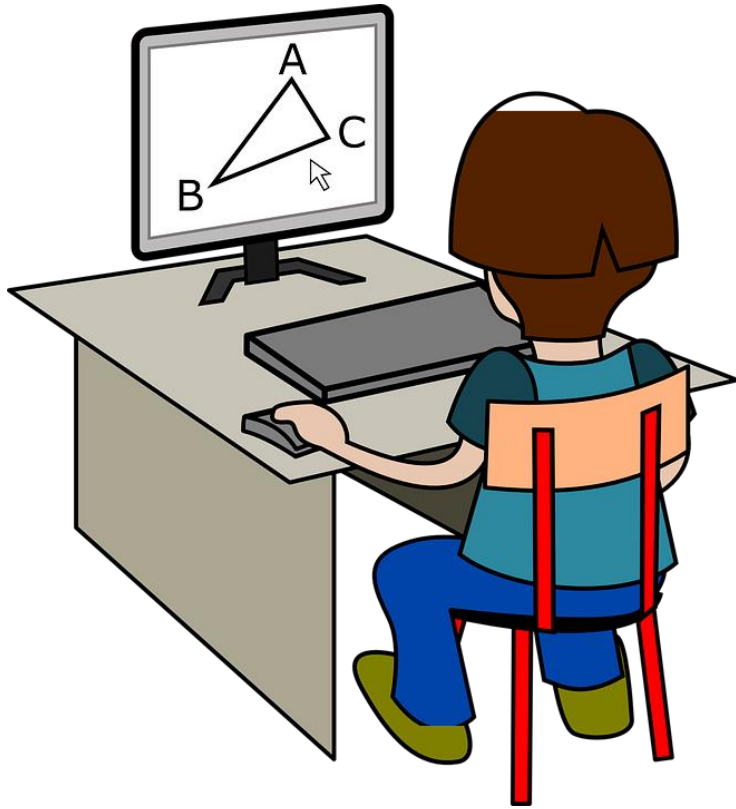# Confronting Challenges as a Pandemic Technology Moderator: Strategies for Engaging Students with Disabilities in Virtual Learning and the Use of Netiquette
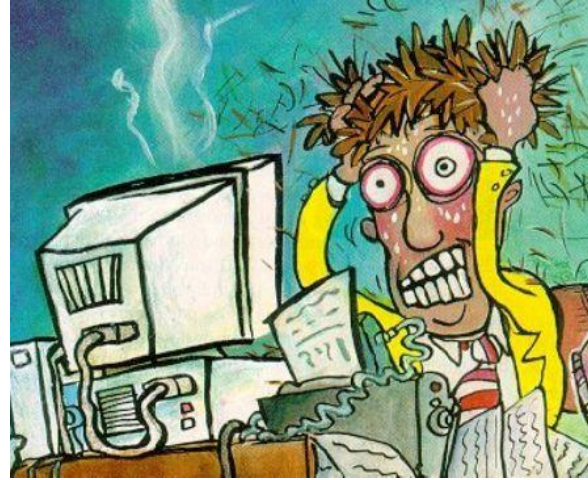
Presenter: Dr. Mary Jo Krile

October 20, 2020

Rural Institute

UNIVERSITY OF
MONTANA

Confronting Challenges as a Pandemic Technology Moderator

Strategies for Engaging Students with Disabilities in Virtual Learning and the Use of Netiquette

