

Planning Large Enrollment Online Courses: Creating an Interaction and Feedback Plan

Interaction and feedback help promote student learning as well as student satisfaction and retention in your course. Intentional planning is a necessity and should include plans for interaction in discussions and groups, grading and feedback for course activities, and providing your expertise through lecture content.

Consider the following questions when planning your Interaction and Feedback Plan:

- What role will I (the instructor) play in discussions and groups?
- How will I grade discussion and group interaction?
- How can I provide useful feedback to students on assignments and projects?
- How can I incorporate beneficial automated feedback into tests?
- Which lecture content is necessary to provide, and how will I provide it?

Examine the example below to see how this instructor planned for interaction and feedback.

	Challenges Expected	Interaction and Feedback Plan
Interaction in discussions and groups	With 100 students, there will be a huge number of posts to read and respond to.	*Post occasional comments or questions in each discussion group. *Provide individual feedback through a grading rubric.
Grading and feedback for assignments and projects	Three short papers and two projects will pose an impossible grading situation.	*Shift to group projects and make one of the short papers a brief group presentation. *Use a rubric and add comments.
Grading and feedback through tests	Essay tests will require too much time to grade so feedback will not be timely or thorough.	*Shift to multiple choice, auto-graded tests with one short essay question. *Add in feedback for each distractor so students can understand mistakes.
Lecture content	Lectures tend to take two hours – review of content, Q&A, and insights for practice.	*Create mini-lectures on key insights. *Add a Q&A forum for questions on content such as readings, videos, and websites.