MISCONCEPTIONS
Transitions to Post-Secondary Education

Harris Teaching Workshop
2012
MISCONCEPTIONS
TRANSITIONS TO POST-SECONDARY

★ Student expectations
★ Course expectations
★ Students learning/study limitations
★ Environmental differences
STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

• Career: Moreover, a career of their choice!
  • not everyone can be a doctor, dentist, ...

• Learn amazing and intriguing topics
  • instead they are subjected to more in depth topics already mentioned in high school
COURSE EXPECTATIONS

• Students unprepared for workload
  • Preparation in high school
• Students think they already know topics
  • Underestimate knowledge requirements
• Teacher unaware of student knowledge level
  • Low stakes assessment/quiz = show student what they don’t know
  • “Concept inventory” = show teacher what student doesn’t know
  • “What do you think this course is about?”
• Jeopardy style questions
STUDENTS LEARNING/STUDY LIMITATIONS

• Out of class learning
  • read text book
  • problem sets
• Study tools
  • attend study and note-taking workshops
  • organization
• Compartmentalization
  • many topics/subjects are connected
  • revisit problem at deeper level throughout term
ENVIRONMENTAL DIFFERENCES

• Unfamiliar environment
  • conflict to learning and course expectations
  • encourage students to get to know one another
  • “cohort program”
  • encourage student to visit office
• Differences between N. America and international schooling
  • On campus international student support programs
• Language and interpretation
  • misunderstand what is being asked