Example 3: Student interaction and discussion

This example illustrates a strategy that encourages students to prepare for a high level of student interaction through small group discussion. This session may be especially well suited for seminars and conferences.

Before the session
- Assign students a text to read or a video to watch, along with the task of identifying the three most important aspects for them and the two most confusing aspects for them (this is a variation of the 3-2-1 strategy).
- In the LMS, create group-restricted discussion topics[TA], where students will post the important aspects and aspects of confusion.
- Let students know you will ask them to access the LMS during the synchronous session.

During the session (~60 min)

Minutes	What	How	Details
5	Welcome and check-in	Type in chat or raise hand to speak*	Share with students how you're doing and allow students to do the same.
3	Situating		Show an illustration on screen that situates today's content in the course so far.
5	Reading	LMS Discussion forum	Ask students to read their group members' important aspects and aspects of confusion in the LMS.
20	Small-group discussion	Break students into pre-assigned breakout rooms[TA] (same groups as in the LMS group-restricted discussion)	Ask students to: 1. reach consensus on the three most important aspects and post their agreed-upon list to the LMS; 2. help each other understand the confusing aspects; 3. make a list of confusing aspects that could not be resolved and post the list to the LMS.
15	Debrief/mini lecture	Students can post questions by typing in chat [TA] or raising hand to speak*	With students back in the main Zoom room, recap important aspects; address remaining areas of confusion; emphasize connections between key course concepts and the assigned reading/video; provide examples to enhance student understanding.
5	One-sentence summary	Type in chat or raise hand to speak*	Ask students to summarize the day's topic in one sentence.
5	Wrap up and next steps	Poll*	Pose a question that will pique students' curiosity about upcoming course content. Let students know what to prepare for the next class meeting. Direct students to homework instructions in the LMS.

After the session
- If you would like to keep a record of student interaction during the Zoom session, save the chat transcript in a folder related to your course.
- Review students' one-sentence summaries.
- Review students' responses to the polling question.