Mary Jo Krile, Ph.D

Assistant Professor, Eastern Kentucky University

maryjo.krile@eku.edu

10/20/2020

Overview

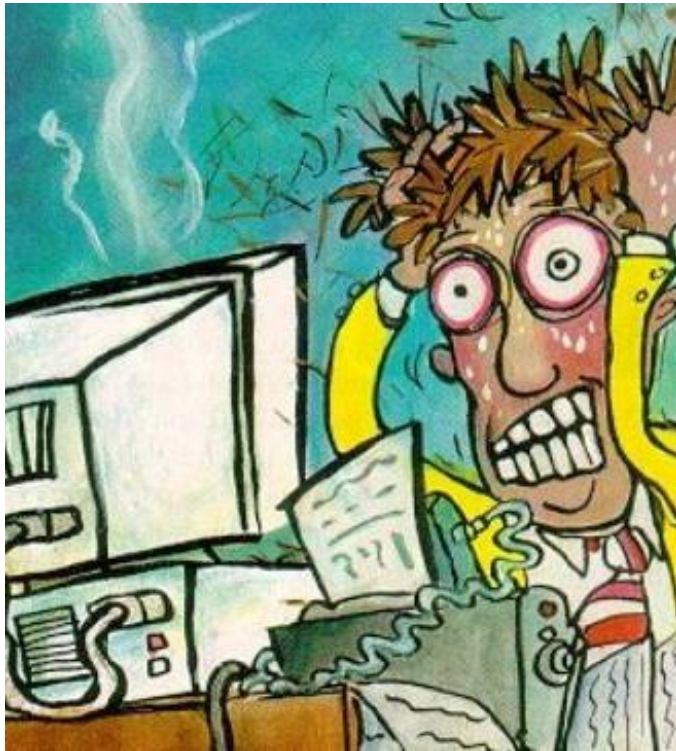Engaging in Virtual Learning

Use of Netiquette

Safe Use of Social Media

Engaging In Virtual Learning

Challenges of Virtual Learning

- Use of technology with limited technology skills
- Limited access to assistive technology
- Limited access to accessible materials for lessons/learning materials
- Maintaining focus for prolonged periods of time
- Limited opportunities for feedback (verbal/gestural/facial)
- Limited opportunities for movement
- Understanding and use of netiquette
- Managing time and work
- Troubleshooting technology…….

Strategies

What makes face-to-face instruction/services engaging?

How do we move this into a virtual setting?

Strategies

- Build in time/options for movement
- Build in time/activities for building relationships
- Teach technology skills
  - Use visuals/checklists, task analysis, direct instruction, video modeling directions
- Use app/internet extensions for assistive technology
  - Chrome Read & Write
- Give access to materials in alternate formats
  - Put in mail, have drop off location, send PDF file for printing purposes, screenshot and markup tools
- Form, Teach, and Reinforce "virtual classroom rules"
  - Apply the concept of netiquette

DL 1 Activity Checklist- 9/11

_____ Log on Computer with NetID and Password

_____ Answer Question of the Day

_____ Log into email

_____ Go to Google Docs

_____ Begin Google Doc Poster Assignment

_____ Log off Computer

Daily Checklists

Create checklist of activities that need to be completed

Building in Movement

- Dance breaks
- 10-30 second exercise breaks
- "I Spy"
- Yoga/Stability balls/movement seat cushions
- Exercise options
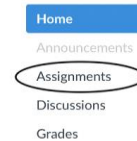
Teach Technology Skills

- Direct instruction

- Video modeling

- Task analyzed checklists
  - Step-by-step list
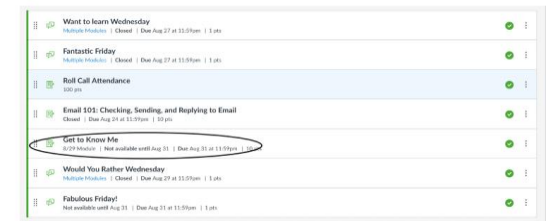
- Visuals

SUBMITTING FILES (ASSIGNMENTS) OF CANVAS

_____ Click on COUN 115

_____ Click on Assignments

_____ Click on "Get to Know Me"

_____ Click on "Submit Assignment"

Form, Teach, and Reinforce Virtual Classroom Rules

- Apply the concept of netiquette
- Who talks and when?
- When is video on or off?
  - Are students comfortable with showing their home/themselves on video?
- When is microphone on or off?
- Are pets allowed?
- What cues can be used to reinforce rules?
  - Verbal, gestural, visual

| Microphone on | Please Mute |
| In the chat | Camera off |

Other Strategies

- Incorporate accommodations/modifications
  - Enlarged text, font colors, lighting
- Use accessibility features on video conferencing platform
- Teach how to pin interpreter to main screen

Think About Where Independence Can Be Built In.....

Netiquette

What is Netiquette?

- Etiquette of the internet
  - During a group class, I can't talk to my classmate quietly like I can in face-to-face classes because everyone can hear me (not just my classmate)

Strategies for Teaching Netiquette

- Face-to-face social skills apply online

- Have open conversations

- Practice and role play netiquette rules
  - What does being respectful look like in a virtual setting?
    - Messaging a person one time and waiting an appropriate amount of time before messaging again
    - Sending short messages, as opposed to long and/or off topic messages

