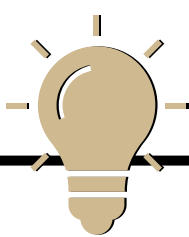


# Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning

## Choosing the Best Learning Approach

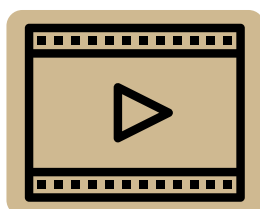


### Asynchronous Learning

#### What is it?

This learning environment involves learning activities that **do not** occur at the same time or same place.

**What could it look like?** pre-recorded videos or lessons, discussion boards, & online games & quizzes



### Synchronous Learning

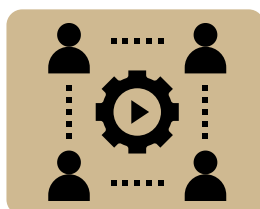
#### What is it?

This learning environment involves **LIVE** learning activities that occur at the same time.

**What could it look like?** LIVE class & lab sessions, LIVE reading groups, labs, small group discussions, & think-pair-share collaborative activities

#### What are the benefits?

- Offers more flexibility
- Students can operate at their own pace
- More accessible options
- Students can demonstrate their knowledge & share their diverse perspectives
- Teachers' attention can be evenly distributed to all of their students



#### What are the benefits?

- More possibilities to build a learning community & boost participation
- Real-time collaboration & immediate feedback
- Easier to build a learning community
- Body language & tone of voice are more visible

#### Considerations:

- Have clear & visible instructions
- Maximize student-teacher & student-student interactivity
- Provide pacing suggestions for time management
- Provide assessment rubrics and multiple feedback opportunities
- Ensure materials are accessible & well-organized



#### Considerations:

- Use interactive & collaborative activities to increase active participation
- Use discussion prompts & polls to avoid lengthy lectures
- Maximize screen share opportunities
- Invite guest speakers
- Strategically take breaks

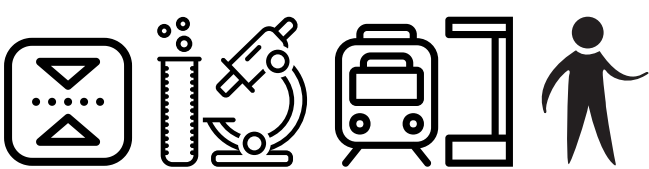


## Blending Asynchronous and Synchronous Learning

#### What are the benefits?

This learning environment amplifies learning by **using both** synchronous and asynchronous learning methods.

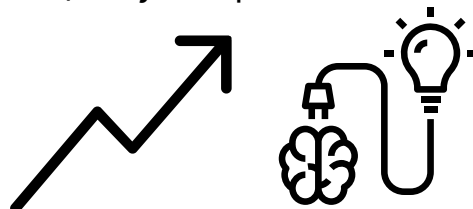
#### What could it look like?



*Flipped classroom model; lab rotation model; station rotation model; individual rotation model*

#### What are the benefits?

- Positions students to be **more prepared** for their synchronous learning
- Students are **given some control** in how (provided learning pathways), when (flexible times and student's pace), and where (from any location) they complete their learning tasks



#### References

- Innosight Institute. (2021). *Classifying k-12 blended learning*. <https://www.christenseninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Classifying-K-12-blended-learning.pdf>
- ICottle, P. (n.d.). *5 benefits of blending synchronous and asynchronous learning*. Schoolbox. <https://schoolbox.com.au/blog/5-benefits-of-blending-synchronous-and-asynchronous-learning/>