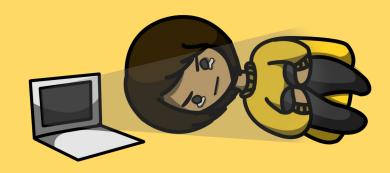
### Student Wellness

#### **Current State of Students**

- Overwhelmed by number of deliverables
- Overwhelmed by quantity of reminders from so many platforms
- Inconsistent internet & resources
- Inability to maintain a schedule
- Too many hours in front of the computer;
   no breaks; no food; no activity



#### Things instructors can do to mitigate

- Mental Health & Stress Reduction
- Scheduling
- Content and Knowledge Dissemination
- Practice Activities
- Assessment Activities
- Teaching Assistants Are Students Too

#### **Mental Health & Stress Reduction**

- Create a class playlist; play music at the start of class
- Check-ins (anonymous "how are you doing" likert surveys)
- Self assessments / Mindfulness activities
- Encourage students to get outside (take breaks)
- Encourage attendance at 10 am daily (Zoom) stand-up
- Share your own anxieties and concerns
  - let the students know that we're all in this together

These activities are also helpful for instructors





Breathe in

COLOUR THE IMAGE USING THE ANNOTATE FEATURE

# AKE UP YOUR BRAIN

#### The Muppets

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G	F	0	Z	Z	ı	E	В	E	A	R	R	L	0
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Breathe in

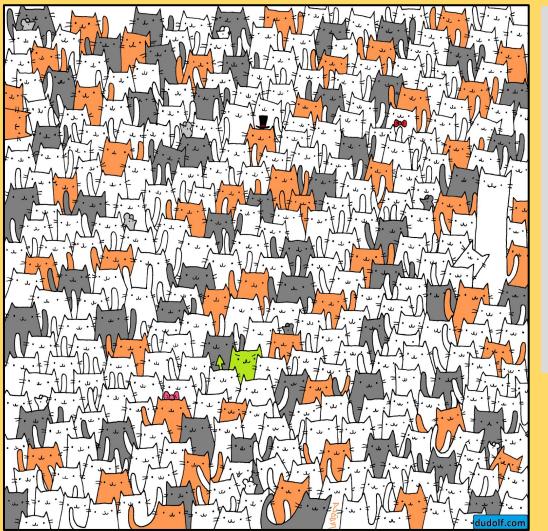
FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS

MUPPETS
JIM HENSON
KERMIT
MISS PIGGY
FOZZIE BEAR

GONZO PEPE RIZZO ROWLF

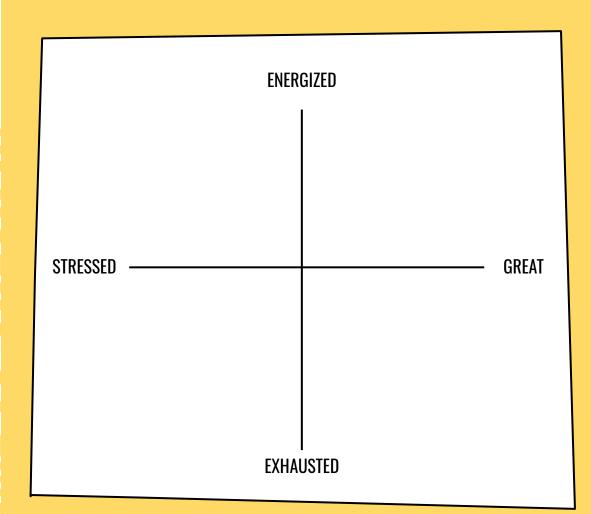
BEAKER SCOOTER CLIFFORD BOBO WALDORF STATLER WALTER

**ELMO** 



Breathe in

FIND THE BUNNY





#### **Scheduling**

- Be mindful of total time required for your class
  - Don't exceed lecture time by recording lectures but still having lectures
  - Remember to include time to watch recordings in your time calculations
- Maintain a consistent schedule
  - students have tightly scripted schedules to pack everything in
  - if we change lecture time outside the scheduled slots they have a hard time adjusting
- Have the schedule in multiple places
  - They are stressed and having trouble remembering where to look for dates and times
- Stick to what you planned (changes are overwhelming)
  - Even seemingly helpful things (breaking an assignment into 2 due dates) causes stress

#### **Content & Knowledge Dissemination**

- Recordings of lectures and labs
  - including Q/A
- Slides or lecture notes available in advance
- Keep the content to the essentials
  - o course might not be identical to other years but can still meet learning outcomes
  - o offer extra topics as bonus work or special interest lectures
- Have a TA or senior student read questions from chat during lecture
- Hold Q/A sessions live on zoom

#### **Practice Activities**

- Practice activities are things that are worth a small (or no) number of marks
- Relaxed due dates or no due date
- Activities that can be done any time in the semester
- Offer multiple attempts with no penalty
- Group submissions after breakout room discussions
- Do the practice activities together in class

#### Assessments

- Assessments are the activities that form the bulk of the final grade
- Convert to practice activities if the assessment is small
- Convert to in-class activity
- Make assessment take-home
- Offer chances to redo
- Reduce the overall number of assessments
- Offer best N out of M assessments
- Offer more time than you think they'd need (internet flakiness, family interruptions, etc)
- Make assessments shorter because everything takes longer
- Have penalty-free grace periods

#### Teaching Assistants are students too

- Lots of reminders to help them stay organized
- Set clear boundaries for expectations of communication
  - o our TAs are being bombarded with questions at all hours of the day
  - our TAs are on social media sites with students (i.e. Discord) and some are doing their TA job from there
- Have regular TA meetings

## Content is not the same as learning outcomes. Review official course learning outcomes and slash extras.