

Classroom Technology Options for Accommodating Remote Students (Spring 2022)

Following the successful return-to-campus in Fall 2021, we are excited for the Spring 2022 term where we expect to continue with in-person learning for our residential students. One of the lessons learned this fall is that there may be, from time-to-time, one or more students enrolled in your course that will be unable to attend class because of COVID-19 related concerns (e.g., required quarantine and/or positive test result). This guide suggests some commonly employed options for accommodating remote student(s) while they are unable to join you and also points to the technology options and resources that can help.

What happens if I have a student who may be sick? How do I accommodate them?

According to GW policy, students missing two consecutive weeks during the semester due to illness and/or quarantine requirements should be accommodated in some way. If this happens, it is up to you as a professor to decide how to address this situation. Examples of responses include: allowing the student to participate remotely, recording lectures for the student to review, having a student notetaker in class capture important information for the student, and agreeing to meet with the student post-quarantine to assist that student in catching up with missed material.

Faculty also should consider ways for students who miss one or more class sessions due to cause to earn credit for missed attendance/participation. Suggested methods could include: submitting a short reflection paper, answering some questions about the recorded lecture, completing and submitting an activity that was conducted in-class, or contributing to a discussion board.

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Option 1: Record your classroom session for later viewing. Using this option, students who are unable to attend class would view a recording of your class in lieu of joining you in-person. This is perhaps the easiest and most straightforward way to support students who are not able to join class. This method assumes that you are open to allowing your students to access course lectures on their own time. There are three GW supported methods for recording and sharing your class session recordings.

- Lecture Capture for Your Classroom with Echo 360 (recommended - can be scheduled in advance of the class session)
 - Enable Lecture Capture for your classroom ([PDF](#)) ([Video](#))
 - View all Echo 360 Guides (courtesy GW ITL)
- Record your class session with Zoom
 - For faculty comfortable with the Zoom platform and with the classroom technology setup, [recording your class session with Zoom](#) can be a good option.

- When using GW support Zoom, you now have the ability to [schedule class meetings and store recordings using the GW Zoom Scheduling Tool](#).
- Record your class session with Blackboard Collaborate Ultra
 - For faculty comfortable with Collaborate, [recording a Blackboard Collaborate meeting](#) is also a good option.
 - [Info on getting started with Collaborate Ultra](#)

Option 2: Webinar Style Attendance: This option provides remote students with one-way, real-time class attendance. This option is recommended for faculty who feel it is important for students to attend class at the regularly scheduled date and time alongside their in-classroom peers. Remote students would join via the Zoom or Collaborate Ultra meeting platforms and listen-in with minimal opportunities for interaction. The session can be recorded as well for later student viewing.

- See details above (Option 1) for how to schedule a Zoom or Collaborate meeting.
- Once scheduled, you can then share the link to the meeting on Zoom or Collaborate with a remote student.
- This short video provides an overview of our classrooms' capabilities and what is required to [start a class session with remote participants](#).

Option 3: Simultaneous Instruction: This option provides a hybrid, real-time class meeting involving in-person and remote attendees. This requires some extra effort on the part of the instructor to manage the Zoom or Collaborate platform while also teaching in-classroom. It can be a good option for faculty who are comfortable with virtual meeting platforms and want to give their remote students a chance to contribute to class discussions, ask questions, and participate in some interactive activities.

- These two short videos (approx. 2-minutes each) provide an overview of the classroom capabilities for simultaneous instruction.
 - *Running your class session:*
<https://gwu.box.com/s/q3h9ciymrna6hzo1j2juh24z3opohcql>
 - *Managing in-class and remote audio:*
<https://gwu.box.com/s/p5ru4jv9xwl63smof7hvozlo5j75r0fn>

Will GWIT be available if I need assistance in the classroom?

GWIT will have technician dispatch support available throughout the term. For any faculty that have support questions or concerns, GWIT technicians can be reached *either by using the classroom phones*, or by calling 202-994-7900 directly.

SUPPORT: Who do I Call/Email?

GWIT: Zoom, WebEx and General IT Support

Academic Center B101
Phone: 202-994-GWIT
gwsphsupport@gwu.edu

Instructional Technology Lab:
Blackboard, Collaborate and Content Recording

Gelman B05
Phone: 202-994-0485
itl@gwu.edu

GWSPH Academic Affairs: Teaching and Learning Support/Guidance

Jane Hyatt Thorpe: Senior Associate Dean for Academic, Student & Faculty Affairs (jthorpe@gwu.edu)

George Gray, Associate Dean for MPH Programs (ggray@gwu.edu)

Andrew Wiss, Director of Online Learning (awiss@gwu.edu)