The background features a central white rectangular box with a thin green border. Behind the box, there is a stylized illustration of a graduation cap (mortarboard) with a red tassel. The background is composed of various abstract shapes in shades of blue, green, brown, and black. Two dark grey horizontal bars are positioned on either side of the white box, partially overlapping its edges.

Creating a Framework of Social Presence in a Distance Education Environment

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About Us



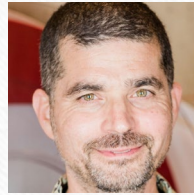
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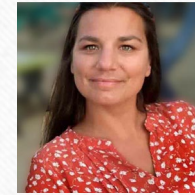


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Creating a Framework of Social Presence in a Distance Education Environment

- Sense of community impacts the extent an individual connects to concepts (Tu, 2000).
- Instructor's role to create social presence (Rhodes & Schmidt, 2021)
 - Instructional Design
 - Implementation
 - Evaluation
- Best Practices/Tools

Creating Sense of Community

- Social Presence
 - Instructional design
 - Implementation
 - Evaluation
- Inclusivity

In troubled times, learners need your presence online.

Yes, there is a professor on the other side of the screen!

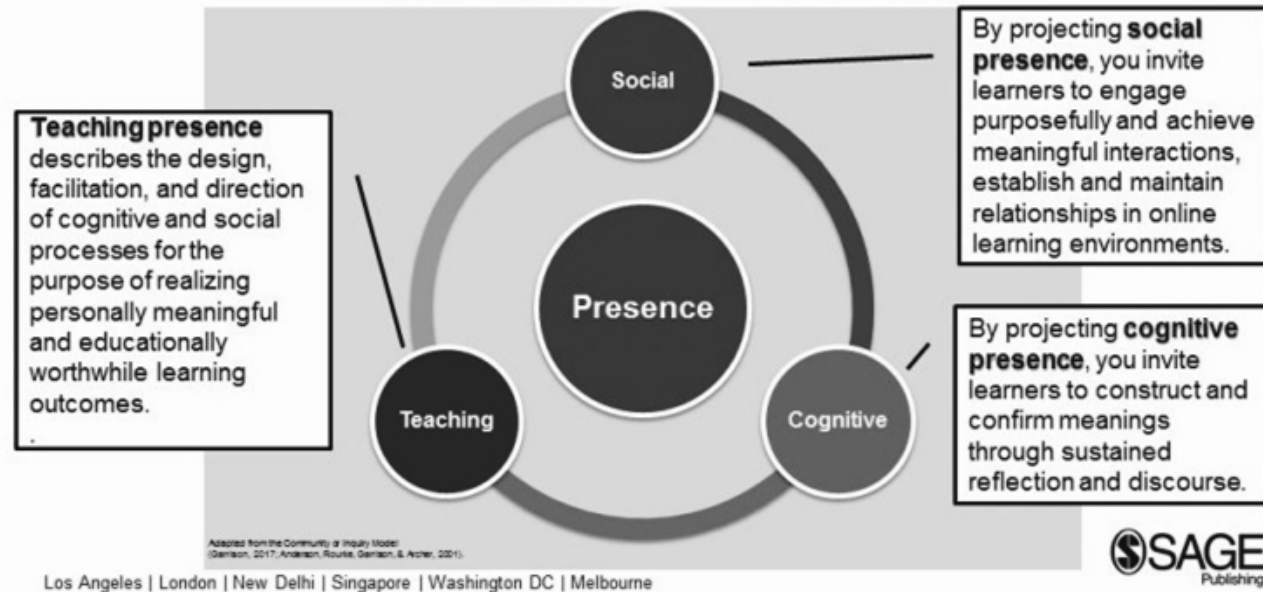


Image retrieved from LinkedIn (2020).

Fireside Chats

Purpose: Supplement asynchronous courses with real-time, semi-formal discussions about course content.

Key Features:

- Optional
- Varied times
- Discussions loosely guided by instructor
- Community-building alongside content learning
- Humor/humanizing: Have a candle burning!

Fireside Chats

- As Described in Syllabus:

Format – This class is asynchronous, supplemented by one-on-one phone or in person meetings with the instructor.

Fall 2021 Addition: There will also be 3 synchronous ‘fireside chats’ for students wishing to discuss topics directly or tangentially related to course themes:

Monday 4:00-5:00pm – November 1st, 15th, and 29th .

(Note: 11/1 changed to 5:30-6:30pm)

Fireside Chats

Noticings/Results:

- Highly attended (even though students had ‘busy lives’)
- Students made personal connections to course content
- Students offered feedback, ideas, and support to each other
- Discussion board interactions improved and became more authentic (increased social presence)
- Frequently mentioned as one of the best aspects of the class in course evaluations.

