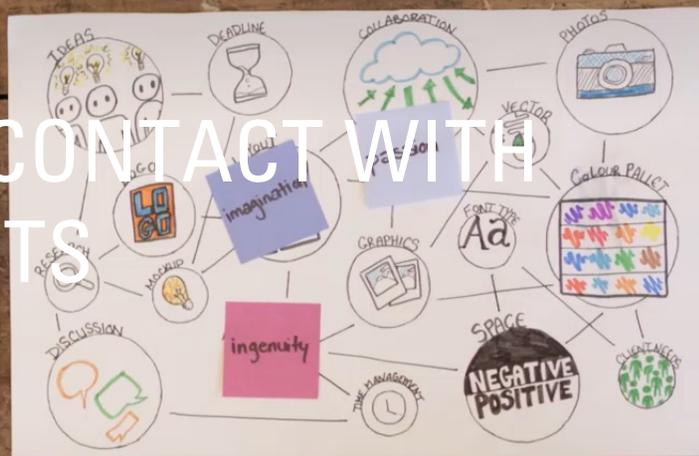# RSI AND YOU SIMPLIFYING CONTACT WITH YOUR STUDENTS

With

Sabrina Roberts

WEBINAR OVERVIEW

Presenter introduction

Explanation of RSI (Regular Substantiative Contact)

Challenges of RSI (Padlet Board)

Streamlining Processes

Using AI for Discussions

Closing Chat (Padlet Board)

Questions?

INTRODUCTION: WHO AM I?

- Sabrina Roberts is a communications studies instructor and CVC course facilitator with over a decade of teaching experience, with eight years of online instruction experience. Currently, she teaches for Chaffey College, Citrus College and Riverside Community College districts; also, she has facilitated professional development courses for the CSU Online Course Services department.

- Outside of her academic discipline, she is interested in expanding online education and learning how artificial intelligence impacts the future of higher education. Her work bridges instructional design strategy with real classroom realities, helping educators move from overwhelm to alignment. She is also the founder of Upbeat Vision Consulting, providing career strategy support, online course design consulting, and innovative teaching practices for educators and professionals

RSI:
WHAT IS IT?

Stands for **Regular Substantiative Interaction** at the start of the course, instructor initiated and student to student interactions throughout.

What are your practices for the beginning of the course?

How will students interact with each other?

How will you continue contact with students through the semester

RSI: WHAT IS IT? (ACCJC)

- **Substantive Interaction** is engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment, consistent with the content under discussion, direct synchronous engagement, personalized feedback (written comments, rubrics, video/audio notes), examples for improvement, encourages participation, discuss trends in class via announcements, frequently provides comments in discussions with guidance

- **Regular Interaction** between a student and an instructor(s) is demonstrated by predictable engagement in the term, provides formative feedback, proactively responds to students concerns and provides support, provides clear expectation for course

HOW CAN WE MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS?

- **What are your practices for the beginning of the course?** (Welcome message, instructor bio and contact information, "Start Here" orientation module, intro video, communication plan, student support services, tech support services, weekly course schedule, tech requirements)

- **How will students interact with each other?** (Discussions and replies, Harmonize, chat, Zoom, group assignments. peer reviews)

