



Dear Colleagues,

As President Mason announced last night, all students, faculty and staff now have access to their own John Jay ZOOM account to be used with your John Jay email address and password. To claim your account, click on this link: <https://jjay-cuny.zoom.us/>

Zoom is pretty simple to use and allows you to create virtual face to face meetings with students and classes as well as colleagues, to share your computer screen with them, and to create interactive chats at the same time. ZOOM also allows instructors to have students do "group work" by creating "Breakout Rooms" that split a group session in up to 50 separate sessions.

I suggest you try ZOOM out with a few folks before running a class on ZOOM as you will quickly learn some basic "zoomiquette" like asking those not speaking to mute themselves. Having an appropriate background if you choose the video option, etc. For basic Zoom tutorials please visit the [Zoom "Getting Started"](#) website.

THINKING ABOUT STUDENTS AND ZOOM: we have learned from Dean Byrne's tech survey sent to students this weekend (answered by 1614 of ~13,000 students) that students are concerned about a few things that Director of General Education Wynne Ferdinand summarizes as:

1. *Connectivity issues--not just with reliability or presence of internet in the home, but also with the use of cell phones as hotspots*
2. *Hardware issues--some students are limited to smart phones for coursework*
3. *The need to access certain types of software (like Office) to complete course work.*
4. *Multiple household members needing to use one device*
5. *Being required to video chat/log into to live classes. (although some students want live interaction as an option.)*

Please be mindful of these concerns and stick to simple plans - asynchronous coursework via Blackboard will likely be easier for our students than synchronous Zoom meetings. Further, Wynne says, ***"I want to particularly emphasize that students are very concerned about how their learning experiences, ability to interact with peers and professors, and the kinds of tasks they have to complete will change. These concerns came up more frequently than more straightforward technology concerns. This tells me that students are reflecting about how and what they learn, which is great."***

We are hoping to have a live session/tutorial on ZOOM from an experienced professor later today. Watch for Gina Foster's message later this morning for more details.

Best,

Allison

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