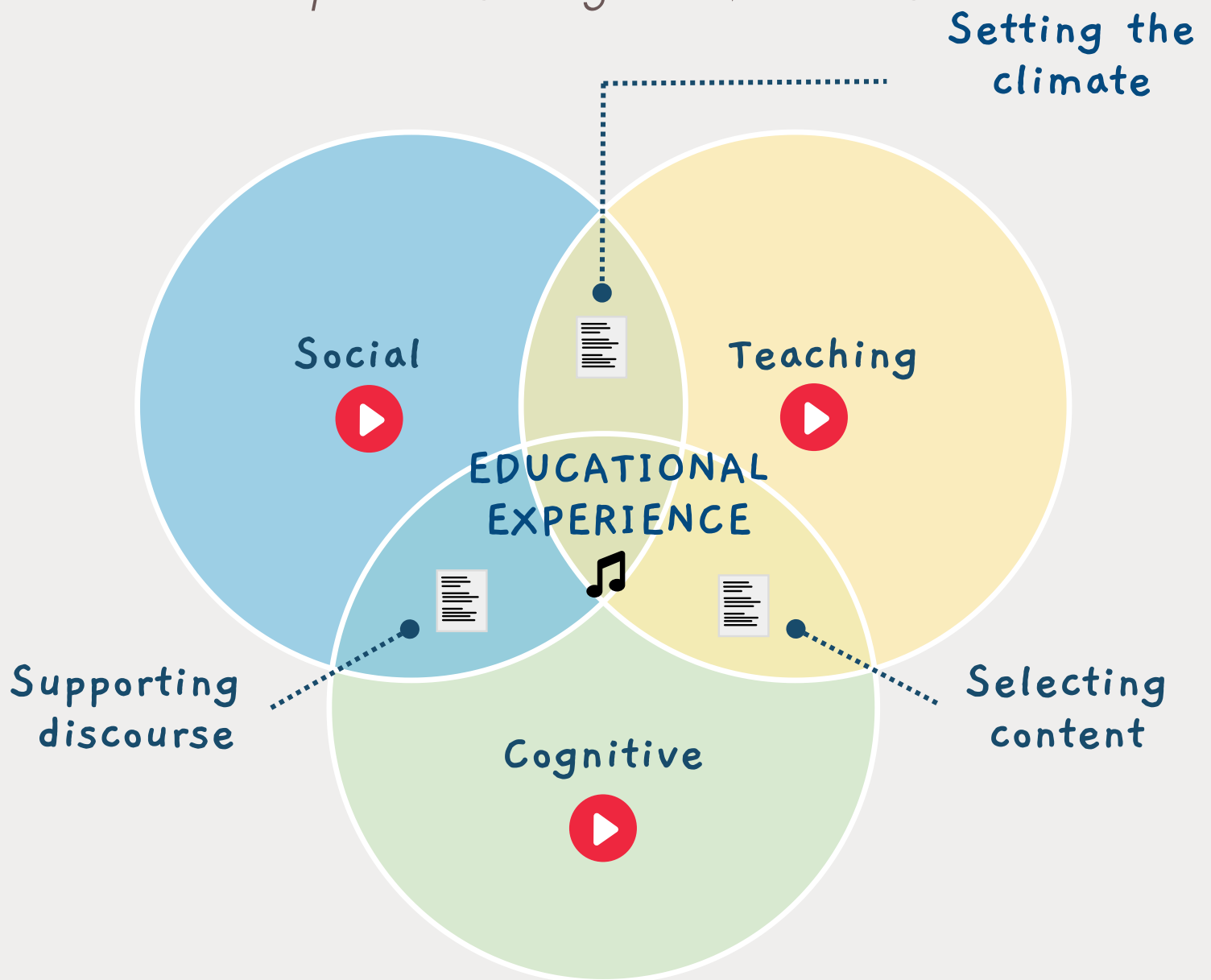


COMMUNITY OF INQUIRY

Facilitation strategies for creating great educational experiences in digital environments



Each presence brings something different to the digital learning environment, but together they create an engaging, authentic educational experience that will nurture the seeds (i.e., students), allowing them to grow to their fullest potential. The following is a short list of supporting facilitation strategies for each presence.

Cognitive presence

Nourish the seed.

Guide students through Dewey's (1933) Practical Inquiry Model:

1. **Trigger event** - Present students with a discussion prompt showcasing a problem that would pique their interest.
2. **Exploration** - Encourage collaboration, a group project, or team-based learning to inspire students to dive deeper into the nature of the problem.
3. **Integration** - Have students create drafts and scaffold projects to provide multiple feedback points and promote continuous growth.
4. **Resolution** - Use peer review to support iterative work. Incorporate "lessons learned" from the peer-review process into self-evaluation and reflection.



Social presence

Bring life to the environment.

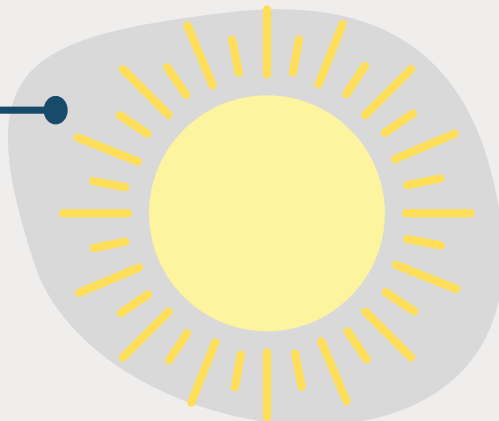
1. **Build community** - Create a sense of belonging using humour, emoticons, icebreakers, synchronous sessions, and asynchronous discussions.
2. **Offer acknowledgment** - Express agreement and appreciation for student contributions (e.g., make a highlights reel for the week).
3. **Establish trust** - Encourage respectful discussion online and offline to promote group cohesion (e.g., use names and correct pronouns).



Teaching presence

Motivate the seed to grow.

1. **Orient students** - Record a video and post it on YouTube to introduce the course but also to introduce yourself as a 'real' person.
2. **Send announcements** - Frequently connect with students and transfer important information, such as what to expect in the course that week, upcoming events, due dates, and check-ins and reminders.
3. **Give feedback** - Communicate with students about their progress through timely feedback. Ensure feedback is actionable and provide students with the opportunity to follow up with questions.



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