Instructional Options to Make up Missed Class Time

As we are celebrating Villanova Men’s Basketball National Championship, there are some options that faculty can take to make up for the lost days due to university closure, and make us champions in the classroom.

Offer lectures and materials online
Upload your course materials into Blackboard. Record your lectures using MediaSite, Villanova’s lecture capture tool, to give students 24/7 access. Try to keep your lectures to about 15 minutes or less to maintain student attention. Consider chunking your material into multiple clips for longer lectures, as appropriate. Combine your lecture recording with follow-up activities that gauge students’ comprehension and engage them with the material.

You may use the following tools in Blackboard for students’ engagement:
- Discussion Board to post questions pertaining to your lecture(s) and/or readings, or you may invite students to post pertinent examples and explain their applicability
- Yellowdig to invite students to post pertinent online resources and/or images accompanied by rationale
- Journal Tool to help students’ make connections between the reading(s), lecture(s), media postings and their personal, professional experiences
- VoiceThread to provide a forum for students to work together on designated tasks; may be especially helpful if you are using groups in your class on a regular basis

Resources for MediaSite:
- Learn how to Install the MyMediasite desktop recorder
- Learn how to Record your own Lecture using MyMediasite
- Learn how to edit your recordings
- Learn how to upload videos to MyMediasite and share it with your students

Please note. You may also upload your lecture(s), recorded with MediaSite, into the cloud for student access; i.e., students can access your lecture(s) without logging into Blackboard.

Provide synchronous online meetings and/or virtual office hours
Personalize and supplement your asynchronous online teaching (e.g., recorded lectures, discussions) by providing live class meetings or office hours via web conferencing tools such as Zoom or Blackboard Collaborate. You may use the online environment to provide supplemental instruction, answer students’ questions or provide feedback on students’ assignments. Please give thought to scheduling to ensure that most students can join you, as appropriate. For example, provide multiple options, mornings and evenings. You may consider recording the online meetings so that students can access at a later time. Keep student confidentiality in mind.