

## 5 Tips for Online Teaching

### 1. Encourage Collaboration and Cooperation (Social Presence)

To counter feelings of online isolation, encourage students to build a sense of community by sharing prior experience or familiarity with course outcomes and content. Likewise, encourage students to answer peer questions in a separate Questions and Answers (Q&A) forum or moderate forum discussions.

### 2. Provide Prompt, Formative Feedback (Teacher Presence)

Constructive feedback that guides and models performance is critical for developing essential skills, knowledge and attitudes. Frequent feedback also demonstrates strong teacher presence and reminds students that even online you are a caring, positive influence in their lives.

### 3. Encourage Self-Assessment and Self-Checks with Rubrics and Checklists

Since online students can't ask for immediate clarification in class, it's critical to communicate clear expectations. To supplement assignment instructions, encourage students to verify they have completed all weekly or module tasks by using the Moodle checklist and grading tools such as rubrics or marking guides (if available in your course).

### 4. Encourage Reflection

Ongoing reflection on course content can help students connect prior knowledge to new skills and concepts. As an effective learning strategy, students could periodically reflect, in a journal or blog, on progress, achievements, challenges, etc. Alternatively, ask students to answer essential questions at the beginning and end of the term to track growth (e.g. "Aha" moments, critical incidents, etc.).

### 5. Provide Summaries and Previews of each Module

To help students connect core concepts to experience, summarize each module at the end of the unit. Likewise, offer a preview of the next module, laying the groundwork for new concepts, skills and values.