



## Sustaining the Momentum: Building on what we've learned

Title	Liquid Syllabus: Worth the effort or should we pour it down the drain?
Presentation Type	Presentation (30 minutes)
Conference Track	Pedagogically Speaking
Full Abstract	<p>A syllabus plays an important role within a course, from outlining policies to course expectations. It also serves as the first impression for students, one that has proven more important than an instructor's reputation. Granted its import, many educators have reimagined new opportunities for the syllabus. One strategy that has been employed to begin the connection with students and to provide them with the expectations prior to the start of courses is the liquid syllabus. A liquid syllabus is housed outside of the learning management system and provided at least one week prior to the start of classes. Our study explores the impact of the liquid syllabus on students' knowledge of course policies and perceptions of providing novel forms of a liquid syllabus. Furthermore, this study provided the effectiveness and satisfaction of various liquid syllabus modalities compared to courses that do not provide a liquid syllabus. A total of five faculty from three different disciplines (public health, philosophy, biology) each took part in this study, some courses had true comparison groups (different sections), while others compared to other courses the faculty member also taught. A total of 617 students participated in this study between all of the eight courses, no student was taking multiple courses at the same time. It was found that overall, students performed better on the policy knowledge questions when they were provided with the standard PDF syllabus. Yet, in some courses that used an engaging video as the liquid syllabus, the liquid video provided higher satisfaction and scores on policy-related questions than the PDF version. These results could be due to students being more familiar with the PDF version of the content versus the novel methods of delivering the liquid syllabus (video, magazine,</p>

	<p>website). This presentation will provide background information on what a liquid syllabus is, provide results from our multi-course, interdisciplinary study, and provide recommendations for faculty to use in future courses.</p>
<p><b>Brief Description</b></p>	<p>A liquid syllabus is housed outside of the learning management system and provided at least one week prior to the start of classes. This presentation will provide background information on what a liquid syllabus is, provide results from our multi-course, interdisciplinary study, and provide recommendations for faculty to use in future courses.</p>
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