



Tracy Daly

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CHALLENGE

Due to COVID-19, Tracy Daly's students were forced to transition to an entirely online classroom. As a result, students were uncomfortable with an online course structure, didn't have internet access or the proper technology to work online, and struggled to stay engaged.

SOLUTION

MINDTAP

RESULT

With help from *MindTap*, Daly's student attendance rate is higher than ever thanks to the simple user interface and learning modules. As for Daly, *MindTap* made it easy for her to plan classes and grade student assignments.

Though COVID-19 Disrupts Course Mid-Semester, Instructor is Pleasantly Surprised by Valuable MindTap Tools Dramatically Increased Student Attendance Rate

What has been your biggest challenge during the semester impacted by COVID-19?

The biggest challenge was the transition to an entirely online course. Many students were unfamiliar with *MindTap*, did not have access to the internet at home, were uncomfortable with online courses, or simply prefer the in-person format. I have also struggled with student engagement. Though I have many students attending the Zoom courses each week, getting them to participate is a challenge. Some students have had a shift in life priorities, either taking on extra work or homeschooling their own children, siblings, etc. Having the time and availability for class meetings, homework, and assignments has taken a backseat to other priorities (rightly so).

How has MindTap helped you solve this challenge?

For my two, largely presentation-based courses, figuring out a way to continue with the presentation format has been challenging. I have found many tools both within *MindTap* and using outside resources for them to be creative that have worked well.

What surprised you most about your students' experience this semester?

I was surprised by my students' continued interest in coming back each week. I expected to have low attendance, but I have had approximately 93% attendance rate each class, for both the University and Community College courses. I don't even have that high of an in-person attendance rate, so that was a welcomed surprise. I'm also very pleased with the transition and ease-of-use of the *MindTap* modules. My students picked up where we left off and started using *MindTap* as if they were veteran users.

What have you enjoyed most about MindTap?

The ease-of-use, multitude of learning tools, time saving capabilities, student tracking and Gradebook benefits, and variety of teaching tools.

What does the future hold for you?

I plan to keep using many of the tools *MindTap* has to offer. *MindTap* has helped greatly in my planning, has been easy to use for my students, and they are rockstars with getting the work completed in a timely manner! I believe more instructors will see the many benefits of online instruction that they were originally afraid of. I also feel many institutions will move more of their existing in-person courses online.



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— Tracy Daly