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*Teaching Synchronously Online – Design and Experience of a Course Intended to be Taught this Way*

Teaching a synchronous online course where students know at the start what to expect is a vastly different experience from everyone being forced to transition mid-semester. The combination of students choosing to take the course and establishing an interactive classroom culture early on makes it a more positive experience for all.

This talk is about my experience designing and teaching a synchronous online course taught through Zoom in Summer 2020. I cover the structural choices made to respond to the fact that students would be participating from locations with unique limitations, such as homes, cars, or wi-fi hot spots. I also describe small and big activities that leverage the features of Zoom to help students actively engage with the material and each other. Finally, I include some surprising advantages that synchronous online learning has over in-person learning.