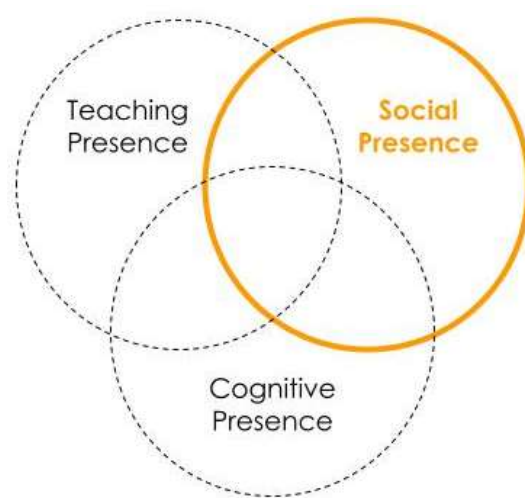


Developing Social Presence

OSU Motivation in Classrooms Lab – Motivation Minute.

How can I help my students feel connected in the classroom?



How to assist students in connecting with other students, teachers, content, and the world!

Community of Inquiry: The process in which a deep sense of learning is experienced through social presence, teaching presence (coming in April), and cognitive presence (coming in May).

- **Social Presence:** A student's ability to identify with their community—other students, teachers, content, and the world.

How can teachers motivate student engagement within the classroom?

Goal: Teach K-12 students to engage in open, honest communication and develop group cohesiveness (AKA Social Presence within Community of Inquiry).

- **To connect students with other students:**
 - **Assign seats but change them often:** Allows students to get to know all their peers.
 - **Work in small groups or pairs:** Allows students to create bonds within peer groups.
 - **Start the class with an icebreaker question:** Motivates students with immediate engagement.
- **To connect students with teachers:**
 - **Share personal stories and experiences:** Motivates students and instructors to make their own connections to the stories being shared.
 - **Admit to mistakes:** Shows students that the instructor wants to be honest and connect with students.
 - **Take time to ask students about themselves and get to know them beyond small talk:** Connects teachers and students by helping them develop relationships that may not be established otherwise.
- **To connect students with the content:**
 - **Create a class quote, like “my classroom is a canvas, and I am an artist,” and have students discuss it weekly:** Creates a connection with peers that highlights the content being taught in the classroom.
 - **Share a news or blog post to communicate key concepts and reminders of past, present, and future events:** Reinforces the content being learned.
- **To connect students with the world:**
 - Create a classroom bulletin board or class wall where students can post weekly about life outside of the classroom with text, images, and/or videos: Allows the instructor and students to understand their peers' lives outside of class and to connect with the outside world.

Resources

- Arbaugh, J., Cleveland-Innes, M., Diaz, S., Garrison, D., Ice, P., Richardson, J., & Swan, K. (2008). Developing a Community of Inquiry instrument: Testing a measure of the Community of Inquiry framework using a multi-institutional sample. *The Internet and Higher Education*, 11(3-4), 133-136.
- Garrison, D., and Anderson, T. (2003). *E-learning in the 21st century: A framework for research and practice*. New York: Routledge Falmer.
- Parker, T., Hoopes, O., & Eggett, D. (2011). The effect of seat location and movement or permanence on student-initiated participation. *College Teaching*, 59(2), 79-84.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/87567555.2010.538766>

OSU Motivation in Classrooms Lab – Motivation Minute

Compiled by Krystal Moore, Susan Mathew, PhD, Larin Wade, Jati Ariati, and Kody Long