Postsecondary
Teaching with Technology
Collaborative

Creating Online Environments To Promote Motivation and Learning: Perspectives From Students

SRI Education

Community College Research Center

Tulsa Community College

Welcome!

Postsecondary
Teaching with Technology
Collaborative

Presenters

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SRI Education

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Community College Research Center (CCRC)

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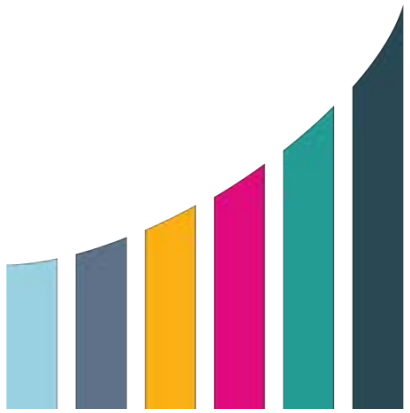
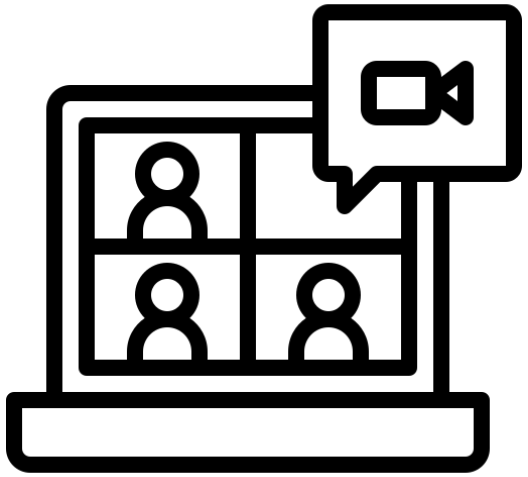
For today's presentation we will...



Share a brief overview about the SDL & the Collaborative



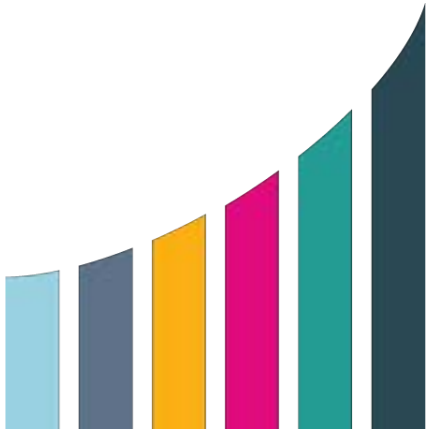
Share an instructional example of an online classroom teaching practice

Elevate the student voice and their experiences

Discuss takeaways and supports for instructors

What is the Collaborative?

A research and capacity-building center that aims to study and improve how faculty **teach** and use **technology** to help students apply and strengthen **self-directed learning skills** to increase their success in online courses.



