Moderating online synchronous discussions for tutorials

Jeanette Choy, CDTL | Charina Ong, CDTL
Intended Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the key principles and good practices to engage, connect, and support students in ‘real-time’ online learning.

2. Use the Zoom communication tools to facilitate synchronous discussion and e-tutorials.
Sharing your experience
Possible Goals for Online Learning Discussions

- Improved comprehension
- Build an argument
- Knowledge construction
- Collaborative learning
- Critical thinking
- Create a learning community
- Feedback for the instructor
COI Framework

Social Presence
- e.g. engagement with participants, encouraging collaboration

Cognitive Presence
- e.g. exchanging information, connecting ideas, applying new ideas

Teaching Presence
- e.g. setting curriculum, initiating discussion topics, scaffolding, focusing discussion

Educational Experience
- Selecting content; Regulating learning
- Supporting discourse
- Setting climate

7 Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education

1. Encourages contact between students and faculty
2. Develops reciprocity and cooperation among students
3. Encourages active learning
4. Gives prompt feedback
5. Emphasizes time on task
6. Communicates high expectations
7. Respects diverse talents and ways of learning

Chickering and Gamson’s (1987)
Discuss case study

https://tinyurl.com/onlinesync

Consider the dimensions of COI framework and discuss how each of these dimensions were evident in the case examples.

Suggest other ways you can foster these dimensions in your own context. You may consider Chickering and Gamson’s (1987) 7 Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education. Be ready to share these ideas when you return to the main session.
Various ways to support distance learning

- Share content through learning management systems/LMS (e.g., LumiNUS)
- Asynchronous interactions (class discussions, group work, interactive lectures) in LMS (e.g. online forum, online quiz)
- Synchronous class sessions through web conferencing (e.g., Skype, Zoom, Google Hangout)
- Group work and sharing through online collaborative tools (e.g. G Suites of tools, Padlet)
- Assess prior knowledge, improve knowledge retention and transfer through online quizzing (i.e. PollEverywhere, Socrative)
- many more…
QUESTIONS?

Jeanette Choy | jeanette.choy@nus.edu.sg

Charina Ong | charina.ong@nus.edu.sg
References