Nearpod's Interactive Features

Nearpod is an interactive student engagement platform. Powerpoint on steroids!

Nearpod's interactive features, such as quizzes, polls, and open-ended questions, encourage student engagement and participation.

These features can be used to create opportunities for students to share their thoughts and opinions.

Example: Brainstorming

The Collaborate Board allows for student to brainstorm OR just give input on topics.

Instructions

A teacher may use a plate with a lip to help a child with a fine motor delay be more independent at lunch or snack.



A switch adapted toy can make it easier for everyone to activate a device or toy. For example, a button on the floor, so anyone can step on it or a wheel chair can also roll on it to make it work. <https://ganinfo.org/docs/gan-toy-workshop.pdf>

How Switches Work

1. User controls switch with any movement.
2. Switch Access
3. Target is activated.



A teacher can make seating arrangements that allow students that use a wheelchair to not only sit by their peers, but also be able to move around freely and easily.



A teacher may give a child his/her own spot on the carpet for when it is time to do whole group work. Currently, we have a student in our class who has autism and does not like to be seated next to others. Having his own square makes him happy.



A teacher can provide calming toys to relaxing area for children who are stressed, angered, anxious, and need tools for self regulation.



Often students create cliques or stick near people they are friends with. By rearranging the class room in either a full circle, or small groups, that allows for everyone to participate and be seen.



By including cubbies in the classroom instead of lockers or desks that have to be lifted, all children can gain a sense of independence and responsibility. Opening lockers is difficult with the

A teacher can use these light covers to make the light in the classrooms less harsh and can make the environment less over stimulating. Changing the lighting can reduce over stimulation and overall make the environment feel cozier.

The most effective routines have a definite start, middle, and end. To teach children routines, keep them interested, and help them transition between different tasks, use visual aids such as images or accessories.

A teacher can provide a fidget to students who are getting antsy sitting in their seats for to long to keep them focused.

Example: Polls

What do you think?

A. I rarely do.

B. Only when I feel engaged

C. Of course!

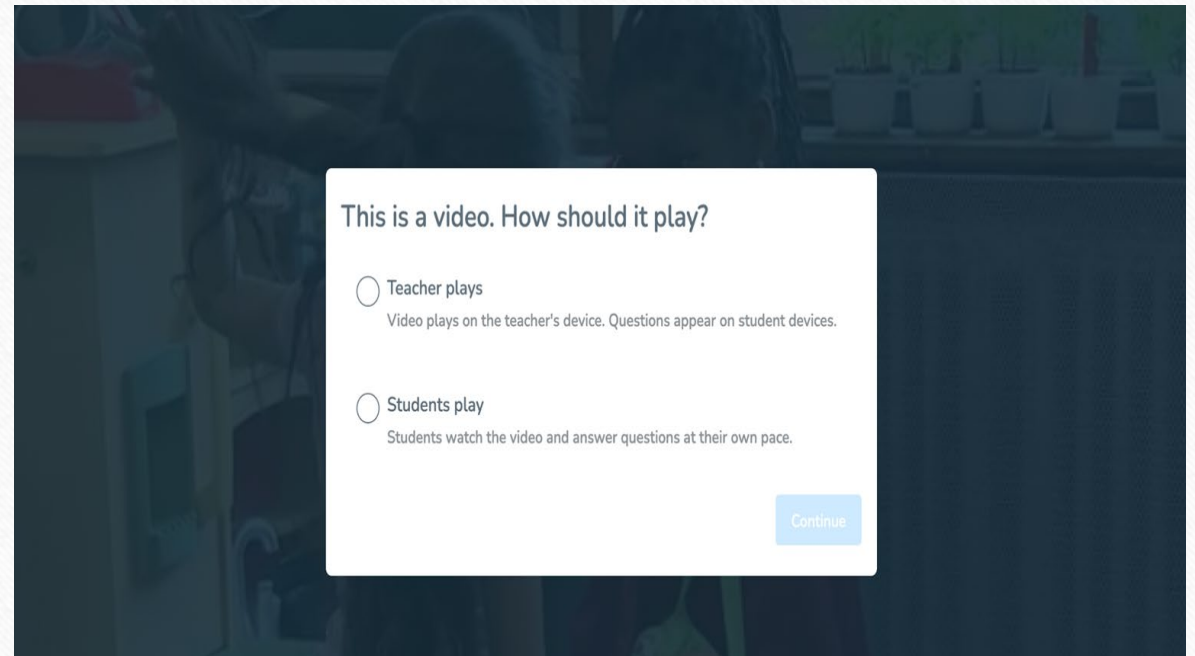


Polls are not new to distance learning. They are equally useful in Nearpod. I like to use them to pre/post-assess what students know, or think they know before and after introducing content.

