

Meeting your students where they are: Finding solutions and building community worldwide

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Outline of Today's Workshop

1. Building virtual community
2. Administering curriculum across time zones and learning styles
3. Ensuring equitable access and safety in the virtual classroom
4. We will end with a discussion and conclusion

Building Virtual Community

Kate Hellman, Ph.D.

Director, IP-International Student and Scholar Services
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Building Virtual Community: Guidelines

- Reach out to students often and tell them you care
- Limit time spent lecturing and encouraging student interaction with other students and with faculty
- Use video and chat as modes to engage students
- Allow class time to be used for personal and professional updates
- Employ social and emotional learning



Building Virtual Community: Strategies (1)

- Build a rapport and be vulnerable
- Get to know your students via survey and personal interaction
- Establish virtual classroom student-driven guidelines that promote a culture of safety, understanding, and collaborative learning
- Use breakout rooms, class roles, and virtual field trips
- Take care of yourself and encourage students to take care of themselves



Building Virtual Community: Strategies (2)

- Refer your students to services offered by International Student and Scholar Services in the Office of International Programs
 - Holistic advising and immigration support
 - ESL support and tutoring in the Learning Support Center
 - International Center programs and activities
 - Coffee Hour, Campus Friends, Friends and Family
 - Student organizations
 - ISC, GPSA and other RSOs



Cultural Support

- Be sensitive
- Ask questions and reach out
- Point them to cultural university communities





Social Support

- Introduce them to the International Center
- <https://ip.wsu.edu/on-campus/the-student-center/>
- Offer some socialization time in class
- Check in with your students periodically

Administering Curriculum

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Applied Linguistics

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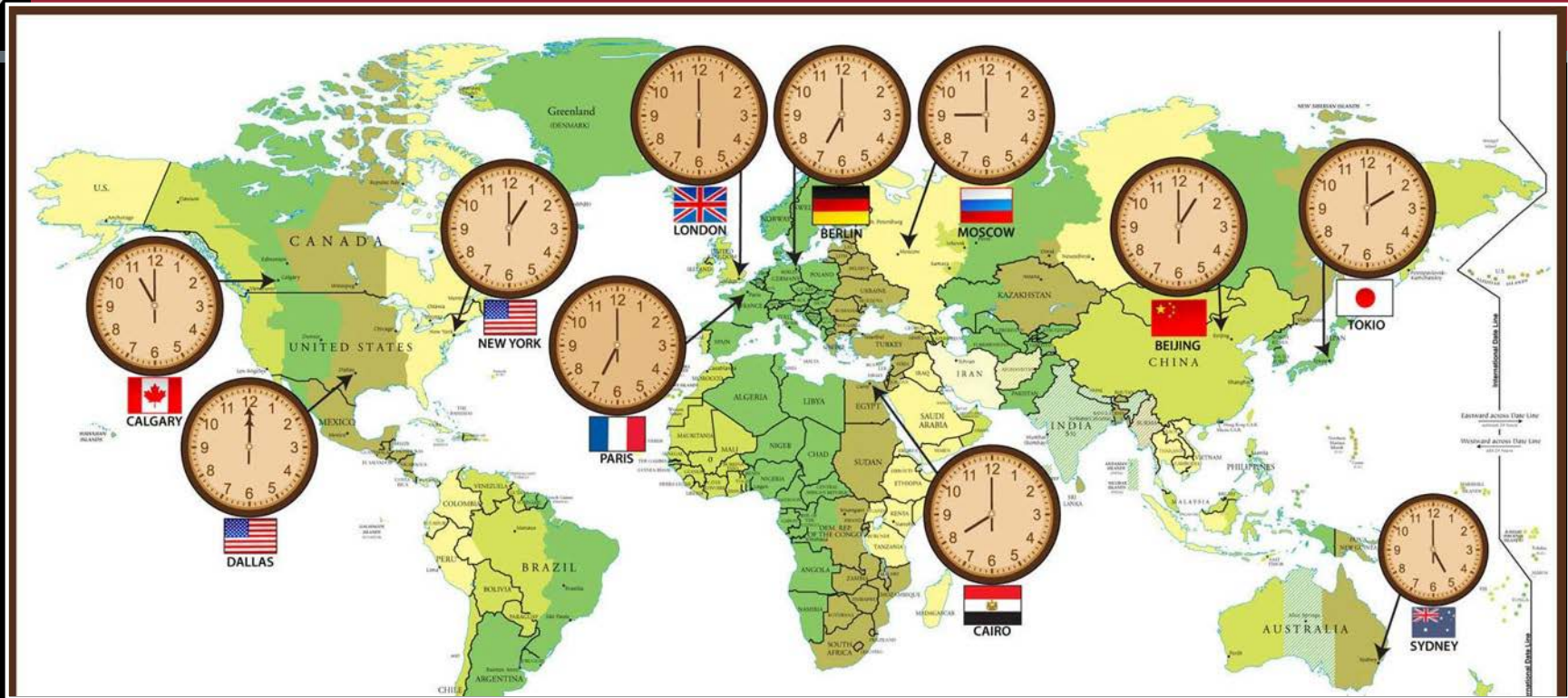
Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator



Administering Curriculum (cont.)

