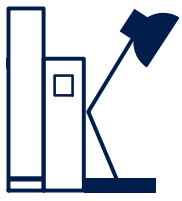


DISCUSSION GROUPS

CREATING SEPARATE DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ONLINE STUDENTS



Create breakout rooms for your students online ideally with 3-5 students per room. Provide clear and concise directions for the discussion and each individual's role

- If you create breakout rooms ahead of time, discussion questions can be uploaded into each breakout room
- If breakout rooms are created in real time during class, ask the students to take a picture of the discussion questions



Regardless, of set up, assign a timer, note-taker, and spokesperson for each breakout room.

- It is important to assign these roles as leaving it the students often leads to silent breakout rooms.

INCLUDING ONLINE STUDENT(S) WITH IN-CLASS DISCUSSION GROUPS



- If you know where the students online usually sit you could ask the person who they sit with to include them in their group by logging into Collaborate - and a unique breakout room for each student/discussion group (do they have their own Chat to communicate)



- They might also use FaceTime or call them in on their cell phones
- However you decide to include those online make sure they have a role within group discussions. Provide a space for their opinion/work to be heard.

ANOTHER INCLUSIVE APPROACH

To alleviate anxiety about being called upon unexpectedly to respond to class questions (and to reduce the chance of 'crickets', share with the students online expectations for their participation in class discussion. For example, students online can be asked to reflect on the discussion questions and prepare responses that they post in the chat when the in-person discussion groups report back to the class

Alternatively, the students online can open their microphones and share their responses orally

RESOURCES FOR INCLUSIVE DISCUSSION GROUPS

- [Breakout Rooms](#)
- [Building Community](#)
- [Building a relationship/connection with students](#)
- [Active learning while physically distancing](#)