- **How will you continue contact with students through the semester?** (Announcements-multiple times per week, grading/comments, chats, Zoom, lectures)
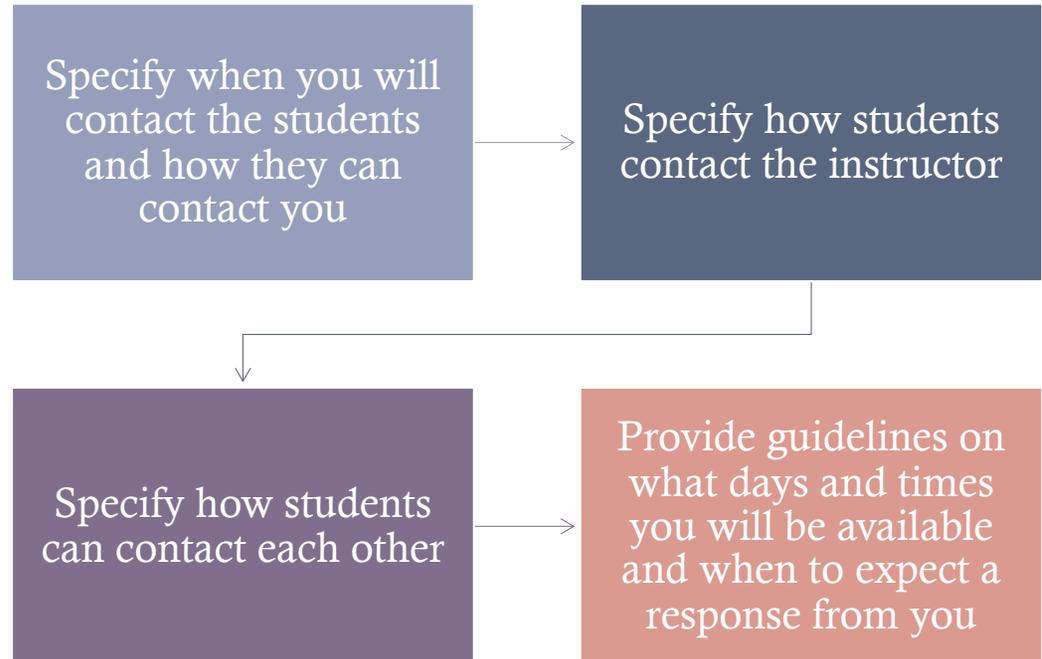
LET'S CHAT

- Go to the [Padlet link](#) and respond to the following question:

"Online instruction provides access to the educational experience. However, learning how to increase engagement and connection can be a challenge. What challenges or concerns do you have regarding the RSI (Regular-Substantiative Interaction) requirement?"

CREATE A COMMUNICATION PLAN

Specify when you will contact the students and how they can contact you

Specify how students contact the instructor

Specify how students can contact each other

Provide guidelines on what days and times you will be available and when to expect a response from you

COMMUNICATION PLAN:

- **You can contact and talk with your professor directly in four ways:**
- Via telephone
- Via e-mail at _ _ _(please allow 24-48 hours for a reply)
- Via Canvas Inbox (please allow 24-48 hours for a reply.
- Using the Class Q&A discussion (please allow 24 hours for a reply)
- **Your professor will contact students in four ways:**
- Via Canvas Inbox
- Via Canvas Announcements (at least once a week)
- Via the Class Q&A discussion (as needed)
- Via gradebook feedback on each graded assignment and discussion (3x weekly)

COMMUNICATION PLAN:

- **You can contact another student/other students in four ways:**

- Via Canvas Inbox

- Using the Class Q&A discussion

- Using Canvas chat independently or pre- and post-chat session

- Other methods of contact as arranged between students

- **We will all communicate with one another in these ways throughout the semester:**

