

**Transitioning to online delegate training**

Notes from 7-29-20 conversation

* Online is not just a different modality
  + The interaction is mediated - so pace, tone, and engagement differ
  + Can’t just import face to face simulations and exercises into your LMS
* Intentional design is critical
  + Everything has to be set up prior
  + Be explicit with learning objectives so students know why they are doing what they are doing. Intrinsic motivation needed because it’s too easy to ignore online content and deadlines
  + Scaffold learning, can’t throw new delegates into the deep end online
  + Consider increasing assessment of learning. Replace the peer accountability inherent in a team meeting.
* Find a way to build a team spirit
  + How can we build trust and commitment “at a distance”?
  + Online interaction means there is less peer pressure to do what you said you would do, you can fail in private and hope nobody notices. Delegates may be more willing to let the team down by failing. We need to think about how to create belonging and commitment in our students in new ways.

Discussion Notes

Video discussions worked better than solely written interaction

Consider holding a virtual international film festival as part of your preparation – A good idea for team building.

Practice simulations –

trade negotiations

ICONS as practice - <https://icons.umd.edu/>

Mydiplomat – online app provided by UNA-USA - <https://unausa.org/model-un/my-diplomat/>

3rd world farmer - <https://3rdworldfarmer.org/>

At the end of the meeting, those attending asked for additional conversations. We agreed to meet bi-monthly as we prep for the fall term, then monthly once that term gets going.

We should ask students what they want. We will invite student delegation leaders to do most of the talking at a future conversation.

The meeting moderator was Dr. Brian Dille, author of *Engaging the United Nations, 2e*.



Exam Copy – www.engagingtheun.com

Sample Instructor’s guide with online exercises

email engagementlearning@gmail.com