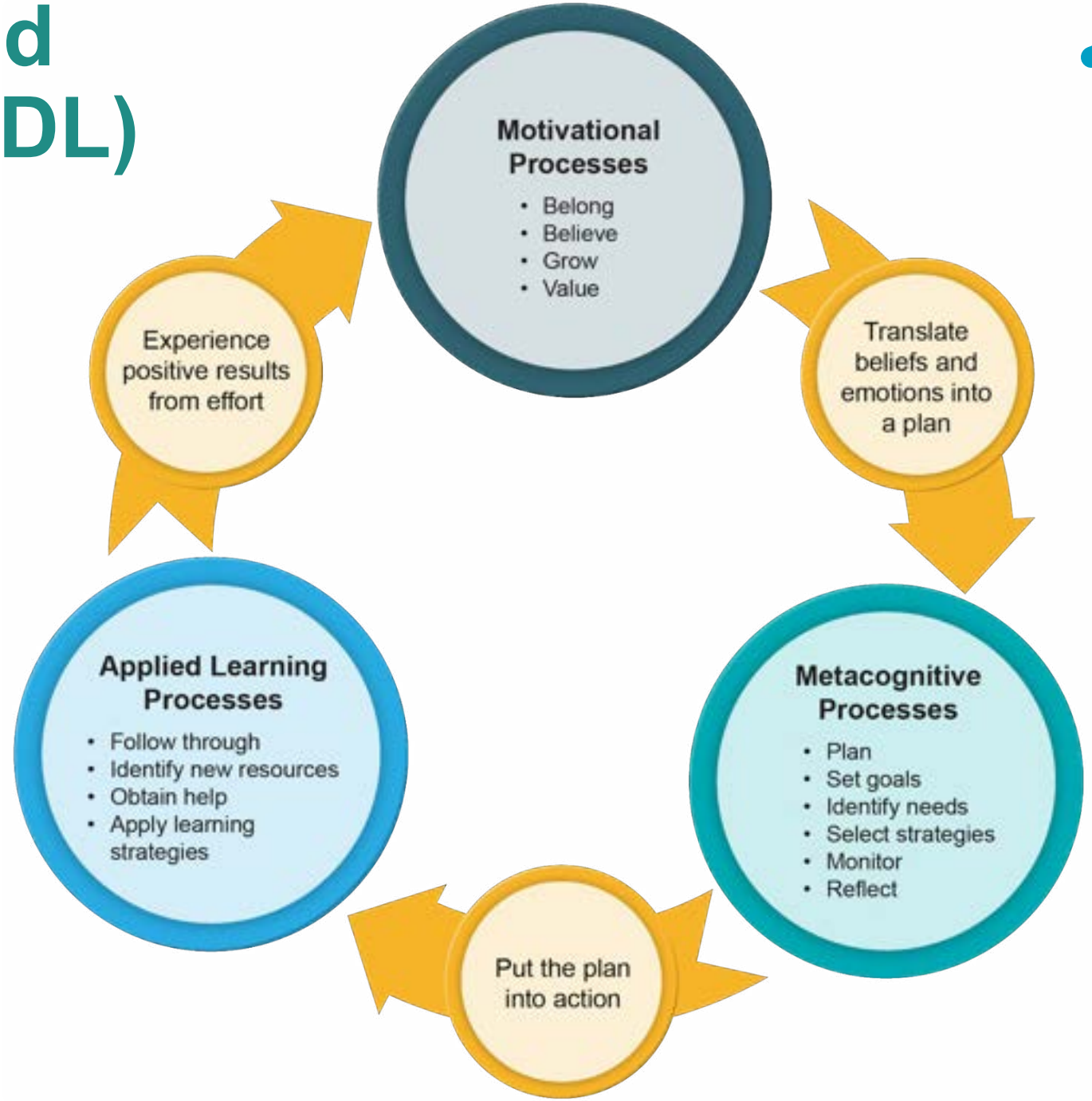
Postsec Collab: Who we are

SRI Education
A DIVISION OF SRI INTERNATIONAL

CCRC COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH CENTER
TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Achieving the Dream

