In fall of 2020 CAS had...

- 29,000 GEN ED ENROLLMENTS
- 13,500 UNIQUE STUDENTS
- 4,096 NEW FRESHMAN

That represents

- 2/3 of the OSU undergraduate student body
- 99% of the freshman class

**Overcommunicate**

How to communicate

Place your contact info in the syllabus and in Canvas, email it to your students and explain how office hours work. Make your contact info the first slide to every presentation.

**First Week of Class Activity**

Have students email you, take a syllabus quiz, post an introduction, or join in a live Q&A chat session online. The options are limitless, but get students working in the class the first week so that you can proactively reach out to any students who have not participated yet and head off potential barriers to success.

**Utilize Canvas Course Calendar**

Utilize the Canvas course calendar for all assignment due dates. This includes exams. Students are encouraged to pay attention to this calendar in freshman orientation, so if the exam date is not in there they could miss it.

**Provide Tips & Resources**

Provide links to the LASSO Center, the Math Learning Resource Center, Counseling Services or the Writing Lab. Show them the direct links located in all Canvas courses. If you are teaching an online course, CAS Outreach created a video showcasing resources for our distance learners that you can upload directly into your course.

Explicitly discussing academic integrity can inspire a community of students who value honesty, trust, respect and fairness. OSU has a reputation for having a welcoming and friendly atmosphere, so let’s explain to students in our gen ed classrooms how they can do their part.

These simple strategies can impact the freshman student experience in a big way. Let’s do our part to not only retain students in our classes, but also help create members of the OSU and CAS Cowboy family. Go Pokes!