An Early Analysis of Remote Learning

UA Education Committee (ua-education-chairs@mit.edu)
Student Experiences

The Good:
- Flexibility with asynchronous lectures
- Pset buddy program success
- In person classes

The Bad:
- Record-breaking # of violations
- High stakes grading schemes
- Digital Fatigue: constant emails and Zoom calls
- Distractions in the world (BLM, RBG, Election etc.)
- Disability Accommodations
- Advising disconnect
Violations Reporting

- **The Good:**
  - Advocated for more accommodations
  - Collaboration with major-specific student organizations (e.g. SPS, UEA)

- **Obstacles:**
  - Ambiguity around EAR enforceability
  - Students afraid to challenge faculty
Technology

- Lack of streamlined class infrastructure
  - Relevant websites/resources are scattered
  - Main website organization not explained
- Awkward transitions between multiple softwares:
  - Lack of compatibility between all necessary software
- Tight turnarounds on in-class assignment submissions
  - Lack of generous deadlines or accommodations for extenuating circumstances
Notable Classes

6.009
WiFi-related accommodations (students did wifi tests to better understand personal living situations)

8.01
MITx Integration for assignments and in class content

18.03
Adjusted to make class more problem-set based, utilized MITx to ensure student learning and optimize use of lecture time to address doubts/solve potential problem set questions

21M.301
No problem sets due on election day as well as moved midterm exam scheduled right after election day

WGS.160
Online forum on Canvas to make sure that students who were not able to participate in synchronous lecture still got a chance to interact with materials

6.170
End-of-class discussions/conversations happen after recording is turned off
Now more than ever, students are eager to get involved and make a difference in their communities—the most effective way to do so is by VOTING!

Fostering Civic Engagement:
- Student Holiday on November 3rd
  - No mandatory assignments or classes
- Post voting resources on Canvas and update course calendar
Reflect Indigenous Peoples Day

Columbus Day -> Indigenous Peoples Day on October 12th
Change your syllabi, calendars and language surrounding the holiday.