# OLLI COURSE FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS – ZOOM ONLY COURSES

## During Course Development

Advise the instructor about things they should consider in a virtual course, including these:

- **Recommend** they build in time for questions and comments every 15-20 minutes.
- **Tell** them you will electronically invite the class to submit questions via the Zoom chat. You and the Zoom host will monitor questions and can ask them on attendees’ behalf at the times the instructor has built in – preferably every 15 to 20 minutes. This method has proven more effective than taking questions during a 5-minute break in the middle of the course.
- **Ask** the instructor if they plan to use **polls** or **break out rooms**.
  - If using **polls**, have the instructor email polling questions to you ahead of time. Then, send them to the Zoom host. (Only the Zoom host can create and facilitate polls.)
  - If the instructor wants to use **breakout rooms**, contact the OLLI office for further instructions.
- **If the instructor intends to share their own slides, be certain they know how to do it before the first class. Practice online if needed. Contact the Program Coordinator if you have questions or need assistance.**
- **Contact** the assigned Zoom host in advance of the course and provide them any information on instructor expectations and needs.
- **Be sure** you have the **instructor’s cell phone number** to avoid last minute changes or issues.

## Before the Zoom Class Begins

- **Arrive** in the Zoom meeting at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time each week; **greet** instructor(s) when they arrive. Ensure your microphone is unmuted.
- **Work** through any last-minute details with the instructor and Zoom host. **Reminders:**
  - Pause every 15 to 20 minutes for questions and comments.
  - You’ll invite questions via Zoom chat and you and the Zoom host will monitor it for submissions. Ask the instructor if they would like you or the Zoom host to read questions during the Q&A times or if they prefer to read the questions directly from the Zoom chat themselves and provide answers.
  - Remind instructors to have PowerPoint slides/video clips/etc. open on their desktop so when they share their screen, the info is already there.
  - Remind instructors if they share a video or video clip, they must click on the boxes to “share computer sound” and “optimize video clip.”
- **One week before the term begins,** You’ll receive an email from the OLLI office which includes a “live” link to the roster listing Zoom participants. You do not need to take attendance by name, however; **the Zoom host will submit the number of attendees per session after the last session of the course.** You are receiving the roster so you know how many are registered.

## As Participants Join the Zoom Class

- **Welcome** participants, inviting them to turn on video and audio before the course starts. **Start** a general social conversation among the participants. **Periodically,** as more join, remind them of the course name.
- **Welcome** new members and first time Zoom users. If the group is relatively small, ask new members to unmute and briefly state their name to the group.
- **When** it’s time to begin the class, ask participants to:
| As Participants Join the Zoom Class (continued) | • **On the first day**, introduce the instructor with a brief bio and comment about the topic. Remind participants the instructor/speaker is a VOLUNTEER and OLLI appreciates their willingness to serve.  
• On subsequent class days, either remind participants who’s teaching the course (if it’s the same teacher for each session) or introduce the day’s instructor(s) with brief bios. |
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| While the Zoom Class is in Session | • Coordinate with the Zoom host and, between the two of you, monitor the Zoom chat and keep the instructor informed of comments/questions. If requested by the instructor, read the questions and comments so the instructor can respond.  
• Keep an eye on the number of participants throughout the session. The Zoom host will submit the total attendance number to the OLLI office. |
| At the End of Each Zoom Class | • Thank everyone for attending. Remind them of next session if course has multiple sessions.  
• Remind participants the Meeting ID and Password for each class are the same as this session.  
• Stay in the Zoom meeting until everyone leaves so you, the Zoom host and instructor can plan for future sessions, address any issues, etc. |
| At the end of the Last Class of a Zoom Course | • Warmly extend a heartfelt thank you to the instructor and mention he/she will receive a free OLLI course.  
  • If you wish to provide a thank-you card, obtain a card/envelope from the OLLI office.  
  • Otherwise, email a thank you, noting the instructor has a free OLLI course available.  
  • Suggested wording for an email thank you is included in your electronic folder email message.  
• Ask members to complete the emailed evaluation form when they receive it. Point out that evaluations include a place to suggest future courses they’d like us to offer; we read these and consider their ideas.  
• Encourage members to explore ways to get involved with OLLI, such as joining one of the topical curriculum subcommittees to build course ideas/plan classes. Contact Jeanette Wellsandt at the OLLI office (jwellsandt2@unl.edu) if interested in learning more.  
• Attendance information (the greatest number of attendees during each session) will be sent to the OLLI office by the Zoom host after the last session of the course. |