Students also like to offer their opinions. I often use them in place of the chatty smalltalk that builds rapport during in person classes.

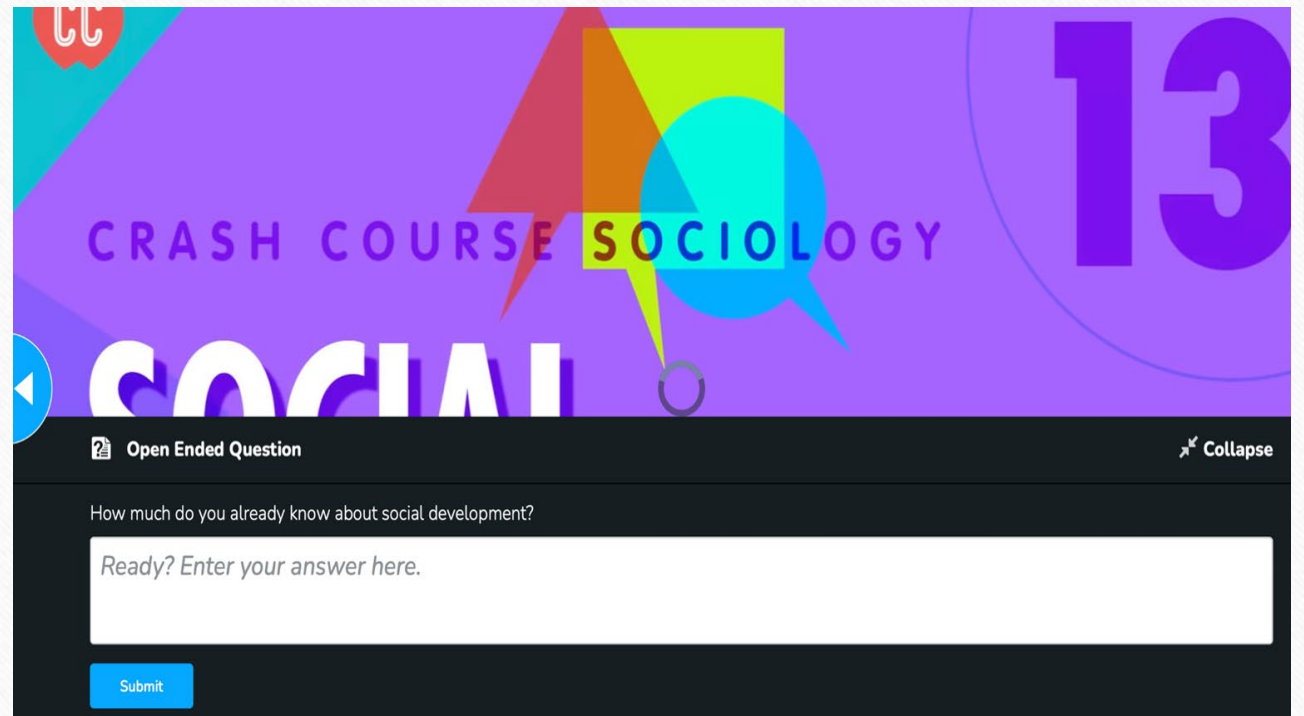
Video

Nearpod gives the option for videos to be played either by the teacher or by students. This flexibility allows for Zoom classes to watch the video either as a group or individually in breakout rooms. For Asynchronous courses, it collects data on how much of the video was actually watched by each student.



Video

The instructor can also embed questions and other interactive content during specific places in the video. Students report to me that this give them the feeling of discussing what is being seen in real-time. It's a small way to give distance learners the sense of a classroom discussion.



The screenshot shows a video player interface for 'Crash Course Sociology'. The video frame displays the course title 'CRASH COURSE SOCIOLOGY' in purple and white text, with a large number '13' on the right. Below the video frame, there is a dark overlay containing an 'Open Ended Question' section. The question text reads: 'How much do you already know about social development?'. Below the question is a white text input field with the placeholder text 'Ready? Enter your answer here.'. A blue 'Submit' button is located at the bottom left of the question overlay, and a 'Collapse' icon is at the bottom right.

Making the Most of Web Content

Nearpod works great on its own, but is especially useful in helping learners make the most of other existing platforms like the school's LMS, Padlet, Google Drive, and Flipgrid.

Nearpod automatically inputs websites like, Padlet, Wakelet, Flipgram, or even Google slides where students are prompted to work together on material.

When the student is finished working on their portion, they can simple move on to the next slide.

Not having to rely on students to return to the LMS to follow a link increases engagement and I find that students produce a higher quality of work.

