



# **Interaction and Collaboration**

In Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning Online

## Key issues

- **Build in interaction**
- **Communicate your expectations**
- **Communicate your role**
- **Break up discussions by topics**
- **Give guidelines for responses**
- **Give guidelines for evaluations**
- **Figure out timelines**

## Build Community

- Have participants share experiences concerning a common issue.
  - Experiences humanize the course
- Create mentor/mentee teams
- Promote group problem-solving
- Administer polls and surveys
- Create a “Water Cooler” topic
- Create “private” topics for group discussions

## Activities

- **“Create - a - problem”**
  - **Each student posts a problem/case**
  - **Each student works on someone else’s problem and posts it**
  - **Each student evaluates a solution to their problem and posts their original solution**
- **Summaries**

### Activities

- **Solve and evaluate problems**
  - **Post as many problems as you have students**
  - **Students pick one problem to work on and post solution**
  - **Each student has to evaluate two other solutions**

- **Polling/Surveys**
  - **Summarize results**
  - **Create a statistical image of the class**
  - **Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the class**
  - **Provide feedback**

### Activities

- **Hypotheticals**
  - **Real cases**
  - **Illustrative fact patterns**
- **Research projects**
- **Role playing**
  - **Build in time for reflection and response.**
  - **Assign roles**
  - **Follow up with critique**
- **More activities?**



## Time Concerns

- Respond to participants at regular times
- Schedule your time
- Virtual Office Hours
- Provide estimates of how long the assignments should take
- Allow adequate time for each “conversation”
- Consider “locking” old topics



## Tips

- Do you have any tips to share?



## Key points

- Hold regular faculty meetings
- Select a lead faculty to facilitate the web conference
- Support the lead faculty member (shill)

# Tools

- **Polling tool**
- **Graphical Questions**
  - **Compel responses**
  - **Enhance interest**

**Yes**

**No**

**Maybe**

**I don't know.**

## Activities

- Virtual office hours
- Role playing
- Hypotheticals
- Games
  - Jeopardy with Judge Karan
- Participant presentations
- Participant experiences



## Tips

- **Be specific & clear: keep presentation to 60 minutes**
- **Use PowerPoint slides: large fonts, pictures, graphics, variety, etc.**
- **Make slide readable & engaging**
- **Keep Template design simple**
  - **Splashy backgrounds or design templates take more time to download**

## Tips

- Draw in the learner
  - Ask direct questions
  - Pick out members of the class
  - Ask for participant case studies
- More tips?

