

MOVING ONLINE, USING BLACKBOARD (& OTHER TECHNOLOGIES)

At the Silberman School of Social Work, all courses have a required one-hour online component. This list provides you with options for transitioning your in-class activities into online activities. If you would like more information about these technologies or help generating ideas for the online component, please contact our Educational Technologist, Deepa Rao-Sisario (dr1649@hunter.cuny.edu).

ACTIVITY	TOOL	GENERAL INFORMATION
Introductions	Discussion Boards	Provide a model by writing an introduction for yourself. Post “getting to know you” questions. Ask students introduce themselves and respond to one or two classmates.
Introductions	VoiceThread *	Use the webcam feature to create a webcam recording introducing yourself. Provide guiding questions and have students introduce themselves with the video commenting feature.
Introductions	Wikis	Use this collaborative writing tool to introduce yourself; include a photo also. Have students introduce themselves with a photo.
Lecture	VoiceThread	Use webcam feature to create short (<15mins), informative recordings/mini-lectures.
Lecture	VoiceThread	Upload PowerPoint slides and narrate using audio or video comments feature.
Lecture	Collaborate Ultra *	Upload PowerPoint slides, PDFs. Turn on camera and record narration. The link to the recording is automatically generated and lives in Blackboard.
Lecture	Collaborate	Record narrated screen-sharing/desktop sharing through websites or software demonstrations. The link the recording is automatically generated and lives in Blackboard.
Lecture	Hunter Video Network *	Record your PowerPoint presentation and narration straight from your desktop. The software tool generates a link which you can post in Blackboard for students to watch.
Lecture	Hunter Video Network	Record narrated screen or desktop-sharing through websites or software demonstrations. The software tool generates a link which you can post or embed in Blackboard for students to watch.

ACTIVITY	TOOL	GENERAL INFORMATION
Large Group Discussion	Discussion Boards	Post open-ended, but targeted, questions and provide guidelines (how long, deadline, response to students required?) You can also attach articles, videos, for student review and comment.
Large Group Discussion	VoiceThread	Post open-ended, but targeted, questions (PowerPoint slides/PDFs). Use audio/video comments feature to introduce question and provide guidelines for responding.
Small Group Discussions	Discussion Boards	Create multiple forums; one per group. Each group can have the same question or different questions. If the latter, then the group members can respond to initial question within group and to classmates outside of assigned forum topic.
Small Group Discussions	Groups	Use the groups feature for small group discussion. Assign students to specific groups or allow them self-enroll and provide access to the discussion board tool.
Student-led discussions	Discussion Boards	Create one "Forum" and use content area to identify groups and provide instructions. Groups would create their own threads with their questions and classmates can reply.
Group Projects	Groups	Use Groups feature and provide access to tools such as discussion board, file share, and wikis. Final projects can be uploaded here or via Assignments.
Group Project meetings	Collaborate	Create Collaborate meeting rooms for students to meet online (synchronously) while off-campus.
Collaborative Writing/Work (Group)	Group Wikis	Use Groups feature and provide access to tools such as wikis, discussion board and, file share. Provide guidelines/instructions for the group wiki assignment.
Collaborative Writing/Work (Class)	Wiki	Use wikis outside of the Groups feature for class-based wikis (e.g. creating a subject matter glossary or an online magazine).
Reflections/Public	Blogs	Use the Blog tool and ask students to reflect on weekly topics, their internships or anything else that is relevant to the course content. Blogs are public to the class so guidelines regarding privacy/sharing private information should be stated upfront.
Reflections/Private	Journals	Use the Journal tool for private reflections, shared only between the instructor and student. As with Blogs, students can respond to set questions each week or they can write generally about internships, content, experiences as it relates to course. However, they can, if they feel comfortable include more personal information.

ACTIVITY	TOOL	GENERAL INFORMATION
Student Presentations	VoiceThread	Ask students to use VoiceThread for individual or group presentations (webcam videos, slide presentations, images). Classmates can use Comments feature to record audio or video questions/comments.
Student Presentations	Collaborate	Create meeting rooms for each group and give students Moderator privileges. Students can access the online meeting room, upload PowerPoint slides, and record their presentations. Recording will live in Blackboard.
Watching YouTube/ TedTalk videos	Content Editor: Embed	Find a YouTube or TedTalk video, copy the link, and embed it into Blackboard. The video can be embedded into nearly any section of Blackboard including Announcements, Discussion Boards, Wikis, and Course Materials.
Watching other Online videos	Content Editor: Hyperlink	Hyperlinks can be provided for videos pulled from other sources such as the Hunter Libraries, TedTalks, Vimeo, and news sites.
Watching YouTube or Online videos	VoiceThread	If you want your students to engage with the content of the video, you can post it in VoiceThread. Students can post audio, video, or text-based questions and comments.
Quizzes/Exams	Tests, Surveys, Pools	Use the Test tool to create short quizzes, longer tests, or pools of questions to be used each semester. The testing tool offers several questions types in addition to multiple choice such as True/False, short answer, and hot spots. The Test tool also autoscores, offers multiple attempts, timers, and randomization.
Office Hours/ 1:1 student meetings	Collaborate	Use Collaborate to hold office hours or meet with project groups.

Collaborate: Web-based meeting tool (similar to Skype) but designed specifically for teaching. Collaborate allows for sharing content like PowerPoint slides and PDFs, websites like the NASW site, and software like SPSS. Located under Course Tools.

VoiceThread: VoiceThread is software allows you to make your content interactive. You post content: webcam recordings, presentation slides, images, videos and your students can post audio, video or text-based comments and questions.

Hunter Video Network: The HVN is private video sharing site for Hunter College faculty, staff, and students. It's a great place to store large video files that can then be embedded or linked in the Blackboard.

For more information or training on any of these tools, please contact Deepa Rao-Sisario, Educational Technology, dr1649@hunter.cuny.edu/212-396-7612.