

TRENDS AND ISSUES FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN ONLINE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS

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In direct response to the ever-expanding epidemic of mental health challenges during the college years, faculty members are often in a position to recognize these alterations in a student's behavior and thought. Students who are identified as at risk for not succeeding in school may need assistance and/or intervention, and those students attending college online require equitable access to services and resources that are available for face-to-face students. Nuances specific to the online classroom make it even more challenging for faculty to identify declining mental health among their students. Consequently, we advocate that it is imperative for faculty to add to their armamentarium of knowledge the necessary skills and abilities for the identification of these potential online classroom issues and trends, while also providing appropriate resources that students may easily and effectively use.