Self-Directed Learning (SDL) skills are mutually reinforcing



Applications Aligned to the Framework to Promote SDL: Group Activities

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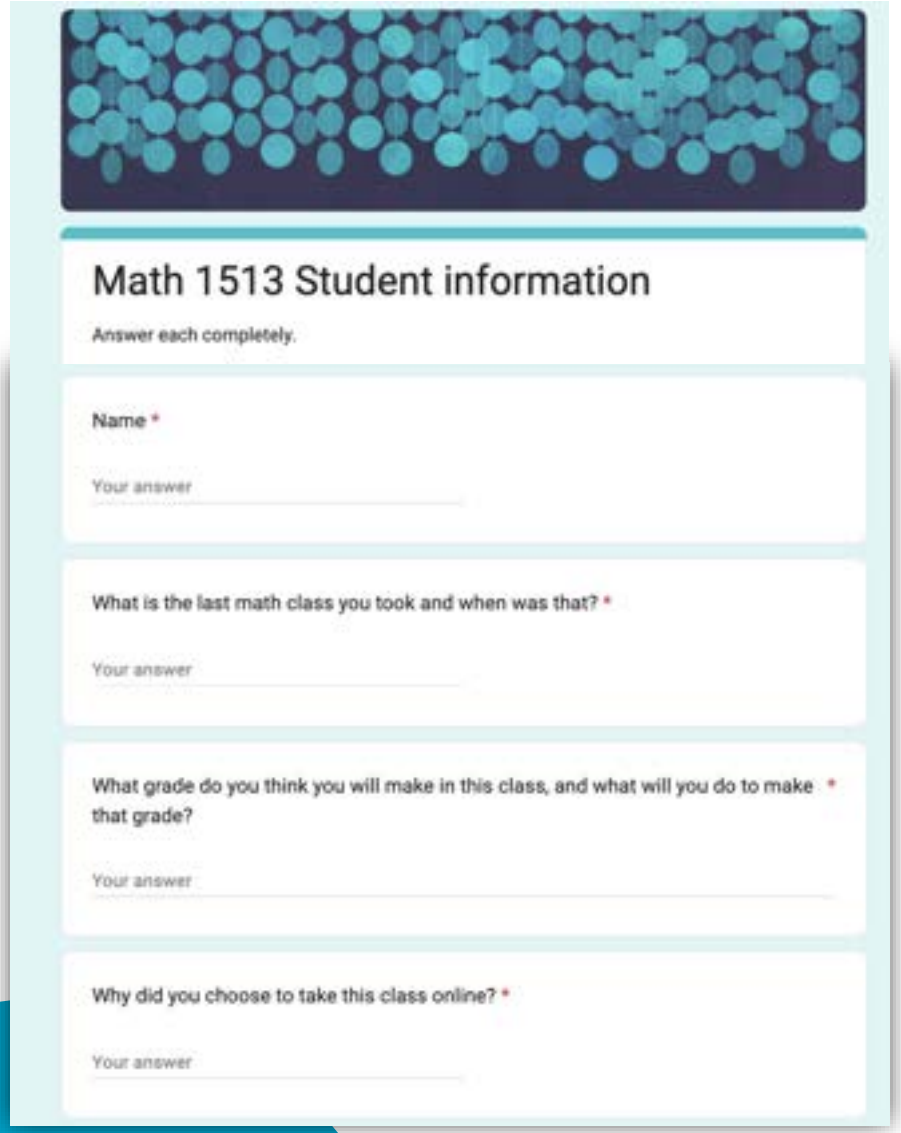
Introduction Survey: Google Form



Setting Expectations: Interaction

Build a sense of belonging

- Survey: Student Information (using Google Forms) share commonalities
- Sample Questions:
  - Why did you choose online?
  - What is the last math class you took and when was that?
  - What grade do you think you will make in this class, and what will you do to make that grade?

Setting Expectations: Interaction

Build a sense of belonging (cont.)

- Introduction Slide Show: link (using Google Slides)
- Introduction video

Challenges

- **What factors contribute to challenges for students in STEM courses, especially online?**
  - Feeling alone, overwhelmed, lack of interaction

