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Subject: Teaching Center Update: March 31, 2020



University Center for **Teaching and Learning**

Teaching Center Message: March 31, 2020

We hope that the second week of remote teaching is going smoothly for you and your students. We wanted to share a few important updates with you and will continue to do so through the end of the term.

1) The Student Opinion of Teaching Surveys will begin on Monday, April 6, and end Sunday, April 19.

- The survey period will start one week later than normal and run for two weeks instead of three.
- Four questions will be added to all surveys to gather student input about the transition to remote teaching and learning.
- Instructors can add their own personalized questions through April 5.
- Survey results from this term should not be used as part of the 2019-20 annual review process, or submitted as part of a dossier for promotion or tenure for T/TS/AS faculty, unless a faculty member requests them to be included.

Visit the [Student Opinion of Teaching Survey](#) page for more information.

2) If faculty have an assignment that requires a student to submit handwritten work (such as math equations or chemistry formulas), consider using [Gradescope](#) to assist with this activity. The tool is available for all Pitt faculty and students at no cost and makes administering paper-based activities easier. Gradescope also provides directions for [how to create high quality scans at home \[PDF\]](#), so that a student doesn't need access to a printer or scanner.

3) The Teaching Center has authored new resources on [Zoom Security](#) to consider when hosting a Zoom conference. Tips include:

- Setting a password.
- Limiting screen sharing.
- Editing participants' controls.

Additionally, authors at [Zoom Blog](#) created a list of settings to consider that will help keep Zoom sessions free from "crashers" and uninvited guests.

4) We are finalizing details for additional virtual workshops and remote offices hours and will announce the schedule once confirmed.

5) The Teaching Center's hours of operation for the week of March 30 through April 3 will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.