3 Simple Steps to Building Online Learning Communities

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A Tale of Two Online Courses
What online learning often feels like.
What online learning should feel like.
Imagine your picture here!
Who: YOU!
What: Introductions
Why: To build a community foundation
How: Take 3 minutes to introduce yourself to your Zoom neighbors. Share your name, profession and why you love online learning!
Please complete the Zoom poll (on your screen) while we are all transport back from breakout rooms!
Learning Community

Various kinds of individuals interacting in a common location for the purpose of gaining knowledge in, understanding of, or skill in a subject matter through instruction, study, and/or experience by the creation of a social state and condition that nurtures and encourages learners.

~Peg Saragina
1. Design Content for Collaboration
2. Deliver Content Clearly and Concisely
3. Be Present!
Creating an effective online course requires a paradigm shift regarding the mode of content delivery.

• Define Outcomes & Objectives
  • Begin with the end in mind!

• Design and select appropriate course content for online environment
  • Reading materials
  • Video
  • Assignments, activities and tasks (Think Collaborative)

• Develop and align assessments, activities and tasks
2 Deliver Content Clearly and Concisely

- Syllabus & Weekly Outline
  - Road Map

- Learning Management System
  - Be proficient
  - Organization of course space
    - Course content
    - Discussion board

Diagram:
- Pathways with signs: Give up, Detour, Struggle, Drop out, Finish
- Graduation cap and books at the end of the path
3 Be Present!

In the online environment you are no longer the sage on the stage. You are the guide on the side!

Facilitate
• Provide guidance
• Give feedback

Participate
• Be a member of the community
  • Discussion Boards

Communicate
• Use Announcements, email, telephone, and web conferencing
Small Group Activity discussing, sharing and thinking about learning communities in the online classroom.

- Be respectful! Agree to disagree
- If possible, turn on your camera and unmute
- Pick your group recorder/reporter
- Give everyone a chance to participate
Conversation Starters

- What do you see as the biggest benefit to providing an active learning community in your course? Why?
- Share a pro and/or a con of an online learning community.
- What do you see as the biggest barrier to providing an active learning community in your course? Why?
- Share one thing that you are already doing that promotes an online learning community.
- Pick one item off the Learning Community “Laundry List” that you will add to your existing courses and share why you chose this item.
Time for a Group Report Out
Questions?

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