Community & Interaction

Defining Community & Interaction: is defined differently for different classes, instructors, and students

- **Student-to-Student:** 1) Discussions with each other, 2) Networking, 3) Group work
- **Student-to-Instructor:** 1) Knowing your instructor knows who you are, 2) Getting help when you need it, 3) Flexibility 4) In-class engagement

Tips for Building Community

- Set the tone early and revisit throughout the semester
- Be explicit about your expectations
- Create opportunities for interest groups/sub-groups during class or outside of class
- Create opportunities for community for your asynchronous students (if you have any)
- Prioritize interaction during class time – do an icebreaker on first class no matter what!
- Use breakout rooms or groups and give suggestions for student roles (ie. facilitator)

> **Resource:** 3 Essentials for Building Community Online

1) Discussion Boards

- **Topic Driven:** 1) Conversation points, 2) Open ended questions on readings, 3) Focused prompts
- **Social Driven:** 1) Class "water cooler", 2) Remind students to post questions/ideas to workshop
- **Help Driven:** Q+A with teaching staff

> **Resource:** Ways to Assess and Evaluate Your Discussions

2) Group Work

- **Start of Group Project**

> **Resources:**
> - Team Agreements
> - Group Charters

- **End of Group Project**

> **Resource:** Doing Group Work Online

3) Feedback Surveys

- **Semi-Weekly or Mid-Point Surveys:** Qualtrics or Canvas Quizzes (Survey)
- **Checking-In on Students:** Course Feedback (Entire Course or Specific Aspects)

> **Resources:**
> - Evaluations Institute
> - Feedback: Respond to Student Work
> - Giving Meaningful Feedback
> - Online Assessments & Feedback

Tools
- **Discussion Boards:** Canvas (native discussion), Yellowdig, Notebowl
- **Group Work:** Canvas Groups, Canvas Inbox, Zoom
- **Feedback Surveys:** Canvas Quizzes, Qualtrics