Effective Collaboration with Teaching & Learning Assistants in the Virtual Classroom

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What/Who is a Teaching Assistant?

- Graduate student, usually a Ph.D. student
- Teaching Assistantship is part of funding package
- Work 9 hours (half-time) or 18 hours (full-time) per week
- Need mentorship to learn all aspects of course design and delivery
- Should attend all classes
- Valuable for them to learn by watching you
- Students tend to be comfortable with them
- Win-Win for everyone
  - Students get assistance
  - PhD students are better prepared to teach their own classes
  - Faculty gets assistance
And now to Naomi
Class Planning: Train together

- Make sure your TA/LA becomes an expert in virtual learning technology
- Take webinars together
- Share ideas
- Make sure TA/LA has Blackboard access/professional Zoom account
- Set up weekly time to meet
Class Planning: Plan Together

Share

- Share the learning objectives/previous syllabi

Ask

- Ask for suggestions

Incorporate

- Incorporate suggestions
Class Planning: How They Can Help

- Revise syllabus
- Put class materials on Blackboard
- Communicate with students about how to prepare for first class
And now back to Naomi
Grading on Blackboard

- Create (or revise) rubrics together
- Weekly meetings
- Start by grading together
- See Blackboard assessment webinar
- Have a plan for dealing with complaints
And now back to Erica