Extra Credit: An Undeserved Gift or a Second Chance to Learn?

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Presented by:
Maryellen Weimer, Ph.D.

Maryellen Weimer, Ph.D., has edited The Teaching Professor newsletter since 1987 and writes the Teaching Professor blog at www.teachingprofessor.com. She is a professor emerita of Teaching and Learning at Penn State Berks and won Penn State’s Milton S. Eisenhower award for distinguished teaching in 2005. Dr. Weimer has consulted with more than 300 colleges and universities on instructional issues and regularly keynotes national meetings and regional conferences. She has published many books, including: Inspired College Teaching: A Career-Long Resource for Professional Growth (Jossey-Bass, 2010), Enhancing Scholarly Work on Teaching and Learning: Professional Literature that Makes a Difference (Jossey-Bass, 2006), Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice (Jossey-Bass, 2002).

Need tech help?
Please visit: www.magnapubs.com/about/customer_service.html#Web_Seminars or call Customer Service at (800) 433-0499 ext. 2

© 2011 Magna Publications Inc.

The information contained in this online seminar is for professional development purposes but does not substitute for legal advice. Specific legal advice should be discussed with a professional attorney.

To make this program available to all your faculty and staff, contact Magna’s Customer Service department at 1-800-433-0499 ext. 2 and ask about our Campus Access License.
Thank you for participating in today’s program.

Additional information about Magna is available at www.magnapubs.com.

Magna Corporate Overview

Magna has been a valued knowledge and information resource within the higher education community for more than 30 years.

In addition, we produce student leadership and faculty development conferences, numerous online seminars, and online courses.

Join our nearly 50,000 subscribers, and sign up for the free e-newsletter.

We publish five national newsletters:

- The Teaching Professor
- Academic Leader
- Recruitment & Retention in Higher Education
- Distance Education Report
- Online Classroom

Start your FREE subscription to Faculty Focus today and get complete access to all of our articles, plus our growing library of special reports on such topics as:

- If you’re interested in staying current on what works and what doesn’t, Promoting academic integrity
- Teaching large classes
- Assignments
- Designing effective writing
- Building student engagement
- Learner-Centered Technology: Aligning learning environment – both face-to-face and online
- Managing student retention
- Tools with Learning Goals
- Managing Student Discipline Issues Legally

Please visit www.magnapubs.com for a complete list of Magna Online Seminars.

Magna Focus is an online resource dedicated to effective teaching strategies for creating a better learning environment. Be Reading Faculty Focus.

Join us in the future for our other informative online seminars:

- November 1, 2011: Five Strategies to Engage Today’s Students
- November 15, 2011: Learner-Centered Technology: Aligning Tools with Learning Goals
- December 6, 2011: Managing Student Discipline Issues Legally and Effectively
Extra Credit: An Undeserved Gift or a Second Chance to Learn?

October 25, 2011
Online Seminar CD

Save 50% when you order this online seminar on CD before the expiration date below. This is a professional recording of the complete online seminar and is an excellent opportunity to:
• Catch something you may have missed
• Use as a staff training resource
• Listen to or read as many times as you wish
• Share with your colleagues
• Review whenever and it’s convenient

Special attendee prices:

☐ CD/Transcript: $49 $25
☐ CD/Transcript with Campus Access License: $249 $225

A Campus Access License allows the purchasing institution to load this seminar onto the institution’s password-protected internal web site for unlimited, convenient, on-demand access to members of the campus community.

Order Today!

© 2010 Magna Publications
Magna Publications, Inc.
2718 Dryden Drive
Madison, WI 53704

CD Includes Seminar, Handouts and Transcript

To purchase a Campus Access License
contact customer service at 1-800-433-0499

All rights reserved. It is unlawful to duplicate, transfer, or transmit this program in any manner without written consent from Magna Publications.

Bonus Material
CD now includes:
• Transcript of online seminar
• Facilitator’s Discussion Guide
• Supplemental Materials
• PowerPoint Handouts
• Event Description

This CD contains a recording of an Online Seminar and can be viewed on any computer equipped with Adobe Flash.

ORDER FORM
Please note: CD ships one week following the online seminar.

Name:
Title/Department:
Institution:
Street Address:
City: State: Zip:
Business Phone Number: Fax:
E-mail Address:

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ Bill Me
☐ Mastercard (16 digits) ☐ VISA (13-16 digits)
☐ American Express (15 digits) ☐ Discover (16 digits)
Credit Card #:
Card Expires:
Total Payment: $
Signature:

Mail to:
Magna Publications, Inc.
2718 Dryden Drive
Madison, WI 53704
or
Fax to:
608-246-3597

Offer Expires
December 25, 2011

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE: If you are not completely satisfied with your online seminar CD you may return it for a full refund. Campus Access License sales are final and non-refundable.
All requests must be received within 30 days after date of purchase.
Extra Credit:
An Undeserved Gift
Or a Second Chance to Learn?

October 25, 2011
Today we’ll cover:

• Research on extra credit
• Reasons faculty do and do not provide extra credit opportunities
• Interesting and innovative extra credit assignments

Research Summary

• Between 12 and 22% of courses provide some kind of extra credit opportunity
• 21% of the faculty in this sample said extra credit should never be offered
• 3% of students in this sample said extra credit should never be offered
  - Norcross, J.C., Horrocks, LG and Stevenson, J.F.
Another study:

39 extra credit opportunities rated by a cohort of psychology faculty
- Highest rated in terms of use: participating in a research study
- Highest rated in terms of educational value: completing an original study

- Highest rated item in terms of the likelihood that all students would be able to complete it: answering study questions at the end of the textbook chapter
  -- Hill IV, G.W. Palladino, J.J. and Eison, J.A.

If you do not offer extra credit . . .

Please tell us why in the chat box below.
• It reinforces students' beliefs that they don't have to work hard because whatever they miss they can make up with extra credit

Reasons NOT to offer it

• Students who ask for extra credit tend to be those who aren't working very hard or those who hope they won't have to work hard

Reasons NOT to offer it

• Time spent on extra credit means less time spent on regular assignments
Reasons NOT to offer it

• Extra credit (especially if it’s easy) lowers academic standards.

Reasons NOT to offer it

• It’s inherently unfair to students who work hard and get it done right the first time.

Reasons NOT to offer it

• It means more work for already busy teachers.
If you do offer it . . .

Please tell us why in the chat box below

---

Reasons to offer it

• It reduces student anxiety and builds confidence

---

Reasons to offer it

• If learning is the goal and students haven’t learned important content, extra credit offers a second chance to master the material.
Reasons to offer it

• Not all students get it the first time

Reasons to offer it

• Students are motivated to do it.

Interesting & Innovative

Here is some “wisdom from the crowd”
Questions? Comments?

Contact information:
Maryellen Weimer
grg@psu.edu

We’d like to know what you think!

Our online evaluation form is located here:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/102511