#### Synchronous Teaching Using ONLINE INTERACTIVITY PLATFORMS

# WHAT

Dr. Angela Durko (Instructional Associate Professor, Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Sciences) adopted the Online Interactive Platform, <u>Mentimeter</u> to facilitate a more engaged classroom. Students can respond to questions and polls while the program collects data and shows results in real-time. It offers a less distracting teaching environment live online with interactivity than with students on phones/laptops sitting in a classroom distracting other students or instructors. " I feel that I learned a lot about being **creative in the use of technology** because of the way this class was offered and how you specifically organized everything" -Student Testimony from Dr. Durko's Class

## WHY

In a paper in for review assessing student satisfaction on this topic done by Dr. Durko, four categories reflecting course design were found. These included Inclusive technology allowing for interactivity, Clarity of course design, Consideration to avoid Zoom fatigue, and the Absence of traditional distractions. Instructors interested in promoting inclusivity and encouraging student participation in a remote classroom should adopt Mentimeter's Interactive Platform.

#### **Clarity of Course Design**

"Personally, I have enjoyed this class because I still get the feeling that I am interacting with other students and my professor in class when other classes I have felt somewhat isolated from my peers. I really like the activities we do during class."

Absence of Traditional Distractions

"I have noticed I can **focus better** because I'm not in a room full of other students. I tend to focus only on the person talking rather than what the person in front of me is getting out of their backpack etc."

#### Inclusive Technology for Interactivity

Each student could respond, through cell or website, in real time during class to discussions, polls, questions, video feedback and more.

#### **Avoiding Zoom Fatigue**

Using Mentimeter" demonstrated a fantastic use of both live and static teaching which I believe made the most of this class not being in-person. Having certain Zoom-only days was nice because Zoom fatigue is a real issue. This meant that I looked forward to Zoom meetings and had more freedom of how I spent my other class times"

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