# How Learning Analytics Can Help Personalize Online Learning

Educational institutions and their business partners are constantly looking for ways to use learning analytics to better understand learners in order to personalize learning models and strategies.



Learning analytics is learner-centered and benefits students by collecting and analyzing data they generate during their interactions in in-person, remote, and hybrid learning environments. The use of learning analytics provides educators with the data necessary to personalize each student's learning experience and improve this learning through the creation and implementation of new tools and techniques.

Personalizing learning involves positive and purposeful interactions, authentic student choice, meaningful feedback that moves students forward, goal setting, student metacognition, and, most importantly, the use of data to make informed decisions to decide what happens next.

- Educators provide multiple points of access to instructions as well as the tools vital in supporting success (such as playlists and screencasts).

- Collaborative tools, such as Seesaw, allow students to interact and work at their own pace.

- Feedback loops allow educators to assess students' ongoing learning by commenting and communicating with students and families.

- Reflection based on data identifies for both educators and students what went well and how to improve and determine next steps in the learning process.

It is important that both educators and students collaboratively establish an effective classroom where there is **rigor and mastery as well as differentiation and personalization**. Routines and structures that support personalization in the classroom empower and encourage students to take ownership of their own learning. These can include:

- Classroom culture. Promoting a positive classroom culture and supportive digital learning space

- Differentiation. Personalizing and scaffolding learning experiences for students.

- Agency. Varying the pace of learning to meet each student's needs

- Ownership. Focusing on the identity and interest of students.

- Rigor and mastery. Providing feedback and reflection to drive student learning.

It's integral to have a plan in place for personalization for students who need more help while allowing enrichment and acceleration opportunities for students who are excelling. Learning analytics allows both educators and students to review data and determine if students have mastered learning goals. If they have not, they can go back and review the content or skills that they still need to master. Learning analytics also offers the educator an insight into what is and is not working and provides support as they enrich student learning and improve student outcomes.

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