Teaching Circles

October 23, 2020

Student Participation in a Large Room with Social Distancing
- Students are shy and don’t necessarily want to speak aloud.
- Challenging to do think-pair-share with the distance – students are self-conscious about being heard by others.
- Consider starting with an icebreaker each class – to help everyone learn each other’s name.
- The instructor should take the responsibility to make sure that everyone is paired for the group work/conversation.
- Consider playing music in the background to fill the potentially awkward silence.
  - Have students contribute to a playlist at the beginning of the semester.
- Set the tone at the beginning of the semester – let students know on the first day of class that talking and discussion will be part of the course.
- You might use the Teams breakout function for in-class students to meet in pairs or small groups to chat.
  - Bring headphones to talk verbally with partner in the breakout room on Teams.
  - You could potentially keep the breakout rooms open throughout the lecture to then have students jump into pair discussion during breaks.

Recording Classes
- Using Teams meetings for the class could be a way of recording the class lecture.

Looking at people’s COVID pass for being on campus:
- Anyone can ask to see anyone’s pass when on campus.
- Does not seem to be a requirement for the instructor to ask each class.

What to do when students are “gaming” the system?
- Students are not coming to class because they say they are sick on the same day there is a test.
- Differ the make-up exam from the one given on the initial day – give it as an oral exam, etc. This could deter students from purposely missing the exam.
- Dean of Students is often in touch if a student has tested positive for or has been exposed to COVID.
- Some departments have a COVID team which will help navigate the student policy.
- Using the Refer Students button in Canvas, you might also refer the student to SOCAT if the student has not been present in class / had multiple days of class missed.
- USF Ombuds Office is a confidential problem solver for students – another option to refer students too (not the Refer Students button) if students are missing multiple classes.

Next First Friday (Nov. 6th)
- In the morning, there will be a workshop on Proctorio, offered by Innovative Education and a representative from Proctorio.
- Academic Integrity Conference to follow in the afternoon (4:30–5pm EST). [Link to sign up for the conference.]

Proctorio
- The sensitivity settings in Proctorio will potentially flag all of your students during the test, depending on how many items you have Proctorio watching for.
• You can change the sensitivity setting afterwards (to reduce the number then flagged), but you'll have the previously flagged videos saved that you could potentially review them all.
• Photo ID setting – the student will be prompted to hold up their ID to the camera and then show their face. The software tries to match the two images. The student will be flagged if Proctorio does not think the two images match.
  o The challenge is if students do not have their picture as part of the Photo Roster to compare to the ID and the image of the student.
• This video that ATLE made shows what the students see when they take a test using Proctorio.

Writing on Teams
• The tablet reMarkable can stream to the laptop without a cord, so you would then share your screen on Teams.

MathJax in Canvas
• Previously Canvas rendered the equation as an image; now it will be rendered as text on the page.
• More information can be found on the Canvas website.

Between Teaching Circles Chat Discussions (10/17–10/23)

Alternating between Classic Quizzes and New Quizzes in Canvas
• Currently you are able to switch between the two types of quizzes in Canvas. The ability to switch will change as the switch to New Quizzes becomes permanent. See the Canvas website for more information.
• For the Spring 2021 semester, New Quizzes will be the default setting in Canvas, but as long as Old Quizzes are an option, the instructor can change that setting.
• Currently, Proctorio only works with Classic/Old Quizzes in Canvas.

Fireflies.ai
• This is a voice-to-text bot that can join a Teams meeting as a Guest. The suspicion is that students are gathering lecture notes in this fashion to sell to Chegg or CourseHero.
• General Counsel says faculty CAN limit its use, and if they do that, any violation would be an integrity violation.
• In the meantime, consider limiting lobby bypass to just "people in my organization." We had previously recommended "anyone" can bypass the lobby so you don't have to click to let in every student who is joining without the Teams client being open (they come in as Guests), but this may be a reason to switch.
• If you download the attendance list, you can locate who is logged in as a guest. Compare the attendance list to the course roster.
• The owner of the Fireflies can configure the bot to send the transcripts to themself or to the whole team.
• The transcript is about as accurate as the built-in Teams transcription.
• Fireflies does record the Audio for later playback. It does not appear to record the video, but we haven't been able to confirm this.

Ways to Connect with Students Online
• Students do not always know their instructors’ names in the online environment. (Though some have noted similar occurrences in face-to-face classes from years’ past.)
• You might consider consulting the USF Photo Roster to learn your students’ names (see below).
• Assign a Flipgrid discussion (or use another video introduction tool) BEFORE the first day of class. This could be used for First Day Attendance.
• For in-person classes:
  ○ Have students use name tents (either ones that they create or that you supply).
  ○ Implement a seating chart. Keep in mind that you may have rotating students, depending on the course delivery method.
  ○ Take a photo of the class in their seats, from the faculty perspective, but only with complete student agreement.
  ○ An alternative would be to ask students to upload a selfie wearing a mask to Canvas and assemble into a seating chart.

USF Photo Roster
• Photos are linked to the student ID cards, so if a student has not gotten an ID card, they won’t have a picture in the Photo Roster on Canvas.
• The ID card is required for students on campus, but that policy does not affect distance learners.