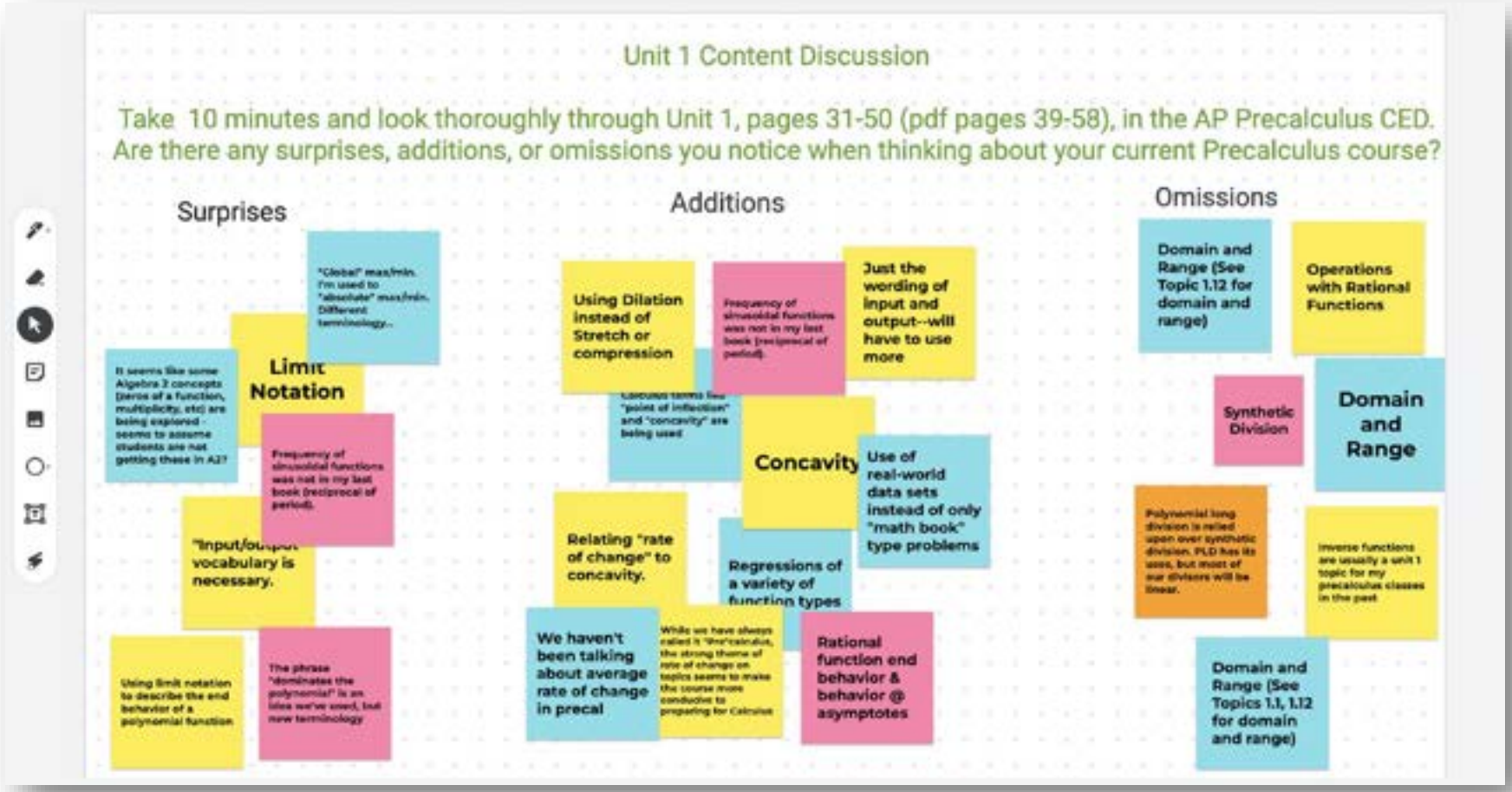
- **Students seeking help**
  - Invite students to campus: group study, tutoring center, one-on-one
  - Set up study groups for those who are interested

- **Defining the Struggle: Challenges of group activities in Online Courses**
  - Better breakout rooms
    - § Leader, Activity, Choice, Share Screen, Direction/Goal

Engaging Students: Examples of Group Activities

Unit Content Discussion

- On **Jamboard**, students collaborate in groups to…
  - Unit Overview
  - Pre-made activity
  - Ask questions
  - Brainstorm



