

Distance Education

Course Integration and Engagement Ideas

Below are ideas for instructors to integrate SmarterMeasure as part of their course culture and engage students on the content. If you have questions about these ideas or would like assistance, please contact Distance Education at online@apsu.edu.

Note for APSU 1000 instructors: these ideas are in addition to the SmarterMeasure content that is already in APSU 1000 (SmarterMeasure assessment and discussion). As you review this list, consider also how you can capitalize on your peer mentor's time and abilities.

Integration

- SmarterMeasure is an ideal tool to reference throughout the semester. How can you incorporate the students' readiness report or SmarterMeasure scales into the course activities you have already planned?
- At midterms, have students review their course grades so far. How are they doing? Are there resources in their readiness report that can help them improve before finals?
- Do you use group work in any of your assignments or class activities? If so and you assign the groups, consider using the student results in the Instructor Dashboard to assist you with designing the groups. For example, Learning Styles can be used to group students either together or in a blended way.
- When preparing for the end of the term, remind students to save a copy of their readiness report so that they can reference it after they no longer have access to the course.

Extra Credit Opportunities

If you typically provide students with extra credit opportunities or are interested in beginning this, consider offering students extra credit for:

- Writing a short paper in which they reflect on their readiness report. The purpose is for students to read their readiness report in detail and reflect on their results. A paper assignment also provides an instructor with a sample of the student's writing abilities.
 - Suggested Prompt - After completing the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator, then take time to read and reflect on your score report. Next, compose a written response reflecting on your scores and how you can utilize this information to be more successful as a student. In your response discuss one area that was listed as a strength for you and two areas that were opportunities for improvement. After exploring the Resources for Support found at the bottom of each page of the report, describe 1-2 of the resources you reviewed. Based on what you have learned about your habits, traits, and skills coupled with the resources for support, define a strategy that you can use in your courses to be more successful.
- Developing an action plan. Through their action plans, students can describe how they would like to improve themselves. One component of the plan could be an analysis of their strengths and opportunities for improvement as identified in their readiness report. Another component could be to identify actionable steps to meet their personal and professional development goals. An advantage of this strategy is that the students connect to actionable strategies for improvement.

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Engagement

- Use the Instructor Dashboard to email students. You can email individuals or groups of students. For example, you may choose to email students based on their results. This could include sending targeted emails to students that did not complete the entire assessment prodding them to complete it, congratulations to students that scored well overall, or encouraging students that performed poorly to use resources or meet with you.
 - Reach out to students that struggled in two or more areas and meet with them personally or refer them to campus resources.
- If you would like to discuss students' SmarterMeasure results with them but are not sure where to begin, use this [SmarterMeasure Sub-Scale Advising Script](#) or the [Instructor-Student SmarterMeasure review form](#) as a starting place.
- Lead a group discussion or consider adding a discussion to your course in D2L. Select from this list of [Suggested SmarterMeasure Discussion Topics](#) or create your own topic.
 - The SmarterMeasure readiness report refers students to resources available anytime on the internet. Consider having a class discussion or making an announcement to remind students about APSU or local resources that are also available to them.
 - Utilize the Instructor Dashboard to identify the top three areas that your students struggled in the most and then discuss these in class. The discussion could include the three areas and why they are important to learning, resources available online and on-campus, and strategies for improvement.
- Consider sharing students' readiness ranges from the Instructor Dashboard with their individual academic advisor. This information could be very helpful to advisors in having meaningful discussions with their advisees. Make sure you also share with them a link to [Distance Education's SmarterMeasure website](#) and refer them to Distance Education with any questions.