**First day of class icebreakers**

The following are some low-tech, high-impact ways to ease the first-day jitters for you *and* your students. They are great for opening conversation and building community.

**Meeting others**

Note - By doing this activity your students now have impromptu study buddies and a connection with classmates

Ask two other students whom you do not know:

* Their name
* Their email
* Their phone number
* “What is your favorite hobby?”
* “What is something few people know about you?”
* Find one thing in common with these folks that does *not* have to do with: BSU, sports, or hunting and fishing
	+ Note - Be prepared for some fun comments about how difficult this is!
	+ Note – I play along with this and try to find something in common with each student/group of students.

**Getting to know your students**

Supplies needed - Index cards

Ask your students to candidly fill out index cards with the following.

* Name
* Major
* What do you want to learn from this class?
* How do you plan to succeed?
* What is your dream job?
* What is one question that you would like to ask of me?
* Is there anything you think may prevent your success in this class?
* Is there anything about yourself that you would like me to know? Please know that this is confidential and only I will see this.

**Whatcha know about this subject?**

Note – this is a great way to immediately assess the knowledge of the class and build excitement about the subject material

Ask your students to spend 5 minutes or so chatting with their classmates and brainstorming about ***ANYTHING*** they know about the subject material. After the 5 minutes, encourage students to shout out what they came up with and put these up on the board. When conversation dies down, use this opportunity to draw connections and illustrate how their topics will (or may not) be explored during the rest of the semester.