

Synchronous online teaching: Enhancing learning while boosting enrollment

More Information at <http://cct.wikispaces.umb.edu/CIT24Oct17>

Online participation via <http://bit.ly/CCTEvent>

Turn-taking discussion

Topic: "What guidelines would help instructors foster an engaged learning community in regular class sessions that combine face-to-face and online students?"

1. **Freewriting** with two goals: To get present and to begin to consider the topic of the session.
2. **Check-In**: One thing that is on top for you as you come into the discussion.
3. **Dialogue Process**: Listening with structured turn taking to speak that can begin by building on what is said in the check-in about the topic of the session. Through inquiry more than advocacy, including inquiry of one's own thinking, themes usually emerge.

From <http://www.faculty.umb.edu/pjt/DialogueShortList.html>

The Dialogue Process centers around listening—to yourself as well as others.

- When you think you have something to say, take a card or put your initials into the online chat box to add your name to the queue. Then go back to listening.
- After you have a turn talking, place your card on the used stack or call on the next person in the chat queue.
- When it comes to your turn, pause. You can pass.
- When you take a turn, don't try to go through all the points you might have noted down.
- In what you say, expose what you are chewing on.
- If you ask a question that seems to be directly taking up something said by one speaker, offer it to the whole group to consider. Indeed, the specific speaker cannot answer until their next turn and even then may choose to speak of some other concern.
- You don't have to agree. Communicate your reasoning process.
- Listen with the expectation of learning. Appreciate how the diversity of perceptions enriches the quality of the dialogue.
- Silence is okay.

4. Writing to gather thoughts

5. **Closing Circle**: Share something you plan to address or get done or think more about based on the session.