Teaching Netiquette

- Develop/teach rules of Netiquette
  - What should be shared online?
  - Digital Footprint
    - Everything put online, stays online- even if deleted
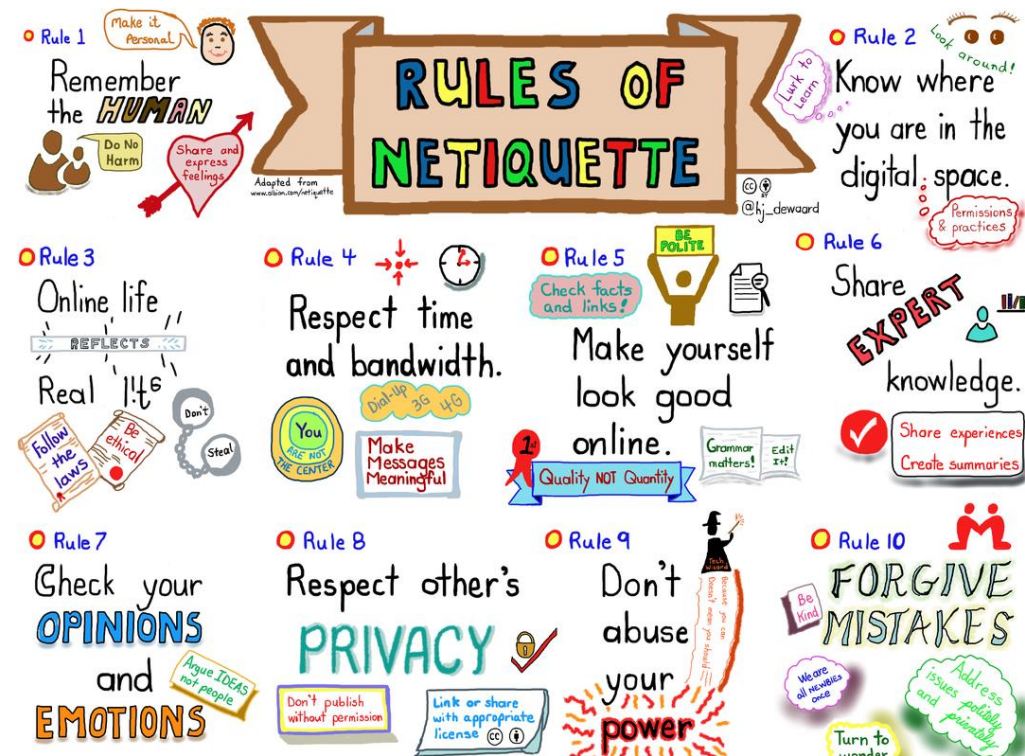
Safe Social Media Use

Why is this important?

- **National Survey Results:**
  - Desired to use social media and learn more about using social media
  - Male and high school aged individuals had less knowledge of addressing safety issues
  - Majority use Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat
  - Perceived social media to be good for finding information, learning new things, and seeing what others are doing
  - Need strategies for addressing issues with:
    - Hacking
    - Stolen passwords
    - Someone sending messages as them

Creating Safe Opportunities for Practice

- **Spot the cyberbullying/predator card games**
  - Ask what steps should be taken when a cyberbully or predator is drawn

- **Create cyberbullying/predator message identification quizzes** in online learning management systems (i.e., Canvas, Moodle, Blackboard, etc.)

- **Practice writing posts/messages using a graphic organizer template**

- **Review messages you receive** with them and have them identify the safety level/steps to take

****As sensitive topics are often present, discuss emotions/feelings after practice situations! Be able/ready to report/investigate any cybercrimes that may be mentioned***

Strategies

- Teaching Netiquette

- Monitor use in a non-intrusive way- friend/follow

- Have open conversations

- Model safe social media use

- Enforce importance of **talking to a trusted adult** when something is bothersome, dangerous, concerning, or questionable

Resources

- **Virtual Learning:**
  - Chrome Accessibility Extensions: https://chrome.google.com/webstore/category/ext/22-accessibility
  - Firefox Accessibility Extensions: https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/search/?tag=accessibility
  - Apple Accessibility: https://www.apple.com/accessibility/
  - Resources for Educating ALL Learners During the COVID-19 Pandemic: https://eala.wpengine.com
  - Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities: http://www.centerononlinelearning.res.ku.edu
  - Removing Barriers to Effective Distance Learning by Applying High Leverage Practices: https://ceedar.education.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/20-12820-CEEDER-Leveraging-04537.003.06_v06-lvr-FNL.pdf

- **Social Media/Netiquette**
  - Common Sense Education: https://www.commonsense.org
  - 10 Rules of Netiquette for Online Classes: https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/blog/october-2017/10-rules-of-netiquette-for-students.html

Want to Know More…..Upcoming Sessions

- Montana Youth Transition Conference
    - More in-depth strategies for virtual learning, social media use, and netiquette
    - More resources

Thank You!

Questions?

Email: maryjo.krile@eku.edu

This project is funded in whole or in part under a contract with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. The statements herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Department.

Rural Institute

The Montana Deaf-Blind Project is supported by grant #H326T180038 from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). The statements herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Department.

Rural Institute

http://mtdeafblind.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/