

SYNCHRONOUS SESSIONS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

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SLIDES BASED ON INFORMATION
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BUILDING IN A VIRTUAL SPACE:

INTENTIONAL. PURPOSEFUL. DESIGNED.

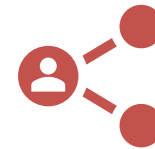
COMMUNITY



1) Improves student learning



2) Works toward student retention



3) Can be enhanced through synchronous Teams sessions



Definition: "Real-time" or "live" instruction that requires the instructor and students to be online at the same time.



* Options to host synchronous online sessions include Microsoft Teams for videoconferencing and D2L Chat for text-only real-time interaction.

Students might not have the technology or working space to participate in the sessions.

Students might be in different time zones and being present would be difficult.

It can be challenging to keep everyone engaged.

Accessibility limitations. For example, the absence of close captioning may limit students' participation and opportunities to engage in meaningful ways.

REQUEST A MICROSOFT TEAMS SITE.

IMPORTANT!

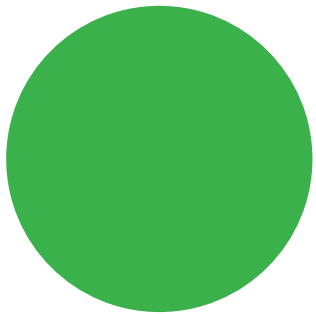
Make this request through Checkmarq. There will be an icon beside the roster icon in your class.

INTENTION

- Provide a schedule of the synchronous sessions.
- Plan student interaction activities (e.g., collaborate on a practice problem or peer review).
- Consider if you will be taking attendance during the sessions.
- Humanity, especially at the beginnings and ends of classes.



*If there is a scheduled class time for your course, please hold your session during that scheduled time.



* Be mindful of students' schedules.
* Consider whether these sessions will be optional or required.

Practice

Practice recording sessions and posting them in D2L with closed captioning.

Engagement

Provide the “rules of engagement” for interacting during the sessions. You may have students contribute to these rules as part of a class activity at the beginning of the semester.

Purpose

Include in your syllabus a description of the sessions. What are your expectations for participating, attendance, etc. and why are you hosting synchronous sessions (i.e., purpose of the sessions).

BREAKOUT ROOMS

Tips:



Set up breakout rooms in advance if you know you'll be using them.



Plan to have a practice session with your students during the first week of class. This will provide students an opportunity to get familiar with the breakout rooms in a low-stakes situation, without the pressure of having to complete a course-related task within a limited time.



1

Post a reminder of upcoming virtual synchronous sessions in the course announcements, email, news, etc.



2

Request questions from students prior to session. This will help you organize the session and it will also allow for you to answer questions from students who cannot attend.



3

At the start of each session, remind students that you will be recording the session to post it in D2L.



4

Post a link to the session recording in the week's module in D2L.

AM I BEING INCLUSIVE?

- Make sure you include equal access to information and learning for students who cannot attend sessions via activities and recordings.
- Consider the accessibility of the content that will be shared in the synchronous session.
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GUEST SPEAKER(S)3(TR-3.3IN)-(TIS)-EN(ER)5

EXAMPLES OF OPTIONAL SYNCHRONOUS SESSIONS

Weekly Online Virtual Office Hours

- ‰ Mimics purpose/format of face-to-face on-campus office hours; however, there is potential for more than one student at a time.

- ‰ Offered each week either on same day time or alternating day/time.

- ‰ Alternative titles for this type of “online office hours”: Consultations, Design Studio,



Create a poll to identify what times of day work best for students (and you)

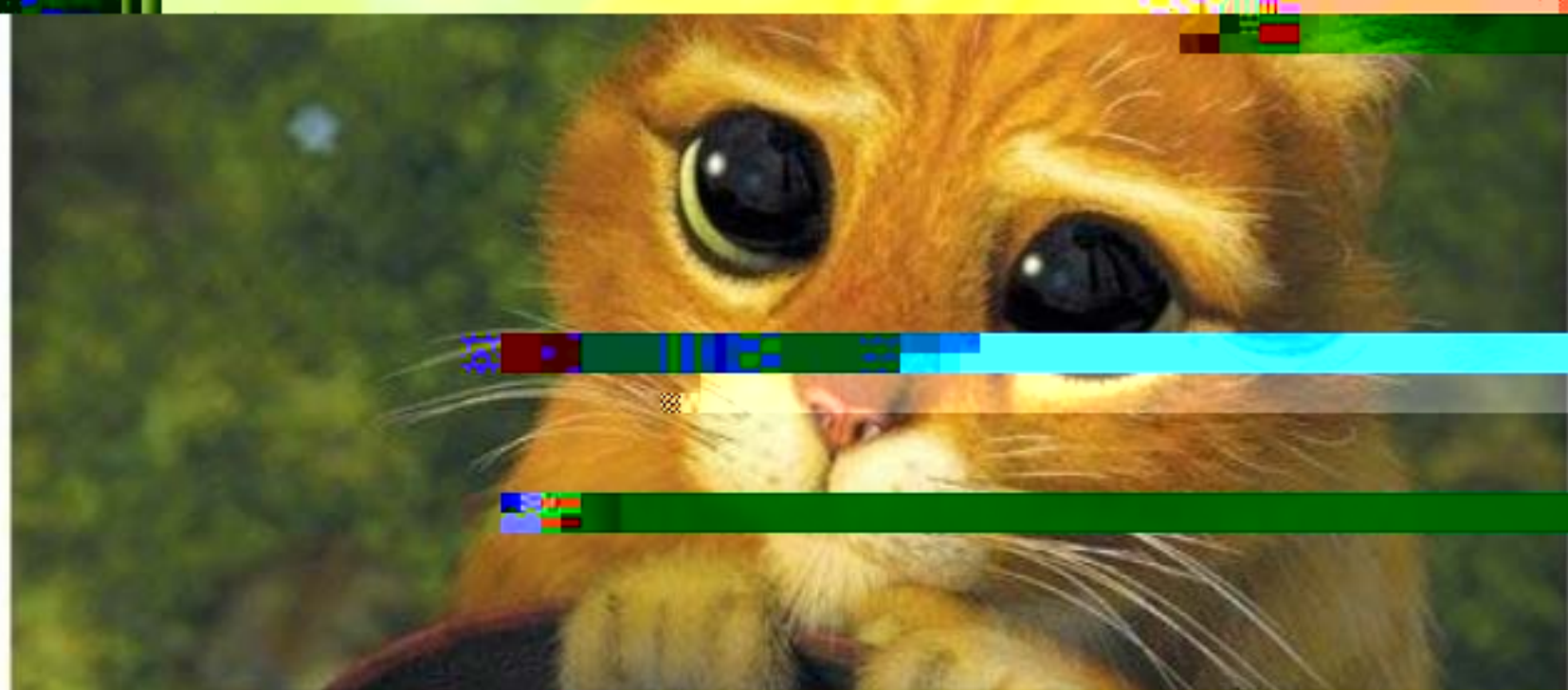


Feels less formal than online office hours and may help students feel more

WHAT MIGHT WORK FOR YOU?

Yes, you count, too.

**PLEASE ATTEND THE
SYNCHRONOUS SESSIONS**



THEY WILL

1. Basics of presenting with Teams

- Recording, raising hands, accessing chat
- PowerPoint
- App sharing
- Screen sharing

2. Storing and accessing video

- In Teams site
- In Streams

3. Creating Group Channels

4. Microsoft Whiteboard