

# Video Announcements to Support Student Learning

## Purpose

Video announcements are an excellent strategy to keep students engaged and on track with the week-to-week curriculum and activities of a course. Creating quick video announcements that are only a few minutes long can add a humanizing aspect to a virtual learning experience. The videos also allow Monique to integrate principles of Universal Design for Learning in a course by leveraging multiple means of representation.

## Overview

After each online class, Monique creates videos of key priorities for the upcoming week. The content varies from week-to-week, but often includes reminders, instructions, and summaries. The videos serve as a means of looking ahead to the next week and are posted under Announcements in the Blackboard course site.

## Context

Monique uses video announcements in small, medium, and large classes in online learning environments. The videos have captioning and are all uploaded into the course's Blackboard course shell for easy access. Monique began using the videos in place of written reminders that were not an effective tool for keeping students on track with their online learning and meeting deadlines.

## Impact

The videos are an accessible and inclusive tool to help support student success in an online course. The videos are an excellent example of how to incorporate principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in an online course. By presenting information and content in different ways, Monique leverages multiple means of representation to help support student success. Students utilize the videos effectively in Monique's courses and the number of video views often outnumbers the number of students in the class. Overall, students seem to appreciate the instruction given with a bit of humour and the connection it provides. Monique has also noticed that fewer students miss deadlines since the incorporation of these video announcements.