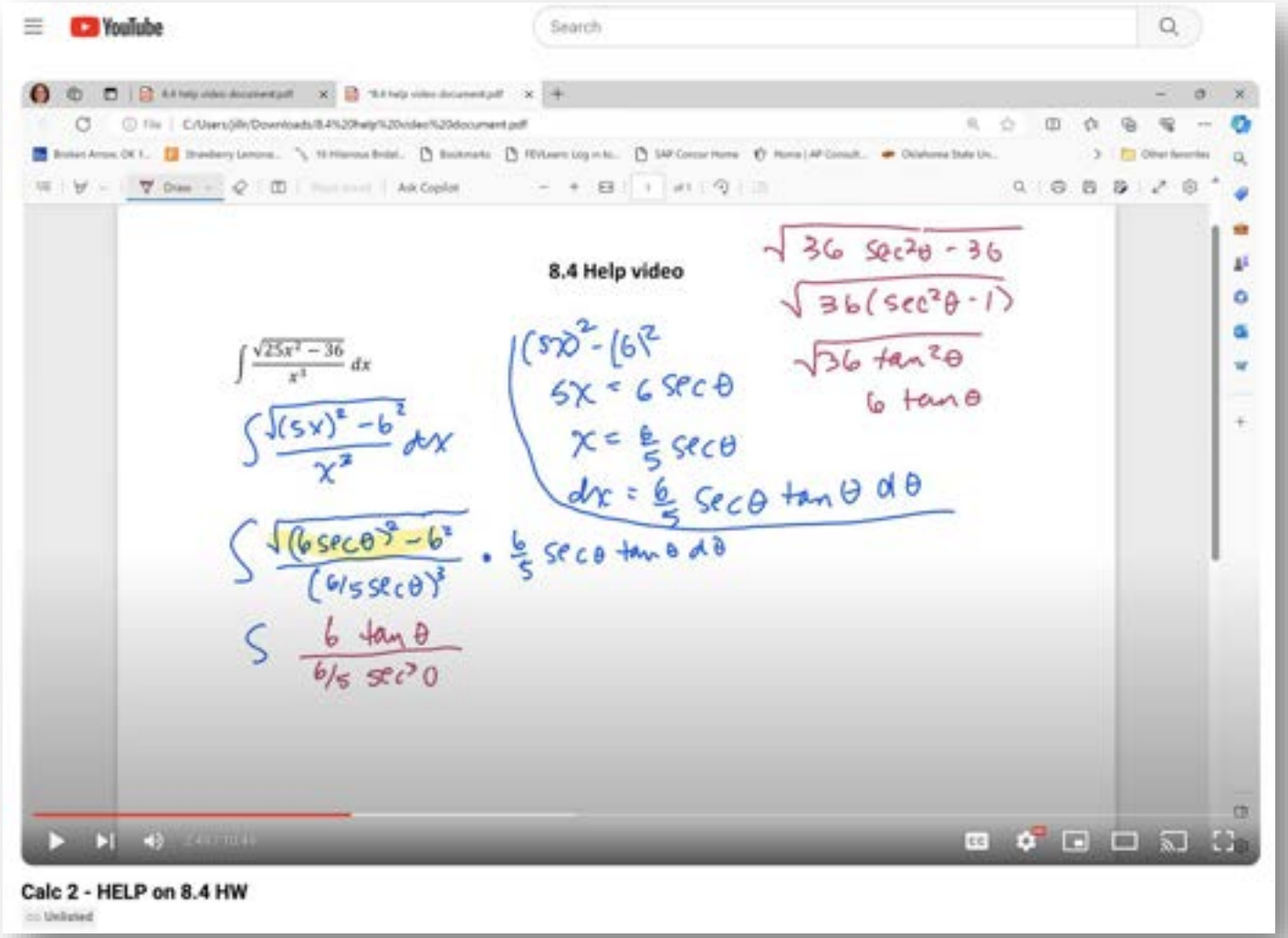
Engaging Students: Examples of Group Activities (Cont.)

Instructor Made Videos:

- Record videos of
  - Notes for each section
  - Help videos for homework

- Students can access these videos through the LMS

- Provided for **asynchronous and synchronous** classes



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Student Voices: Benefits and Barriers to Online Group Activities

