March 24, 2020

Additional and Advanced Trainings: Excellence In Online Teaching

Join us this week for sessions on...

- Specific Zoom Tools
- Basics in Zoom
- Online testing and Assessments
- Asynchronous Instruction in Blackboard

New This Week...Resources to Help!

Online Assessments
Practice Holding a Zoom Class
Sharing Handwritten Content During a Zoom Class
Asynchronous and Synchronous Ideas for your Classes
Fostering Success in the Online Learning Environment

And More...

Online Chatting
Effectively using Chat during your
Zoom Classes

Online chat discussions during class can be beneficial to learning if managed well. Like all forms of discourse, it’s helpful to set some ground rules for students at the start of class.

I find it particularly helpful to discuss the purpose of the chat, how and when it should (and shouldn’t) be used, and my process for monitoring the chat. Because the use of the chat can create cognitive overload for me as the instructor and for the students, I tell my students to refrain from extraneous discussion in the chat and disable student-to-student chat during class. However, asking for clarifications, or providing short comments related to the discussions are good ways for students to extend the verbal discussion. I build in short pauses during class for everyone to read the chats and ensure that comments are acknowledged and discussed.

Chats can also serve as discussion starters for engaging the whole class, particularly students who don’t often participate in verbal discussions. After posing a question, I ask all students to think and reflect, then type in their response. As I monitor the chats, I call on students to elaborate or to ask each other questions about their responses.

Resources
Chat Training with Melissa Singh
Using the Zoom Chat Function (document)
Using the Zoom Chat Function (video)

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