To support faculty who may be teaching in learning spaces with the newly installed Flex@Pitt classroom technology, the Teaching Center has developed several resources:

- Our [Zoom Rooms Introduction video](#) provides an introduction to the technology installed in the classroom.
- The [Zoom Rooms Technical Overview video](#) provides information on creating Zoom meetings, setting up audio recordings, using screen sharing, and navigating controls.
• Our interactive guided tool will walk you through the steps of how to schedule your synchronous Zoom class sessions in Canvas, associate the classroom technology, and find your class recording afterwards.
• We offer Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology workshops every Friday and offer a live, in-person demonstration on the classroom technology.

Please visit our Resources for Teaching page for more helpful information.

Communicating With Your Students

As the first week of spring term concludes under the Flex@Pitt instructional model, instructors should continue to regularly communicate and engage with students in their course(s) early. Encourage students to:

• Take care of their health.
• Continue to maintain open communication with you.
• Reach out for help when they need it.
• Remain engaged in the course.
• Update you on their progress and communicate the need for support and/or flexibility with course deadlines.
• Communicate with Disability Resources Services as appropriate.
For more resources on communication and engagement with students, please visit our Resources for Teaching page.

**Jan. 25: Poster Proposals Due for 2021 Assessment and Teaching Conference**

A virtual faculty poster session will be held during the 2021 Assessment and Teaching Conference. Proposal submissions are due by Monday, Jan. 25. All instructors (full-time and part-time) are encouraged to submit a proposal. Acceptance letters will be sent immediately following the submission deadline.

As a reminder, all faculty and faculty support specialists are invited to attend the virtual 2021 Assessment and Teaching Conference on Friday, Feb. 12. The conference brings together faculty and staff from across the University for a day to discuss the relationship between assessment, student learning, and teaching. More information on the conference agenda and registration will be released soon. Please visit the Assessment and Teaching Conference web page for updates.

**Jan. 25: Request Your Midterm Course Survey**
Collecting student feedback early in the term can uncover which teaching methods are working, which are not, and whether adjustments should be made. Please plan to request a midterm course survey during spring term to generate student feedback and fine-tune the delivery of your course.

- **Jan. 25-Feb. 18:** Faculty may request a midterm course survey through their Teaching Survey Dashboard.
- **Feb. 8-21:** Faculty can add personalized questions to midterm course surveys.
- **Feb. 22-28:** Midterm course surveys open.
- **March 1:** Midterm course survey reports are made available to faculty.

For more resources and information, please visit our midterm course survey page.

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**Gradescope Workshop Announced**
Join us on **Feb. 2** for an online workshop on learning how to use Gradescope. The workshop will offer guidance on remote delivery of assignments that are paper-based, fully online, and a combination of the two. It will also cover the grading and rubric-building workflow on Gradescope and walk attendees through the instructor interface for creating an assignment and student interface for submitting assignments and viewing feedback.

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**Reminder: Transforming the Teaching & Learning Environment Virtual Conference**

The 2021 **Transforming the Teaching & Learning Environment** virtual conference will be held from **Feb. 1-12**. Pitt has purchased a license for all faculty to participate in this event and registration information will be available soon. The conference is sponsored by Northeastern University in Oklahoma and will feature presentations on topics like best practices in course design, flipped and online learning environments, educational technology, academic integrity, accessibility, and assessment to name a few. Some notable sessions include:

- Go Live! Best Practices for Synchronous Online Teaching
- Physically Separate, but Personally Connected: Finding Ways to Bridge the Distance in Distance Learning
- Using Escape Rooms to Educate
- Draw All Learners In: The Power of Immersive Video-based Learning
• Re-Imagining Assessment Strategies in The Transition to Online Instruction
• Strategies to Prevent Academic Dishonesty.

There will be 60 one-hour sessions spread over 10 days and all delivered using Zoom. Each one will be live and interactive, giving attendees the opportunity to engage with education professionals from all over the world. Visit the conference website to view the agenda.

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**Upcoming Virtual Workshops**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Register</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/26/2021</td>
<td>Encouraging Student Participation</td>
<td>10-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/29/2021</td>
<td>Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology</td>
<td>10-11 a.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/29/2021</td>
<td>Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/01/2021</td>
<td>Developing A Lesson Plan</td>
<td>1-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/02/2021</td>
<td>Video Creation Feedback and Critique Session</td>
<td>3-4 p.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/02/2021</td>
<td>Deliver and Grade Assignments with Gradescope</td>
<td>4-5 p.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/05/2021</td>
<td>Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology</td>
<td>10-11 a.m.</td>
<td>[Register Now]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/05/2021</td>
<td>Mentoring Academy</td>
<td>First Session</td>
<td>Noon-2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/05/2021</td>
<td>Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
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