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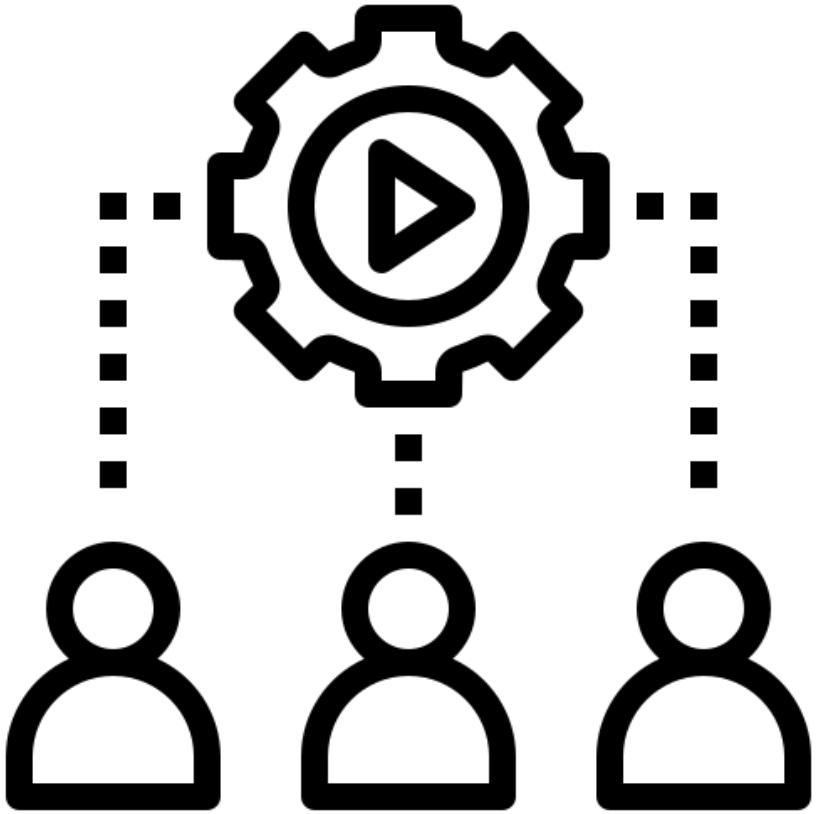
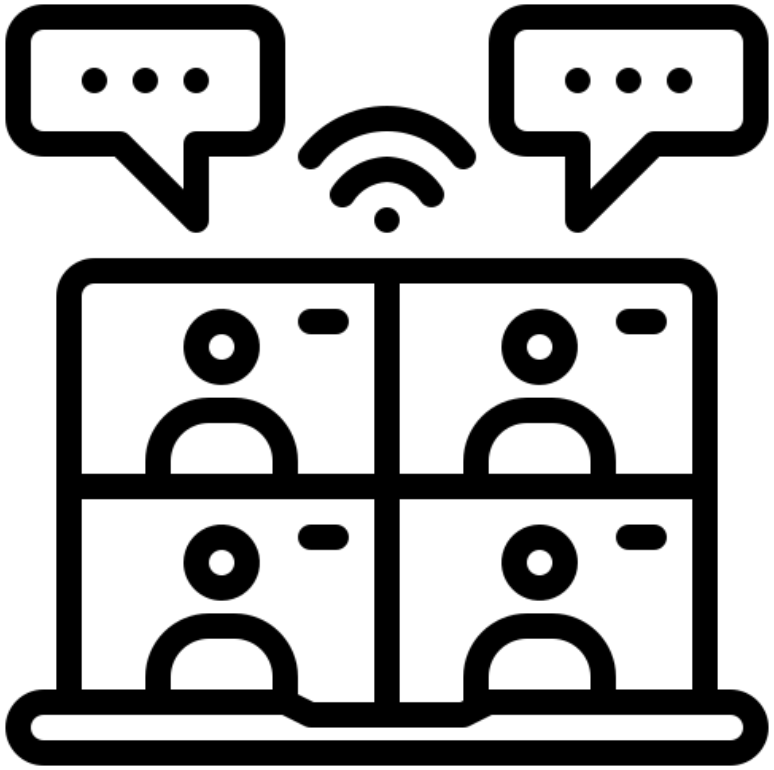
Student perspectives on group activities



- Students shared their **varying experiences** with group assignments.
  - "...When it comes to groups, I don't like doing groups. I'd rather just do everything **by myself**."
- Working with other students can make it harder for students who like to learn independently.
  - "…[I like going at] my own pace. That's why we're doing online […] I don't have to worry about getting behind..."

