



**CENTER FOR
EXCELLENCE IN
TEACHING**



July 2019

Are You Encouraging Intrinsic Motivation in Your Students?

When students have intrinsic motives for learning — when they engage not for external reward but because they find the activity itself interesting and gratifying — they become more likely to attach meaning to their work, explore new topics, and persist in the face of learning challenges.

Learn techniques you can use in you class to promote intrinsic motivation with this [CET Resource](#).

Intrinsic Motivation in the USC Libraries

The USC Libraries' collections are filled with scholarly articles, books, and dissertations discussing intrinsic motivation within an educational context. [This broad search in the Libraries' collections](#) should pique your interest – you can adjust the search for your particular discipline or instructional context.

For more information on this and other Library services and resources, please [Ask-A-Librarian](#).

Do Your Students Procrastinate?

College students today are faced with an ever increasing number of responsibilities. Some students are motivated by these challenges and others find themselves at a loss for where and even how to begin. There are many beliefs and misconceptions about procrastination. We often hear students say things like “I work better under pressure,” “I have too much to do. I don't know

where to start,” or “I’ll do it later.” While these statements might seem valid in the moment they are often used to justify avoiding the assignment. Luckily there are strategies that can be employed to [assist students in overcoming their tendency to procrastinate](#).

The [Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity](#) is here to help students understand their own academic skills, habits and growth areas.

The Center also provides consultation for faculty on how to make the classroom more accessible and better support students with learning differences. [Email](#) to schedule a consultation with the Kortschak Center. We look forward to working with you!

Blackboard Downtime in July

On Saturday, July 13, 2019, starting at 12:30 AM Trojan Time, Blackboard will begin installing a necessary security patch which will leave Blackboard completely down for 24-36 hours. This means faculty and students will not have any access to Blackboard during this time. Please plan accordingly and if you have any questions please email blackboard@usc.edu.

Need Help Preparing your Blackboard Course for the Fall Semester?

Coming in August, the Blackboard Support group will once again be on campus for one-on-one help. Instructors will have the ability to sign up for a 50 minute slot where a Blackboard Support person will be there to help answer all of your questions. Dates, times, and locations are still being finalized and more information will be coming soon.

Teaching Ongoing or Online?

CET Instructional Designers offer complimentary, confidential consultations and formative teaching observations for all onground and online USC faculty, departments, and schools for best practices in course design and teaching. Consultations can be arranged in-person or virtually.

[Contact CET](#)

The CET Teaching Institutes Are Coming!

Enrollments will open in August.

More information will be forthcoming on the CET website, in the newsletter and on social media.

Spark Your Teaching Effectiveness When You Receive Text Messages From CET!

Text the keyword **CET** to **474747** to receive 1 text message/month with teaching tips, articles, and other helpful resources.

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