- Time zones
- Learning styles
- Why we care
 - Student success
 - Student health

STUDENT RETENTION



Time Zones



Schedule In Pacific Standard Time

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	
9 a.m.						
10 a.m.		UNIV 104 - 07 Lecture 10:35 - 11:25AM WEB Arranged ARR		UNIV 104 - 07 Lecture 10:35 - 11:25AM WEB Arranged ARR		
11 a.m.	MATH 201 - 04 Lecture 11:10 - 12PM WEB Arranged ARR		MATH 201 - 04 Lecture 11:10 - 12PM WEB Arranged ARR		MATH 201 - 04 Lecture 11:10 - 12PM WEB Arranged ARR	
Noon						
1 p.m.		ENG_JALC 111 - 01 Lecture 1:30 - 2:30PM WEB Arranged ARR		ENG_JALC 111 - 01 Lecture 1:30 - 2:30PM WEB Arranged ARR	COM 102 - 39 Lecture 1:10PM - 2:00PM WEB Arranged ARR	
2 p.m.						
3 p.m.						
4 p.m.	UNIV 111 - 01 Lecture 4:10PM - 5PM WEB Arranged ARR	UNIV 111 - 01 Lecture 4:10PM - 5PM WEB Arranged ARR	UNIV 111 - 01 Lecture 4:10PM - 5PM WEB Arranged ARR	UNIV 111 - 01 Lecture 4:10PM - 5PM WEB Arranged ARR		
5 p.m.						
6 p.m.						



Same Schedule In India Standard Time

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	
9 a.m.						
10 a.m.						
11 a.m.	12:40AM	MIDNIGHT	12:40AM	MIDNIGHT	12:40AM	
Noon						
1 p.m.		3:05AM		3:05AM	2:40AM	
2 p.m.						
3 p.m.						
4 p.m.	5:30AM	5:30AM	5:30AM	5:30AM		
5 p.m.						
6 p.m.						



Same Schedule In China Standard Time

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	
9 a.m.						
10 a.m.						
11 a.m.	3:10AM	2:35AM	3:10AM	2:35AM	3:10AM	
Noon						
1 p.m.		5:30AM		5:30AM	5AM	
2 p.m.						
3 p.m.						
4 p.m.	8AM	8AM	8AM	8AM		
5 p.m.						
6 p.m.						



Solutions: Time Zone Issues (1)

Record synchronous classes

- Access later
- Review when they are awake

Check in with students

- Be flexible about due dates and times
- Work with advisors to make them aware of time zone concerns as they advise and try to adjust schedules or delivery



Solutions: Time Zone Issues (2)

Offer office hours appointments at different times of the day

- 7 a.m. (Pullman early morning)
- 6 p.m. (Pullman early evening)

Allow group work and discussions

- At students' choice of time
- Discussion boards



Learning Styles (1)

Auditory

- Best in Zoom
- Listening to lectures
- Recorded lectures a boon for studying

Visual

- Reading notes
- Lecture notes available
- Presentations posted



Learning Styles (2)

Tactile

Manipulating

- Annotate the whiteboard feature
- Chat feature – type one-word responses
- Zoom survey

Access and Safety

Emily Harmon, M.A.
TESOL

Associate Teaching Professor
Materials Coordinator



Ensuring Equitable Access (1)

Textbooks



- Be patient as shipping internationally during a pandemic takes longer
- Consider using textbooks that have eTexts available (Vital Source, publisher websites, etc.)
- Check out open-source textbooks as well



Ensuring Equitable Access (2)



- Remember some students don't have access to high-speed internet
- Be aware of internet access issues (particularly Google and YouTube)
- Use alternatives (Microsoft or your own videos) and be flexible



Ensuring Equitable Access (3)



Blackboard



- Offer alternatives to specific technology tools
- Zoom access may be a problem
- LMS access may be a problem



Ensuring Safety (1)

- Know that some topics are controversial for different groups of students
 - Democracy/protests, Tiananmen Square, Tibet, the Dalai Lama, almost anything anti-government, etc.
- Plan for and offer alternative topics if necessary
- Be aware that your course content may be monitored by government officials



Ensuring Safety (2)

- Different countries have different rules for what can and cannot be accessed online
- Illegally accessing materials can have serious consequences for students



Ensuring Access and Safety

Please don't feel like this means you need to completely overhaul your course.

We want to bring awareness to these potential access and safety issues that our international students may experience while studying from outside the U.S.



Discussion

- What are you going to take back to your virtual classrooms from this?
- What other strategies do you have to share in this area?
- What other questions do you still have?



Thanks for Listening!

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