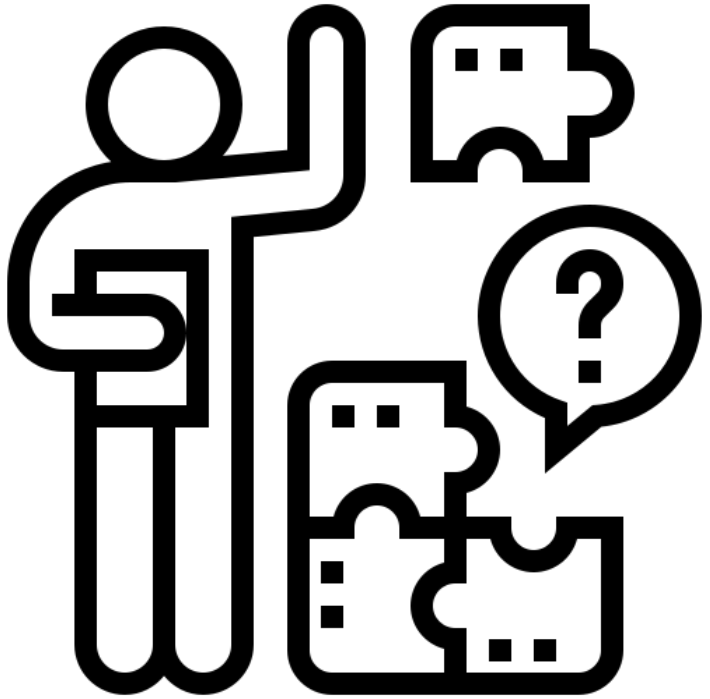
Student experiences in online courses

- Opportunities for peer interaction can **increase motivation and connectedness**.
  - "...The breakout rooms only […last], about 15 minutes and [then]...it goes back to the original class […] so, you're not talking too long...You don't get [enough time] to **chit chat**..."



Student perspectives on Motivational Processes

- Students reported **increased motivation and a sense of belonging** when they knew other students were struggling in the course.
  - "[Knowing that] you're all on the **same page**, [...] it's nice to have that."
- Students appreciate **structure and roles** with group work:
  - "... I do like group work, but it depends on the group. […] If you get people that just like, **drag their feet**, you know, it's probably one of the most frustrating things in school."



Student perspectives on Applied Learning Processes

- Collaborating with peers **increased confidence** in seeking help from instructor:
  - "... [It] was helpful to be able to talk to other students and [...] **teach each other** the material. [When we realized] we didn't know something...we would **ask the professor** at the next meeting."

Takeaways and Considerations

Supporting Instructors with Strategies for Student SDL Skill Development

- **Institutional Supports**
  - Access to equipment and resources
    - Computer labs
    - Accessible testing sites
  - Professional development to support specific training
    - Include student perspective via panels
- **Equity Considerations**
  - Affinity-based efforts to promote help-seeking
  - Varied options to promote sense of belonging and community
  - Student choice about taking online courses

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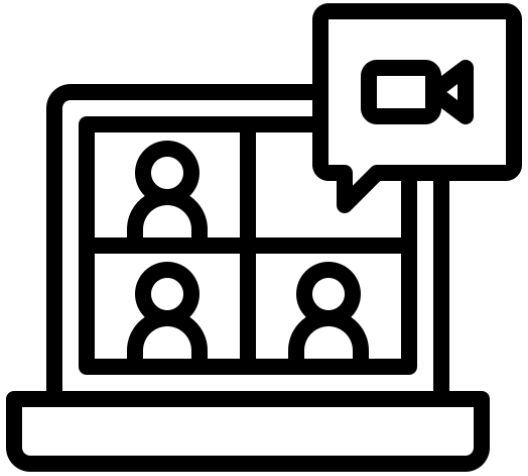

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Questions?

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Google Drive (Resources from presentation)

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