

FAU College of Medicine Support Center

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Engaging students in online learning can be a challenge, but there are various strategies you can use to promote student engagement during Zoom sessions. Here are some ideas:

- **Icebreaker Activities:** Start each session with icebreaker activities to help students get to know each other and create a positive and inclusive learning environment. For example, you can ask students to share an interesting fact about themselves or participate in a quick virtual scavenger hunt.
- **Polls and Surveys:** Use Zoom's polling feature to create quick polls or surveys related to the topic being discussed. Polls can be used to gauge understanding, gather opinions, or spark discussion. Displaying poll results can encourage student participation and generate conversation.
- **Interactive Presentations:** Instead of simply lecturing, make your presentations interactive by incorporating multimedia, videos, images, and interactive tools like annotation. Encourage students to ask questions, share thoughts in the chat, or use virtual hand-raising to engage with the content.
- **Breakout Rooms:** Utilize Zoom's breakout rooms to facilitate small group discussions or collaborative activities. Assign specific tasks or discussion topics to each breakout room and allow students to work together. Visit the breakout rooms to provide guidance, answer questions, and monitor progress.
- **Collaborative Document Editing:** Zoom Whiteboard allow for documents to be edited and viewed in real time. Collaborate with students or have them watch as you work on the variety of document types.
- **Multimedia Resources:** Incorporate multimedia resources such as educational videos. These resources can capture students' attention, provide visual aids, and enhance understanding.
- **Virtual Field Trips or Guest Speakers:** Organize virtual field trips or invite guest speakers to provide real-world context and expertise on a specific topic. This can help diversify the learning experience and generate excitement among students.
- **Reflective Exercises:** Incorporate reflective exercises or journaling activities at the end of each session to encourage students to process and consolidate their learning. Prompt them to reflect on key takeaways, ask questions, or make connections to real-life situations.

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