

THE 7 BEST PRACTICES FOR HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ONLINE SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING

a comprehensive collection of best practices to optimize your online synchronous education offering

1

DEFINE SUCCESS FOR BOTH TEACHER AND STUDENT

Implementing edtech into a curriculum is not the end objective. On the contrary, it's just the beginning. Establish the key metrics that determine success for the student and the teacher. Take advantage of your platform's analytics to streamline measurement and make adjustments to your course to improve accordingly. For example, for students: attendance, participation, project submissions, and, of course, grades; for teachers: course and instructor feedback.



2

SOCIAL MEDIA IS YOUR FRIEND TOO

Meet students where they already are by integrating social into the learning experience. 96% of students are active on social networks, and three in five utilize them to complement their learning, such as discussing educational topics and collaborating on group projects. With its ubiquitous familiarity, social media platforms can offer operational value after a session has ended, whether as an ongoing discussion forum or a content repository.



3

KNOW YOUR CAPABILITIES AND LIMITS

Prevent mishaps by fully understanding the platform's technical limitations; online classrooms are more unforgiving than their physical counterparts. Becoming an expert with features that streamline "classroom" operations and organize teaching materials will pay off exponentially in future time saved and manual efforts spared. Maximize the time providing the education and minimize the time wasted on classroom logistics.



4

KEEP IT DYNAMIC

Focusing on being more high touch than high tech is essential. Vary the teaching methods between sessions offered -- for example: who may be leading them, styles of collaboration between students and instructor -- to avoid uninteresting repetition and to keep the learning experience interesting. Use engaging content, such as video clips and visually dynamic presentations, to promote intuition and to avoid students from glazing over.



5

MEET THEM WHERE THEY ARE

With the prevalence of tablets and mobile devices surpassing desktop computers, it would be tactful to design curriculums that integrate mobile apps ranging across social, communication, and project management. Studies show 60% of students that were enabled to collaborate via mobile device increased the time they spent engaged with course-relevant content.



6

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Avoid falling into a pattern of becoming just a content facilitator. Establish a classroom culture that is conducive to various communication styles. Weaving in individual student personalization is one of synchronous video's biggest opportunities. Students don't effectively learn by just passively watching video. Engage their minds; don't lecture at, but discuss with students by practicing personalized learning. Take advantage of the tool beyond basic broadcasting.



7

INCENTIVIZE ATTENDANCE

Follow a pedagogy that enables students to construct knowledge via motivated peer learning. Without this sort of pedagogy, the synchronous learning experience can become a humdrum learning and teaching experience. Don't limit the class to a repressive lecturer-listener dynamic. Instead, evolve the class into a learning community, whereby teachers and students co-create knowledge. Interactive features -- breakout rooms, discussion tools -- can be a standard course component to enable student collaboration and develop learning in the context of a social process that is participatory.



THESE BEST PRACTICES HAVE BEEN PLATFORM PROVEN AND ACADEMIA APPROVED

- 🕒 JOHN GOULD, Associate Clinical Professor, School of Education, Drexel University
- 🕒 PATRICE TORCIVIA PRUSO, MOOC's, SPCO's and Digital Initiatives, Cornell University
- 🕒 AMY PATE, Instructional Design and Technology Coordinator at Arizona State University

"What we're geared to do is to provide you that interactivity and also to give the social interaction of the students being able to talk to one another. We think that social interaction is an important part of learning." - STEVE GOTTLIEB, CEO, Shindig

Shindig has a deep understanding of these nuanced elements that comprise in-person engagement, and it shows! Our platform environment and unprecedented interactive features empower teachers and students to connect on a more immersive level, drawing focus to the classroom content and minimizing distraction from the underlying technology.

LEARN HOW SHINDIG CAN EVOLVE YOUR SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING OFFERING

REQUEST A LIVE DEMO

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **Shindig**