The Role of Synchronous Communication in Asynchronous Online Courses
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Benefits of Synchronous Communication

- Instructor’s teaching style and visual presence can be instrumental in engaging students with difficult content.
- Learners can get questions answered immediately and receive individualized feedback.
- Helps students feel a stronger sense of connection to their peers and instructor.
- Learners develop real life collaboration and presentation skills.
Tools

Skype for Business/Lync
Adobe Connect
Google Docs & Hangouts
Zoom
Educreation
Nearpod
LMS Tools (Webcourses@UCF/Canvas)
Course Example

HSA6345 - Leadership for Healthcare Professionals

Fully online course with synchronous engagement requirements
Engagement

- Online Office Hours
- Video Discussion Posts
- Collaboration Skills
Hi Everyone! I recorded this video about 10 times and I was still nervous! I look forward to working with you all.
Student Collaboration

- Webinars
- Google Hangouts
- Canvas Conferences
Instructor Collaboration
Student Collaboration
Expectation Guidelines

- Be clear on synchronous meeting/times
- List in Expectations or Protocols
- List in Syllabus
Attendance Policy:

This course is a Web (W) course that includes only on-line activities. Students are expected to complete and participate in all online activities and assignments. To facilitate the interaction and engagement of the course, there will be asynchronous and synchronous activities. The course will use the audio-video capabilities of WebCourses for assignment, discussions, consultations and other group and individual activities. Students are expected to make their best effort to participate on all or the majority of the synchronous activities of the course. If one of those activities is missed for a justifiable reason, the student needs to review the recording of that activity and post a note in the Webinars and other synchronous activities comments topic on the discussion board to engage with the rest of the class in the discussion of the missed activity.
Synchronous Strategies

- Allow recording for asynchronous viewing
- Ask for significant, relevant comments
- Alternate days and times of seminars throughout the semester.
- Repeat twice in the same week at different times (Once in morning/Once at night)
Sep 20, 2015

Manage Discussion Entry

Sorry that I was unable to make it to the webinar this past Friday 09/18 but I have reviewed the video and here are my thoughts:

- it is not how you behave as a leader but your influence on your followers. Also the conditions that surround leadership models.

- Giving and receiving feedback requires certain skill. By nature we happen to have more defensive listening. I anticipate learning more about this subject. I think it will be incredibly useful.

Great session, hope to make the next one. Thanks! Gina
Thank you!

Are there any questions?