

# Faculty:

Wondering how to identify students of concern in an online environment? Look out for these behaviors:

Atypical Behavior (a change from the usual)	Unusual Behavior	Academic Performance Problem
Becoming irritable/ short-tempered/ obsessive	Emails are accusatory, manipulative, sexually inappropriate or threatening	Late assignments from beginning of course
Sudden deterioration in quality of work		Failing quality of work from beginning of course
Abruptly begins turning in late assignments	Discussion post contents are: Bizarre, fantastical, paranoid, disruptive, confused, or show disorientation	Not returning emails or phone calls
Becoming disrespectful in discussion posts		Not turning in work at all
Stops responding to emails	Student clearly seems out of touch with reality	Not re-doing work when given an opportunity
Content of work becomes negative/dark/odd in tone		Ongoing display of anxiety about assignments

Barr, B. Identifying and Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Online Students in Higher Education. Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration, 17(2).

Retrieved August 6, 2020 from

<https://www.westga.edu/~distance/ojdla/summer172/barr172.html>

Recognize these behaviors?  
Submit a CARE referral at [tcnjcares.tcnj.edu](https://tcnjcares.tcnj.edu).

