Last updated: 7/05/20

**ELICITING PRIOR KNOWLEDGE in remote/online settings**

SUMMARY HANDOUT

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**Illustrative examples:***(S=synchronous session or F2F; A=asynchronous online or regular homework)*

1. Responding to an anonymous online survey (with no sharing of results) (A)
2. Taking an ungraded pre-test (A/S)
3. Writing an online “baseline” private journal (A)
4. Initial discussion board related to the content (A)
5. Participating in a synchronous electronic poll (w/ immediate sharing of results) (S)
6. Synchronous online discussion (possibly in breakout rooms) (S)
7. Sharing a memorable story/experience relevant to the topic (A/S)
8. Initial open-ended task requiring to use prior knowledge (A/S)

**Key tips:**

* Word your prompts carefully and keep them open-ended, so as to avoid “leading” questions
* Don’t assign a grade, so students will feel “safer” in sharing what they do not know
* To spark interest in the topic, whenever possible elicit and show a diversity of responses
* To show learning/ growth, create and revisit records at the end of the unit/module

**Key decisions to be made** *(and related options to consider)***:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **WHEN**:   * + ***Prior*** *to a task*   + *At the* ***beginning*** *of a task (as part of the task itself)* | **Level of PRIVACY**:   * + ***Public*** *(shared with the class)*   + ***Private*** *(shared only with instructor)*   + ***Anonymous***   + ***Not shared*** | **RECORDS** created:   * + ***Individual***   + ***Collective*** *(class/ small group)*   + ***None*** |

**Useful online tools:**

* Online assignment/journal feature *(private + individual) – any LMS*
* Online quiz/test *(private + individual) – any LMS*
* Online discussion board feature *(shared + individual) – any LMS, Padlet, Flipgrid*
* Online anonymous survey *(anonymous + collective) – most LMSs; Survey Monkeys*
* Synchronous electronic poll *(anonymous + collective) – Zoom; Poll-Everywhere*
* Synchronous session *(public +collective/none) – Zoom; Google Meet; Skype; etc.*

**Reflective questions about specific implementations of this practice:**

* *What did you do to elicit your students’ prior knowledge?*
* *What decisions did you make (and why) about WHEN, PRIVACY, and RECORDS?*
* *What worked/didn’t work and why?*
* *What may you want to do differently next time?*