## Synchronous vs. Asynchronous
### Online Lectures and Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>Synchronous</th>
<th>Asynchronous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Live Lectures via Zoom vs. Pre-recorded Lectures** | **Pros:**  
- More similar to in-person classroom experience  
- Students can ask questions and get answers in real time  
- Students can engage in discussions in real time using Zoom’s chat tool (and chat log can be saved)  
- Can track attendance  
- Can use classroom response systems such as Top Hat (via screen sharing in Zoom) | **Pros:**  
- Students can view lectures prior to class, then participate in discussions of the materials during class time (i.e. flipped classroom.)  
- More flexibility in terms of time and location (for both instructor and students)  
- Students can watch multiple times  
- Less susceptible to tech/connection issues | **Cons:**  
- More susceptible to tech/connection issues  
- Less flexibility in terms of time and location (for both instructor and students)  
- Content cannot be reviewed unless sessions are recorded and shared |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussions</th>
<th>Synchronous</th>
<th>Asynchronous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Live Discussions via Zoom vs. Discussion Forum in ICON** | **Pros:**  
- Students can ask questions and get answers in real time  
- Responses are more spontaneous and tend to be more genuine  
- Some students may be more open during a live discussion when discussing more sensitive/controversial topics | **Pros:**  
- Students have more time to prepare for a response (i.e. responses maybe more thoughtful and in-depth.)  
- Encourage deeper discussions and learning from each other  
- A more comfortable environment for students who are more “shy” in-person. | **Cons:**  
- Students have less time to prepare for a response  
- A less comfortable environment for students who are more “shy” in-person  
- Some students may be less comfortable in expressing their thoughts in writing when discussing more sensitive/controversial topics.
### Syncrhronous vs Acynchronous Online Lectures and Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Synchronous</th>
<th>Asynchronous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Pros:** | - More similar to in-person classroom experience  
- Others can ask questions in real time  
- Groups with multiple presenters can present | - Groups with multiple presenters can record  
- Opportunity to re-do or resubmit video if a mistake was made  
- More flexibility in terms of time and location  
- More susceptible to tech/connection issues |
| **Cons:** | - More susceptible to tech/connection issues  
- Content cannot be reviewed unless sessions are recorded  
- More flexibility in terms of time and location  
- No opportunity to re-do or resubmit if a mistake was made during presentation | - Others cannot ask questions in real time  
- Students need to learn how to record  
- Additional tools and steps may be required to record multiple presenters in groups. |

---

**Project Presentations**  
Live Presentation via Zoom vs. Video Submission in ICON