

# Student Reflections on Online Learning

Online education has changed significantly over the past year. Here we provide some feedback from students on what should continue as we engage in face-to-face instruction again and what should be left behind.

## What to *keep* from online learning:

## What to *leave* from online learning:

### Assignment and Participation Flexibility

Help reduce student stress and increase accessibility by being flexible.

*For example, drop students' lowest assignment grade or create alternatives to graded synchronous participation.*



### Focusing Too Much on "Rigor"

Online education is fundamentally different from in-person instruction, so creating a rigorous learning environment will require different approaches.

*Focus on covering the most important material, and develop a backup plan, such as optional readings or asynchronous videos for the rest.*



### Shorter Lectures and Breaks During Lectures

This can help maintain student engagement and help you to reduce burnout.



### Big Changes to Courses

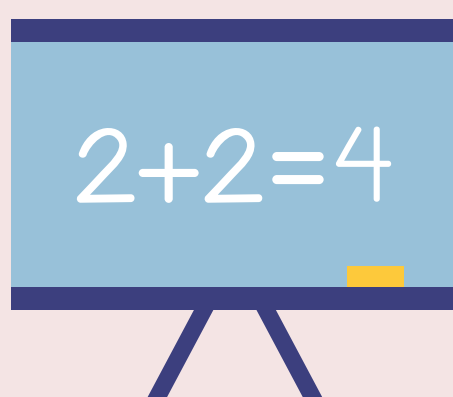
Be sure to clearly set expectations at the beginning of the quarter and then be consistent with your expectations throughout the course.

*If an assignment or expectation does need to change, clearly communicate this to students.*



### Keep Your Canvas Simple yet Effective

Help students by organizing files into folders, setting up weekly modules, and making sure to include all class Zoom links on Canvas.



### What Should Stay for Future In-Person Classes:

- **Recorded Lectures**
- **Integrating Canvas Fully into Courses**
  - Post the syllabus and other files
  - Have students submit assignments through Canvas
- **Utilizing Online Tools**
  - For example, Poll Everywhere to replace clickers and Google Jamboards in place of whiteboards
- **Flexibility and Understanding**
  - Help reduce student stress and promote mental health and well-being

### Record Your Lectures

This can make a world of difference for students in distant time zones and for when students have to miss a class due to health or other reasons.

*If you are concerned that recording lectures will result in less student participation, there are other ways to encourage student engagement.*

