Maximize the LfA Experience

Tips for Teaching in the Learn from Anywhere format

- Keep Zoom up-to-date and always sign in with BU Kerberos via SSO (single-sign on).
  - Company domain: bostonu
  - BU Zoom Portal: bostonu.zoom.us

Classroom Teaching Tips

- Test audio and video settings before class begins:
  - If you hear excessive environmental noise, enable or adjust the Background Noise Suppression in the Zoom Settings.
  - Make sure ‘Automatically adjust microphone volume’ is enabled.
  - Adjust your webcam camera angle to provide the best viewing experience for remote students.
- Speak clearly and project your voice to be picked up by the classroom microphone.
- Repeat questions asked from the classroom audience into the mic, as remote students may not initially hear them.
- During Zoom Screen Sharing, select your entire Desktop instead of a single application window so that your content does not disappear from view.
- Mute all participants that are not presenting at that time to prevent class disruptions.
- Periodically ask questions to remote students in order to promote student engagement.
- Build short breaks into your lessons to minimize “Zoom fatigue.”
- Try to limit video clips to 10 minutes or less, and select ‘Share computer sound’ in the Zoom screen sharing settings.

Teaching Tips if you need to be Remote

- For best audio quality, wear headphones whenever possible and avoid using the built-in speakers. Classroom audio may be muffled or quiet due to environmental noise or other variable factors.
- For best voice quality, use an external microphone (headset, AirPods/EarPods, webcam mic or USB desktop mic) if you have one, instead of the integrated laptop microphone.
- Avoid heavy backlighting to not appear as a silhouette on video. Close curtains/blinds if you sit in front of a window. Frontlighting may be helpful if available.
- Quit open applications if you experience stuttering/lag on Zoom video.
- Mute yourself when not speaking.

Additional Learn from Anywhere Resources:
BUMC IT Educational Media
Zoom Links & Guides

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