VITALITY
Weekly VITAL Teaching Ideas

Zoom: Questioning Strategies to Increase Engagement

Do you wonder if your students are actively listening? Do you ponder if they might be multi-tasking or checking email? The following questioning strategies provide some ways that faculty may use to enhance student engagement using the tools in Zoom. We invite you to share with us methods that you have found effective for student participation, and we promise to share back via VITALITY.

Connect to real-life applications of learning.
Prepare students to anticipate and overcome real or perceived obstacles. E.g., What challenges can you anticipate if you implement this policy?
How might you overcome these challenges?
Zoom Tools: Whiteboard or microphone

Provide examples, then invite students to provide their own examples. E.g., Let's add your own examples to this list. What other ways have you seen this programming language used?
Zoom Tools: Whiteboard (to add to existing list), chat, or microphone.

Capture students' attention, a key ingredient of learning. Ask a scenario-based question at the start of class or new topic. E.g., As team leader, I will facilitate a team meeting to plan an ad campaign. Half the team will join the meeting from remote locations. What strategies would you recommend to someone in my situation? Zoom tools: Chat or microphone

Identify prior knowledge. Check factual understanding before introducing new content:
E.g., Which of the following are examples of sexual harassment? Select all that apply.
Which of the following songs include the word "zoom"? Zoom Tool: Multiple answer poll.
"Zoom" song by the Commodores, 1977 – accessed 02/18/21

Reduce common anxieties, foster positive emotions. Use the "I Share – You Share" approach.
E.g., Something I struggle with is the feeling that I always need to be "on" in Zoom. I find it most taxing. What is something you struggle with in Zoom? Zoom Tools: Chat or microphone

Adapted from handout by IT Learning and Development, Penn State University - accessed 02/18/21