

RSI – Announcement Examples

Announcements are one of the **easiest ways to connect with your students** and keep them engaged throughout the course. Beyond reminders, announcements give you the chance to share insights, clarify tricky concepts, highlight common challenges and encourage students along the way. **When used thoughtfully**, they count as Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) and meets expectations, all while **strengthening the learning community in your class**. This Quick Guide provides examples of announcements that go beyond “housekeeping” and instead offer **meaningful touchpoints that support student success**.



Of course, announcements are a great place to include important dates or deadlines for assignments and also reminders about activities happening on campus. These messages help students stay organized and feel connected to the college community. However, **announcements should also go beyond logistics**.

To count as meaningful interaction, announcements need to **connect back to the course material and support student learning**. This can mean clarifying key concepts, offering study tips, sharing relevant articles or examples, or prompting students to reflect on how the week’s content applies in real life. In other words, **effective announcements balance timely reminders with academic substance**.



Formula to remember:

Reminder + Academic Connection + Encouragement/Invitation

Quick Tips to Improve Announcements in Any Course

- Add a real world, current connection to the course (e.g., news, event or observation)
- Offer a learning tip or strategy (e.g., “While reading this chapter, pay attention to...”)
- Announce common challenges and how to avoid them
- Ask a question that elicits a reply to your announcement
- Encourage students to reflect on experiences related to the topic
- Recognize strong work you’ve seen in assignments or discussions
- Normalize challenges with current assignment (e.g., “Students often struggle with this formula... it is ok. Keep practicing”)
- Share a campus resource that connect to class (e.g., tutoring, Success Center, library)
- Suggest a review strategy before an exam
- Encourage student to attend Student Zoom Hours
- Include a link to a journal article or relevant video

Beyond Dates and Deadlines: Suggested Add-Ons for Stronger Announcements



Encouragement and Reflection / Physical Education

Hi Students,

Great job getting started with your fitness logs last week! This week, as you complete your workouts, pay attention to how your endurance changes from the beginning to the end of the session. Noticing these patterns will help you understand how your body adapts to regular activity—a key concept in exercise science.

Try writing a quick reflection in your log about one change you observed (breathing, energy level, recovery time). I'll be checking in on your reflections and giving feedback to help you set realistic goals for next week.



Common Mistake / Business / Accounting

Hello Class,

As you prepare your balance sheet assignment, a reminder: always check that $\text{Assets} = \text{Liabilities} + \text{Equity}$. A common mistake is forgetting to carry over accumulated depreciation, which can throw everything off. If your numbers aren't balancing, walk step by step through your calculations instead of starting over, you'll usually find the issue more quickly. I'll record a 10-minute walkthrough today showing how I double-check my work and post it in the module.



Upcoming Presentation / Communication Studies

Hi Everyone,

Your presentations are coming up next week, and I want to share a few tips that can strengthen both your delivery and your content. Remember that a strong presentation isn't just about sharing information—it's about helping your audience *understand* your main idea. Focus on three key points and support each with an example or piece of evidence.

When practicing, time yourself to be sure you stay within the limit, and try presenting in front of a friend, family member, or even a mirror. Pay attention to pacing and clarity. I've posted a short article in our module that offers additional strategies for engaging your audience—it's worth a quick read before you finalize your slides.

As you practice, think about this question: *What is the one idea you want your audience to remember after your presentation?* Write it down and use it as your guiding message. I'll be available during office hours this week to review outlines or slides if you'd like feedback before presenting.



Upcoming Show, Reflection / Art

Hello Folks,

Our art show is coming up next week, and I'm excited to see how your work comes together for display. As you make your final preparations, think about how presentation influences the way viewers experience your art. Framing, lighting, and even the order in which pieces are arranged can shape the story your collection tells.

This week, I encourage you to reflect on your artistic choices: *What theme or message connects your work? What do you hope viewers will notice first?* Write a short artist's statement draft to clarify your ideas. I'll give feedback if you'd like to share it before the show.

Remember, the art show is not only a chance to showcase your skills but also to practice communicating about your creative process. I'll be available during Thursday's open studio for last-minute questions and guidance.



Helpful Study Strategy / Automotive

Hi Everyone,

Your test on engine systems is coming up next week. To get ready, focus on understanding *why* each system works the way it does—not just the parts themselves. For example, think about how fuel injection differs from carburetion, and what that means for performance and troubleshooting.

A helpful strategy is to quiz yourself by explaining a process out loud as if you were teaching a new apprentice. If you can walk through the steps clearly, you'll know you've mastered it. I've also posted a short article in the module that reviews common diagnostic mistakes—give it a read to strengthen your test prep.

Bring your questions to Wednesday's lab session, and I'll go over the areas students usually find most challenging.



Reflection on Current Events / Political Science

Hello Everyone,

This week we're focusing on the principle of checks and balances in American government. A recent article I came across offers a helpful explanation of how the three branches interact during moments of political conflict. As you read it, notice how the examples move beyond theory and show real-world applications of the Constitution at work.

When reviewing the article, ask yourself: *Does this example strengthen or challenge your understanding of how effective checks and balances are today?* Make a quick note and bring your thoughts to our discussion board. I'll be responding with feedback and adding connections back to our readings.



Include an Article, Connect Back to Discussion / Spanish

Hola clase,

Great work on last week's vocabulary practice! This week we're focusing on using those words in context through short conversations. When you review, don't just memorize—try forming complete sentences. For example, instead of only practicing *comida* (food), make a sentence: *"Me gusta la comida mexicana porque es muy sabrosa."*

To prepare for our upcoming activity, practice introducing yourself and asking simple questions with a partner, friend, or even by recording yourself. Pay attention to pronunciation and fluency rather than perfection. I've posted a short article with tips for improving conversational Spanish, it's worth reading before our next class.

By Thursday, post one short dialogue (3–4 sentences) in the discussion board. I'll respond with feedback on your grammar and vocabulary use to help you get ready for our in-class roleplay.



Difficult Concepts / Chemistry

Hi Folks,

This week we're diving into stoichiometry—one of the trickiest but most important concepts in chemistry. Many students struggle at first because it requires moving between balanced equations, mole ratios, and unit conversions all at once. My advice: break the process into clear steps, and don't rush.

Try this approach:

- 1. Balance the equation first.**
- 2. Identify the given and what you're solving for.**
- 3. Set up the mole ratio from the balanced equation.**
- 4. Convert carefully using dimensional analysis.**

To help, I've added a short practice problem in the module. Post your solution attempt in the discussion board by Thursday. I'll give feedback and walk through common errors. Remember, mistakes are part of mastering this skill. We'll also review a step-by-step example in Friday's session, so bring your questions!



Available for Feedback / Dance

Hi Folks,

As you prepare your short choreography project, remember to draw on the techniques we practiced last week: balance, extension, and use of space. Before you record, rehearse in front of a mirror or a peer to check alignment and flow. I encourage you to reflect on how your piece communicates emotion—what do you want your audience to feel? I'll be available during Friday's lab time to give quick feedback if you'd like a trial run before submitting.