

Video lectures may have worked as a stop-gap measure in the emergency move to transition to remote learning, but they don't cut it for the long term. Here are eleven ways to bring online courses to the next level.



Video-based announcements are a great way for students to "see" you, know you are with them, and give timely info. Let your students know you are right there with them in the class by posting video summaries of the previous week's assignments and thoughts on how it went. You can do this with ease through Kaltura Capture. Learn more about Kaltura through Digital Learning's website!



You want your students to be actively engaged in the educational process. Even if your classroom lectures were fantastic, they do not typically translate well to an online modality. Few online students would be able to concentrate for the full 50 to 75 minutes of a normal classroom lecture. Take breaks every 15 minutes. Ask for student questions or randomly call on them. Or ask them a question and solicit student feedback. Find other tools to break up the classroom time like live polling. Better yet, prerecord your short lectures in Kaltura and use the class time for engaging discussions and activity.



At least once every two weeks, structure your class to include student presentations. This ensures that your class focuses on student involvement rather than lectures. Or present students with a problem and ask them to work together in Microsoft Teams groups, and then have several students report their solutions back to the class. Ask students a question and ask them to take five minutes to search for solutions online. Then have them present answers to the class. Or you can randomly call on students. That ensures that they participate and are listening, rather than doing something else online.



SOLICIT FEEDBACK

Using tools like Teams polls, Microsoft Forms or Canvas quizzes, ask students questions and use their feedback to build your lectures. Pre-load the polls or quizzes so they work more smoothly. You can ask questions about reading for this week's material or based on last week's homework, and then review or move on depending on the level of mastery of your students.



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

Your students are probably familiar with online games like Kahoot. Take Advantage of that and create an online game for your students, by asking questions about material in your course. Play it with them during class or for 10 minutes during your office hours and give the three top winners bonus points in your course. You may have

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