Why is enthusiasm important?
When instructors bring enthusiasm - or passion - to their teaching, they tend to create environments where students are engaged and motivated, while also connecting their positive feelings to their learning goals.

How do students perceive enthusiasm?
Students perceive the enthusiasm of their instructor through verbal and non-verbal cues. When certain features are present (see figure on right), students conclude, consciously or unconsciously, that their instructors are passionate and interested in the content and the process of teaching it.

“Your class has been incredibly exciting, not only because of the relevant discussion on modern design principles, but also because you’ve been so enthusiastic and engaging. The fact that you’ve consistently provided relevant examples from your own experience about the things we learn has been incredibly eye-opening, and I’m grateful that you always provided abundant resources in case we wanted to look further into a subject.”

— from a “Thank-a-Teacher” note to Robert Waters, College of Computing
“This class has helped me appreciate linear algebra, and thanks to your contagious enthusiasm, I’ve come to enjoy the subject. I remember texting my friend right after class after learning the reason behind LU decomposition because it was so mind-blowing.”
— from a “Thank-a-Teacher” note to Yao Yao, Mathematics

**REFERENCES**

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