> <p>I am using a greater variety of techniques to engage them and having more real-world examples so they are more interested to dive deeper into the material.</p> <p>I include more time on how to do critical thinking and why it is so important to their future.</p> <p>I got a tutor hired through Supplemental Instruction but very few of the students used the tutor even though I announced his availability many times during the course and brought him in for an introduction.</p> <p>I had my lectures recorded by Dan Hall, but was not able to implement them while the course was running.</p> <p>I have decided to add Supplemental Instruction for the fall of 2017.</p>	2017-08-16	Name: Video Editor Detail: \$3,197 I have had my in-person biology lectures recorded and want to link them onto my online webpage. I need help looking through all these videos and organizing them. I applied, but did not receive a Taft College Foundation Grant. Status: Pending
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1500 >> Section 41 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	Most students do well in the online setting. I think a few would benefit from watching a recorded video of the lecture.	2017-08-17	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1500 >> Section 42 - Spring 2017					

Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	I believe students are below expectations because they are not experienced at researching reliable scientific resources and presenting scientific information with quality/college level writing. Many of the presentations submitted that were below expectations included information that was not valid, was based upon unreliable resources, and/or was not properly cited using MLA formatting. All of the topics that students typically choose have been covered throughout the course of the semester. However, because this is an online course, there learning is completely self-driven. I have been collaborating with Professor Lytle and were are hoping to have a set of video lectures available to future online students so that they may have an alternative method of learning the content presented in this online course. At some point, I would like to have a tutorial available for students that struggle with research and properly crediting resources when writing scientific papers. This will require collaboration between myself and perhaps the librarian or an English professor. Due to the fact that I teach almost double load each semester, it has been a struggle to plan and produce such a tutorial. I would be very open to recording lectures and making them available with closed captioning but there is not time to do so during the normal school year. If I were awarded professional development hours with compensation, I would be glad to do so during the summer months.	2017-05-17	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1510 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	The students completed a lab based on the same material, and were also given a take home worksheet to complete. There is no correlation between score on the exam questions and score on the worksheet/lab. My guess is that students are simply copying from each other on the worksheet and have no idea how to work through the material on their own. I would recommend additional problems they need to work through. They could also test each other by creating their own DNA strand and defining the processes to get the gene product. We could also give each student a completely different gene and have them correct each other.	2017-08-15	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1510 >> Section 21 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	Language barrier	2017-08-17	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1510 >> Section 22 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection		No Action Taken		
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1510 >> Section 23 - Spring 2017					

Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	Students cannot visualize what is happening as the DNA is replicated. I have purchased DNA model kits to see if it will help.	2017-05-23	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1510 >> Section 24 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	<p>Some of them struggled with the amount of work required to advance from the basic course requirements to the higher-level concepts and critical thinking. Most of them put in the time and effort to build that knowledge while others never tried hard enough to move past the basic level.</p> <p>I am using a greater variety of techniques to engage them and having more real-world examples so they are more interested to dive deeper into the material.</p> <p>I include more time on how to do critical thinking and why it is so important to their future.</p> <p>I got a tutor hired through Supplemental Instruction but very few of the students used the tutor even though I announced his availability many times during the course and brought him in for an introduction.</p> <p>I had my lectures recorded by Dan Hall, but was not able to implement them while the course was running.</p> <p>For the fall I have gotten a Supplemental Instructor. I hope this will help my students. Always trying new things.</p>	2017-08-16	Name: Video editor Detail: \$3,197 I have had my in-person biology lectures recorded and want to link them onto the webpage for this course or at least have them available when students miss class. I need help looking through all these videos and organizing them. I applied, but did not receive a Taft College Foundation Grant. Status: Pending
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL1513 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	<p>Some of them struggled with the amount of work required to advance from the basic course requirements to the higher-level concepts and critical thinking. Most of them put in the time and effort to build that knowledge while others never tried hard enough to move past the basic level.</p> <p>I am using a greater variety of techniques to engage them and having more real-world examples so they are more interested to dive deeper into the material.</p> <p>I include more time on how to do critical thinking and why it is so important to their future.</p> <p>I got a tutor hired through Supplemental Instruction but very few of the students used the tutor even though I announced his availability many times during the course and brought him in for an introduction.</p>	2017-08-16	Name: Tutor Detail: I'm not sure, but I would also like to explore online tutoring either through a platform generated and ran by Taft College or an alternate platform that is specific to life science. I am assuming that this would be explored by the Distance Learning department. Status: Pending
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2203 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017					

Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	<p>Students that were below expectations did not properly research the plant variety that they selected to grow from seed. Some students were unsuccessful at germination while others were unsuccessful at maintaining the life of the plant following successful germination. In the future, I plan on designing a lab that will guide students through the process of researching the specific germination and growth requirements of plant they choose for their project. I will also require that the information gathered be submitted in written form prior to the student attempting to germinate their plant seed. I will also require that the students maintain their plants in the greenhouse throughout the semester, with the exception of the week of spring break. Students will be required to maintain a journal that includes frequency and volume of water provided to their plant, plant food, and plant growth information.</p> <p>The additional resources that I will need are continued use of the greenhouse and growth chambers, support from the library, growth boxes, and notebooks.</p>	2017-05-17	<p>Name: Plant Growth Boxes Detail: \$1000.00 Status: Pending</p> <p>Name: Greenhouse Redesign Detail: I need assistance restructuring the greenhouse so support more plants with water lines. Status: Pending</p>
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2250 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	<p>Students that were below expectations struggled throughout the semester, not just on this particular assignment. These students did not put forth the adequate effort required to learn the expected anatomical structures presented in class. They did not attend a single open tutoring session. Tutoring is available to all students on most Fridays throughout the semester from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Perhaps Friday's are not convenient for students. It would be highly beneficial if we had multiple tutoring hours available to students throughout the week.</p> <p>Below expectation scores may also be attributed to the accessibility of models in class. To promote growth and achievement of our anatomy students, it is imperative that we have enough models for students to review and study. We currently have enough models to fully support 12 students. The anatomy instructors have approximately 6 models of each type which allows two students to make observation and study at the same time. Our class holds 24 students, which means that 4 students are having to share each model. Anatomy models are very expensive and consume budgets. The anatomy faculty is unable to purchase a large number of models at one time.</p>	2017-05-17	<p>Name: Anatomy Tutor Detail: We need a qualified Anatomy tutor that can provide services on multiple days throughout the week. Status: Pending</p> <p>Name: Anatomy Models Detail: Anatomy models are very expensive. Most cost anywhere between \$500-8,000.00. Status: Pending</p>
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2250 >> Section 21 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	This can be regarded as the minimum competency exam. Students know exactly what is on the exam and what is expected of them. If they put the time in and study, they do well. It's that simple. Professor Wendy Berry and I are contemplating discarding this assessment and replacing it.	2017-08-15	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2257 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017					

Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
<p>I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.</p>	<p>Reflection</p>	<p>Anonymous</p>	<p>Students do well in the second exam. They are used to the format and the material even though difficult (for some students) is not as challenging as the material on the third exam. I have purchased some DNA models and will utilize them in lecture and lab sessions.</p>	<p>2017-08-15</p>	
<p>SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2257 >> Section 21 - Spring 2017</p>					
<p>I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.</p>	<p>Reflection</p>	<p>Anonymous</p>	<p>Students that were below expectations did not study adequately prior to the Exam Review or did not seek out clarification/assistance when content was not fully understood. Information delivered in a physiology requires a lot of study time to learn the content and dedication to working diligently on assignments/labs both inside class and outside of class. For the most part, students in Physiology work well in a collaborative setting. When students are able to ask for assistance/clarification from a peer or from myself, the probability of learning increases. The problem is that students are only putting out the effort to collaborate with students during lab when it is mandatory. Most students do not seek extra help outside of class from peers and there are no tutors available. I have very few students that take advantage of my office hours for additional assistance. I am not sure that students would even take advantage of meeting with a tutor. However, if a student had a choice between meeting with me outside of class or meeting with a tutor for extra help, I believe that a student would more likely choose a tutor. I do not know if this would necessarily be the case but for now that is what I choose to believe since my office hours are pretty quiet. The problem is that we do not have any qualified tutors for physiology. So, there is no alternative for a struggling student.</p> <p>I would also like to explore implementation of new laboratory software. I need time and assistance in learning how to utilize Vernier for physiology labs. I am not familiar with the use of Vernier but I am aware of the capabilities and application in physiology. The PowerLab software and hardware has run its course and needs to be replaced with something more user-friendly and relevant to the allied health fields that students may be pursuing in the future. I would like to get some instrumentation that reflects the equipment used in a clinical setting so that students have some familiarity when the time come stop use clinical equipment. As of right now, I do not have the money in my budget to purchase some of the equipment that I would like to get. I also do not have time in my schedule to receive training on the use of Vernier or any of the other equipment that I would like to use in the future.</p>	<p>2017-08-25</p>	<p>Name: Physiology Tutor Detail: Taft College does not have any qualified Anatomy or Physiology Tutors. Status: Pending</p> <p>Name: Vernier Workshop/Conference Detail: The workshops range between \$163-\$328 depending on the package. Most of the workshops offered are out of state so there would be an added expense for travel. Status: Pending</p> <p>Name: Updated Clinical Laboratory Equipment Detail: To purchase laboratory equipment that is used in the clinical setting is very costly. Such equipment will range between a few thousand dollars to tens of thousands of dollars. I would like to start by purchasing a piece of equipment that measures vital signs. For one device the cost is approximately \$1000.00. That is for a lower end model. Status: Pending</p>
<p>SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2260 >> Section 20 - Spring 2017</p>					

Expected Action	Action Type	Respondent	Action Taken	Date	Resource Request
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	I changed the questions this semester to different diseases. Part of this is because I suspected that students may have been talking to each other about what the questions were. The scores seemed a little lower than in the past, and some of the students did have very good answers - but they were for the older questions. My guess is that some of the lower scores are from students going off of answers from past exams. I will be more diligent in letting them know beforehand that the exam questions will not be the same as in the past and use this experience as an example of why they should study all of the material.	2017-08-15	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2260 >> Section 21 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection	Anonymous	I changed the questions this semester to different diseases. Part of this is because I suspected that students may have been talking to each other about what the questions were. The scores seemed a little lower than in the past, and some of the students did have very good answers - but they were for the older questions. My guess is that some of the lower scores are from students going off of answers from past exams and also talking to students in the morning section. I will be more diligent in letting them know beforehand that the exam questions will not be the same as in the past and use this experience as an example of why they should study all of the material.	2017-08-15	
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2370 >> Section 40 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection		No Action Taken		
SCI >> Biology >> BIOL2370 >> Section 41 - Spring 2017					
I wonder what might be the reasons students are below expectations, and what if I made these changes to improve the outcomes? Please only consider the changes you have control over. Are additional resources needed? If so, please describe using the Resource Request link.	Reflection		No Action Taken		