Communicating with Your Instructor

How would you communicate with your instructor in these different scenarios? Discuss in small groups.

1. You know that you will have to be absent from class during a group presentation.
2. You’ve narrowed down the essay topics to two that you’re interested in, but are having difficulty deciding on which one.
3. You’d like an extension on an assignment because of a health or family issue.
4. You’d like another example for a concept that has been introduced in class.
5. You have a draft of your essay that you’d like feedback on.
Student Scenarios

Discuss the following student scenarios in your group. Has this ever happened to you? What type of student is this? Brainstorm ways the student can get help at OCAD U.

1. You didn’t do well on the first assignment for a class because you misunderstood the instructions. Now you feel increased pressure with do well on the next assignment, and it’s paralyzing you. You reject every idea as “not good enough”, and now the deadline is just a few days away. What can you do?

2. You used to enjoy your classes and feel excited by your creative assignments, but you’ve hit a stagnant period and don’t feel motivated to finish anything. You’ve already missed a few deadlines but you continue to procrastinate. You’re questioning your program/major, and wondering if you’ve chosen the right program.

3. You’re having difficulty with understanding and communicating with one of your instructors. They speak quickly and use a lot of technical and academic vocabulary. The class moves quickly and covers a lot of material, and you feel like you’re falling farther and farther behind.

4. You have several assignments due at the same time, so you decide to skip class to finish them. When you finally finish them, you’re too embarrassed to go to class again because of these unexplained absences. Worse, you don’t know anyone in those classes who you could borrow notes from.

5. You’re working in a group assignment and one of the group members has strong opinions. Everyone in the group wants to do well on the project, and they keep rejecting ideas because they feel it won’t be exciting or original enough. The deadline is approaching and your group still doesn’t have a proposal. What might you suggest to your group members?