



# Student Motivation and Engagement

## Workshop Summary

All faculty want their students to feel both motivated to succeed and engaged. This session explores how motivation affects learning, breaks motivation down to its essential components, and presents strategies for how to foster motivation and engagement in students. But it's not enough to just nurture students' goal-directed behaviors; students need to have numerous opportunities to engage with each other, the course content, and the instructor to ensure the course remains relevant and interactive. As such, participants will examine theories and effective examples of how to promote engagement to ensure maintenance of their students' motivation throughout their online courses.

## Session Information

Feedback and Practice	
<b>Date/Time</b>	15 March 2018, 1:00-2:00 pm ET
<b>Session URL</b>	<a href="http://thelearninghouse.adobeconnect.com/fd-motivation-1803/">http://thelearninghouse.adobeconnect.com/fd-motivation-1803/</a>
<b>Audio</b>	While visuals will be handled through your web browser, audio for the workshop may be done either via phone or your computer's microphone and speakers. If you wish to use your phone, use the following call-in information: Number: (888) 619-1583 Passcode: 712 743 4023
<b>Recommended Reading</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">Beyond PowerPoint Lectures: Finding and Creating Effective and Engaging Learning Resources</a> (820 words)</li> <li>2. <a href="#">Engagement in Online Courses</a> (1,568 words)</li> <li>3. <a href="#">Three Ways to Encourage Conversation in Online Discussion Forums</a> (796 words)</li> </ol>
<b>Instructions</b>	Prior to the live session, please consume the readings listed above. At or just before the start time of the session, click the URL above, sign in as a guest (with your full name), and Adobe Connect will launch in your browser (or in the Adobe Connect application, should you choose to download it).
<b>Technical Requirements</b>	Computer with a web browser Phone OR speakers/microphone attached to computer (for workshop audio) Internet speed of DSL or higher (>512 kbps)





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## Recommended Reading

We recommend that participants at our monthly workshops consume a few articles or videos prior to the start of the synchronous session so that it may focus more on activity and discussion than lecture. Accordingly, please read the following articles on our [Center for Teaching and Learning](#) website:

1. [Beyond PowerPoint Lectures: Finding and Creating Effective and Engaging Learning Resources](#) (820 words)
2. [Engagement in Online Courses](#) (1,568 words)
3. [Three Ways to Encourage Conversation in Online Discussion Forums](#) (796 words)

Fostering student motivation and engagement in your online course is key to its success, and while the two are related, they require separate strategies. Given that the live session will focus more on motivation, the articles instead address the topic of engagement. One way to promote it with your instructional materials is to think more broadly about ways you can present them. In [“Beyond PowerPoint Lectures: Finding and Creating Effective and Engaging Learning Resources,”](#) we discuss some ideas about alternative kinds of course content that can offer new learning paths for your students towards your learning objectives.

Engagement, however, isn't just about new or exciting ways to present your instructional materials. Fundamentally, engagement is about interaction: between you and your students, between the students themselves, and between the students and your content. [“Engagement in Online Courses”](#) describes these three categories of engagement and offers readers some ideas on how you can work to foster them.

One of the ways you can hit all three areas of engagement is by effectively leveraging discussion forums. While it's initially easy to underestimate their value in online courses, if used well – with effective prompts, ongoing engagement and guidance from the instructor, and clear expectations about student participation – they offer a rare opportunity to build community and provide deeper insight into materials. [“Three Ways to Encourage Conversation in Online Discussion Forums”](#) provides both high-level and specific suggestions on how you can utilize discussion forums in a variety of ways to maximize their benefits.

With these three articles under your belt, you should have a solid understanding of what engagement is and a few ways you can foster it in your online course. During the session, we'll





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focus our efforts on understanding motivation – both where it comes from and how you can ascertain your students' sources of it.

## Adobe Connect Tips

- If possible, do try to consume the recommended readings prior to the start of session, since the session will attempt to
- Be sure that you're in a quiet location with a good internet connection.
- Audio for the session may be done via phone or VOIP (computer microphone and speakers).
- Please mute your audio when you are not speaking. Whether you're using your phone or your computer for audio, headphones are strongly recommended, to reduce the chance of feedback or echoes.
- If using your computer's microphone and speakers, we recommend you arrive a minute or two early and run the Audio Setup Wizard. Once you're in the Adobe Connect room, you can run the wizard by clicking **Meeting > Audio Setup Wizard**.
- There may be polls, activities, and discussion. Please be prepared to participate, and don't hesitate to ask questions at any point!
- Be sure to sign in once you arrive so we know who has attended the session. Though the URL will be provided in the Adobe Connect room, you can also find it here:  
<https://form.jotformpro.com/learninghouse/fd-signin>

