How to Meet RSI Criteria in Online Courses

Choose at least two substantive interactions, perform them regularly, and share your communication plan with students.

Substantive Interaction Examples

Use the *Message Students Who* gradebook tool to provide feedback that correlates with course objectives.

Facilitate an online discussion by initializing participation.

Post an audio, video or text-based Pronto message and have students respond in a similar format.

Enable comments for announcements so students can respond.

Regularly

Interact meaningfully with students on a regular and predictable basis.

Monitor students' progress regularly and support their engagement via substantive interactions.

Substantive Interaction Examples

Reach out to students who are falling behind.

Facilitate a discussion by moderating and responding to student work within the discussion and/or by providing specific feedback.

Create a rubric based on the outcomes of the course and add specific comments on the rubric when grading.

Send announcements about: course topics, key concepts that help students follow the class, and updates that respond to student questions.

SRJC Online Learning

Distance Education

DEsupport@santarosa.edu

Five Step Communication Plan

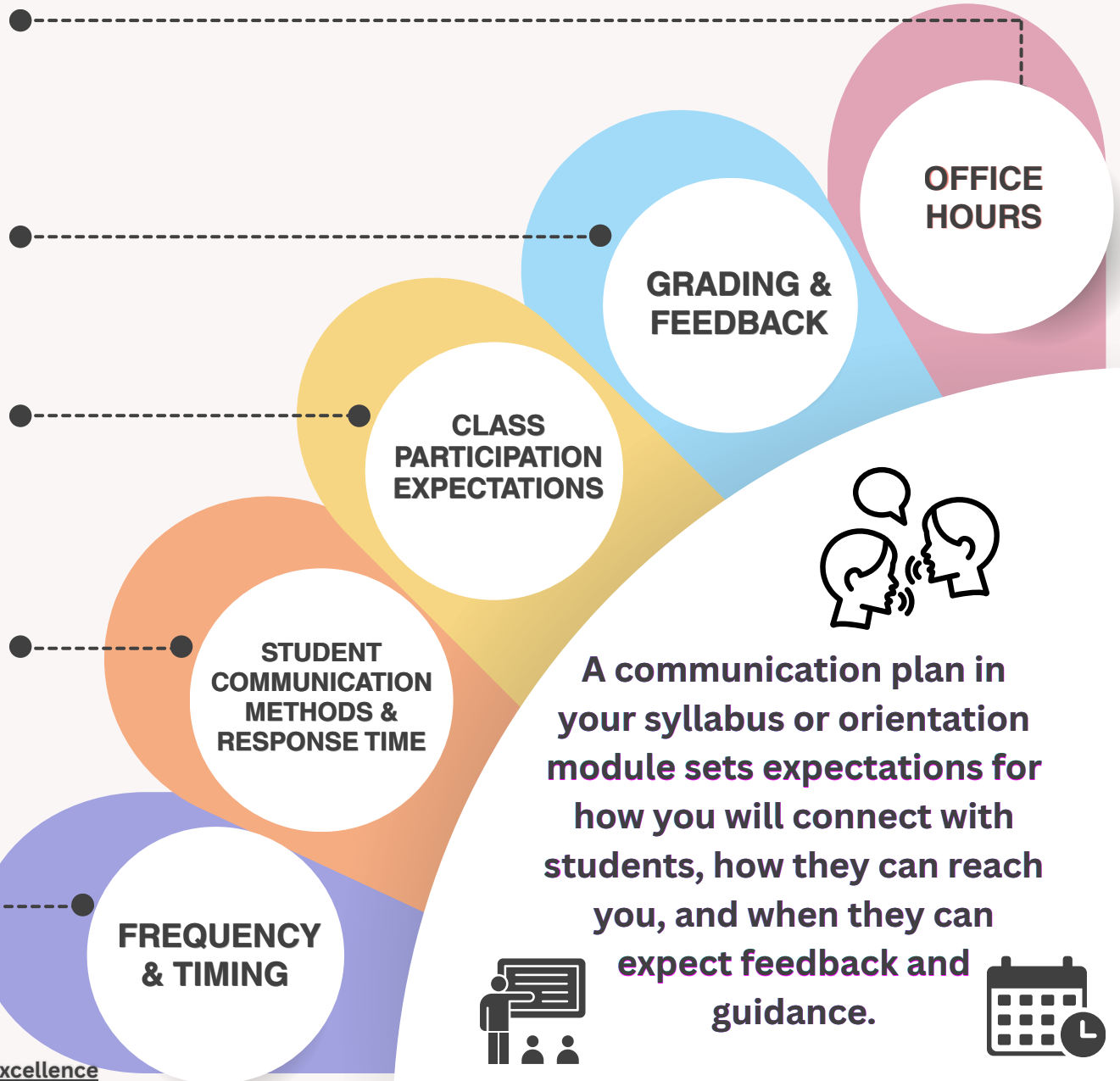
5. "I hold weekly Zoom office hours on Tuesdays from 2–3p.m. You can also schedule an appointment if those times don't work."

4. "You will receive personalized feedback on major assignments within one week."

3. "In group projects, respectful and constructive engagement is expected."

2. "I respond to messages within 24 hours on weekdays. In the rare event you do not hear back from me within 24-hours, please follow up."

1. "Every Monday morning, I will post a weekly Announcement in Canvas with an overview of what's ahead, tips for success and reminders about deadlines."



A communication plan in your syllabus or orientation module sets expectations for how you will connect with students, how they can reach you, and when they can expect feedback and guidance.

Adapted from: Cerritos College Center for Teaching Excellence