Making the Most of Padlet

The image shows a screenshot of a Padlet board titled "History of Early Education" by user mnapierkowski. The board is organized into a grid of content tiles. The tiles include:

- Progressive Education - Patty Smith Hill and The Kindergarten Movement**: A tile with a Britannica logo and text about Patty Smith Hill's biography, theory, and impact on kindergarten.
- Progressive Education - G Stanley Hall and John Dewey**: A tile featuring a video titled "G. Stanley Hall" and text about John Dewey's "4 Principles of Progressive Education".
- Nursery Schools - Lucy Sprague Mitchell and Abigail Eliot**: A tile with a video of a nursery school classroom and text about Abigail Eliot's role in creating the National Association for Nursery Education in 1926.
- Development of Childcare**: A tile with a video titled "Children Create Art in World War II Kaiser Shipyard Childcare Centers" and text about government-subsidized nursery schools.
- Contemporary Developments - DAP**: A tile with a video titled "DAP and the Common Core State Standards" and text about the importance of the white paper and the role of the Executive Director.
- Contemporary Developments - Oneida Cockrell and Betsy Stockton**: A tile with a video titled "Betsy Stockton" and text about her role as a pioneer in early childhood education.
- Contemporary Developments - Standards**: A tile with a video titled "Different ways these standards help children" and text about accommodations for children with disabilities.
- Other tiles**: "Patty Smith Hill" (video), "John Dewey's stages of Progressive Education" (video), "Abigail Eliot" (video), "Is Childcare Infrastructure?" (video), and "University of Hawaii Hilo" (video).

The board interface includes a top navigation bar with the Padlet logo, user name, and board title. Each tile has a title, a video thumbnail, and a brief description. The board also features a grid of plus signs for adding new content and a right-hand sidebar with navigation icons.

Making the Most of the LMS

Nearpod allows for pdfs to similarly be opened without students clicking on anything. I like to have students give an opinion on a subject via a poll or collaborate board, be “handed” a reading, then asked their opinion once more. This allows for self reflection. I often follow up these readings with discussion board posts that prompt students to question themselves and one another.

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL POSTS	UNREAD POSTS
Properties of various discussions		
It's important to remember that as our understanding of child development continues to evolve, so too may our opinions and ideas. By reflecting on our own beliefs and engaging in discussions with others, we can continue to learn and grow together. Consider how your opinion on infant sleep habits may or may not have changed after reading the article.	10	10

Making the Most of Google Slides

GROUP TIME

Instead of ME telling YOU about these health and safety topics, I would like you to do the research as a group and report to the class.

1. Do some research online, but be sure to use trusted sources. [NAEYC](#) is a great one, as is [Zero-3](#) and others.
2. Look for your names. Fill your slide with information about your topic, as it applies to children age birth to 8. Please do make it attractive, nice to look at, etc. Be mindful of formatting, colors, fonts, photos, etc. You may create another slide if you need to! Be thorough! **Pretend you are the teacher this time.**
3. One the second slide, find an activity for children that can help them advocate for themselves in these situations. How can they learn to keep themselves safe? You may use any lesson or idea you find online, as long as it is appropriate.
4. Cite your sources, put your names on your slides.
5. Now, visit two other classmate's slides and react to their information. What did you think? Did you have questions? **Put your comment in red.** The slides editor will respond in **blue.**
6. Return to your slides to see the comments!

Safe Play Spaces - Outdoor Environments: Kaitlynn and Skyler

How to make an outdoor space safe for children

- **Add a fence**
 - A fence keeps the children contained and prevents strangers from being able to approach them.
- **Set boundaries**
 - Children should be allowed to explore their environments, but a set of rules should be established as well.
- **Keep a close eye on the children and watch for any potential hazards**
 - Children seem to naturally get themselves into some type of trouble. Be on the lookout for any plants or animals that could potentially harm the children. Jimson weed, bitter nightshade, and stinging nettle are all poisonous if ingested.

Are childcare center's allowed to have vegetation in playgrounds? I feel like all of the ones I see have woodchips or foam padding - Ricky B



Hi Ricky! They ARE allowed to have plants. They do need to have so many inches of woodchips or foam as the ground coverings - Kait

In short

- Nearpod is a powerful tool that can help create a sense of community in fully asynchronous classes.
- By incorporating interactive features, collaborative activities, and real-time feedback, instructors can help students feel connected to the course material.
- Navigating to websites, pdfs, videos, and the LMS is all done seamlessly - resulting in more engagement, higher quality of work, and more accessibility.

Interactive Activity

Write down one thing you would change or add to one of your classes based on something you learned during this session.

Questions?

Thank you
for attending
our presentation!



Image retrieved from Public Domain Pictures (N.D.).

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