

ATT Professional Development Day, February 15, 2021

Session: Using the Community of Inquiry Approach to Teaching: Focus on teaching during Covid-19

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What is a Community of Inquiry model? It's a Research-based progressive approach to teaching emphasizing three areas:

- ▶ **Teaching presence, Social presence, and Cognitive presence**
- ▶ **Teaching Presence: meaningful design, activities, facilitation**
- ▶ **Social Presence: Teacher projects a “real” person through open communication, affective expression, group cohesion**
- ▶ **Cognitive Presence: Priority is to sustain reflection and discourse,**
- ▶ **Priorities of COI: open communication, critical reflection, group cohesion, sharing emotions, feelings, and values, and building connections with learners and the teacher.**

Research has shown that there is a relationship between the three presences and students' perceived learning, satisfaction with the course, satisfaction with the instructor, actual learning, and sense of belonging



Teaching Presence:

- ▶ **Set clear expectations about requirements, deadlines, assessment**
- ▶ **Explain the parameters of your availability and access**
- ▶ **Make discussions meaningful and use a rubric for feedback (timeliness, responsiveness, use of citations, use of quotes etc.)**
- ▶ **Make discussions engaging: generate higher level questions, get students engaged with each other, avoid short right/wrong options. Use scenarios or rich cases.**

- ▶ Ex: have students respond individually before hearing any other responses
- ▶ What would an example of this look and sound like in class?

Social Presence:

- ▶ Include self-introduction for authenticity, community building, and interaction.
- ▶ Can open with a welcoming video Example:
https://mediaspace.itap.purdue.edu/media/1_up7jzlrz
- ▶ Use a template or make your own: <https://slidesmania.com/meet-the-teacher-template-by-kelsey-amaya/>
- ▶ Acknowledge challenges during pandemic or illness.
- ▶ For students who know one another, add new areas (hobbies, sports, goals)
- ▶ Include collaborative activities, group work and reporting out, presentations.
- ▶ Esp during Covid!: offer in person/phone/zoom time for questions or just to touch base.
- ▶ Model authenticity: Respond to by name, ask questions and share your experiences
- ▶ What are other ways to emphasize Social Presence?

Cognitive Presence

- ▶ Use media, technology, multiple tools for explanation and feedback.
- ▶ Explore: Snagit, Camtasia, Screencast-O-matic
- ▶ Multiple representations for learning
- ▶ Increased use of opportunities for students to show desired skills and content.
- ▶ Encouraging divergent thinking, multiple perspectives, diverse views
- ▶ What are some ways you have done or seen this?

Teaching with Masks On: Some Tips:

- ▶ Mask use leads to fatigue. Remember to hydrate, use comfortable material, and use a mic
- ▶ If teaching behind Plexiglas- remember volume and body language affect teaching.
- ▶ Another tip: make cardboard “high fives”, emojis, -They can’t read your body language easily.
- ▶ Consider: Learn some American sign language words: “nice job”, “try again”, more...
- ▶ Try this: Help them look for signals from your eyes – happy, surprised, concerned. Model it and encourage them to look carefully for “happy crinkles”.
- ▶ More focus on students with special needs
- ▶ Post a photo of yourself smiling so they can see that image. More body lang and expressive!