**WP Online:**

**May 2023 sessions on pedagogy, student engagement, and assessment**

*Notes, take-aways, and recommended next steps*

* **Departmental support for faculty moving into teaching accelerated online courses**:
	+ Identify a departmental peer mentor with strong success teaching in WP Online courses for support and questions as new faculty take on these teaching responsibilities (connect with Liz Brown in CTE—BrownE28@wpunj.edu)
	+ Create a “to-do” checklist for course shell updating, including tips and tricks (model from Nursing program attached)
	+ If multiple sections of one course are offered regularly in WP Online, consider designating a faculty lead for the course who can share tips and organize opportunities for faculty dialogues across sections
* **Program assessment of learning outcomes across shells**
	+ Department assessment member and chairs can request access to master shells for assessment and updates
	+ Academic Partnerships will work with programs by request on mapping of program learning outcomes across shells to avoid repetition
	+ Consideration of acceleration is key in assessing goals of the workload and keeping it reasonable for both faculty and students to achieve in 7 weeks
* **Recommendations for WP Online faculty and program leads**:
	+ Engage with Navigate early—creating alerts at end of course is too late to connect students with options for support
	+ Formalize routine adjustment of degree requirements into program changes (i.e. if regularly supporting a course substitution request, consider adding it as an alternative to meet requirement for the program)
	+ To support live learning and student-to-student connections:
		- Provide inclusive but not mandatory virtual synchronous sessions (record for those unable to join)
		- If creating group project, offer to join synchronous sessions they might be holding to provide feedback
		- Invite faculty peers to engage material with students (effective, too, for multi-section courses)
		- Use Qualtrics surveys to focus sessions on student needs and to receive follow-up feedback (this can also help to track student engagement)—contact Tony Krucinski for assistance (krucinskit@wpunj.edu)
* **Financial Aid considerations for online students:**
	+ Financial support for book/material purchase is only available through campus bookstore, not other third-party providers
	+ Enrollment verification of attendance is mandatory before aid can be dispersed. Faculty need to build activities into the first module that indicate student attendance and plan to verify this attendance within first week.
	+ Fulltime status for aid is determined within two parts of term (Fall 1 and Fall 2, for example):
		- For UG students, fulltime is 12 credits over the two parts of term (usually 6 credits per session)
		- For Grad students, fulltime is 9 credits over the two parts of term (at least 3 credits per session)
	+ WP Online students are not eligible for institutional scholarships or donor funding through the WP Foundation.
	+ They are eligible to receive external scholarships and many employers provide tuition reimbursement.
	+ Students within UG/GR programs, such as the BSN-MSN, need to update their FAFSA to graduate status when they move into the graduate-level coursework.
	+ Financial aid questions for WP Online students should be directed to Kaca Res (resk@wpunj.edu)
* **Next steps for undergraduate programs**
	+ Establish twice yearly meetings by program with professional advisors
	+ Create range of useful short virtual faculty sessions for students (how to prepare for graduate school applications, how best to select among elective options based on goals, etc.) scheduled out across the year—1-2 by program