- Via discussions and peer reviews

- Via optional Zoom meetings and if requested by the student
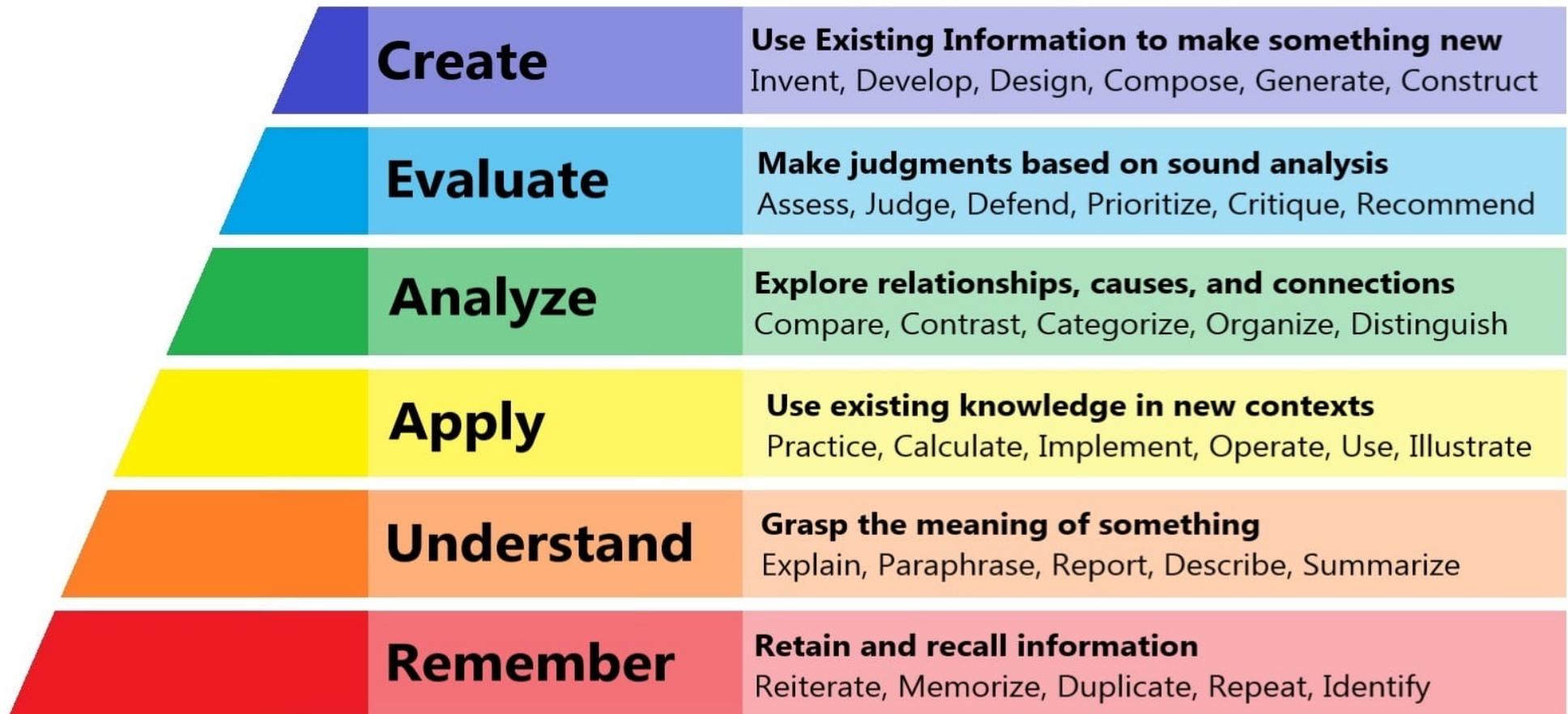
TIPS FOR A SEAMLESS RSI

- Think about the systems you need to create a communication plan

- Look to other communication plans

- Use Canvas to schedule tasks such as announcements and initial discussion posts

- Schedule Zoom meetings and or Canvas chats close to project due dates

- Use or add video announcements for quick- and customized weekly updates

- Incorporate video into discussion posts and replies for students

AI PROMPTS FOR DISCUSSION POSTS

- Encourage collaborative discussion post with case studies and layered tasks

- Student replies can be dependent on the previous student's posts

- Take out individual work from the discussion- collaborative learning instead of side-by-side learning

- Allows the instructor to create responses that are unique and interesting to each class.

- AI can help with assignment objectives and creating posts

- Think of Blooms Taxonomy when creating prompts (upper-level vs lower-level tasks)

BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

Create	**Use Existing Information to make something new**	Invent, Develop, Design, Compose, Generate, Construct
Evaluate	**Make judgments based on sound analysis**	Assess, Judge, Defend, Prioritize, Critique, Recommend
Analyze	**Explore relationships, causes, and connections**	Compare, Contrast, Categorize, Organize, Distinguish
Apply	**Use existing knowledge in new contexts**	Practice, Calculate, Implement, Operate, Use, Illustrate
Understand	**Grasp the meaning of something**	Explain, Paraphrase, Report, Describe, Summarize
Remember	**Retain and recall information**	Reiterate, Memorize, Duplicate, Repeat, Identify

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AI PROMPT EXAMPLE: WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?
FROM: COMM C-1000 (PUBLIC SPEAKING)

Speech Organization and Outlining

Directions: This week we will explore the speech organization and outlining process.

Part One

- In this week's discussion, list 3 benefits of creating a preparation outline-Use complete sentences.

Part Two

- Now, list 3 benefits of using a speaking outline or note cards-Use complete sentences.

Part Three

- In 2-4 sentences, reply to one student with the insights you gained from their post.

AI PROMPT EXAMPLE

- **Chat GPT Prompt**

"I am revising my discussion post to be more interactive. I am thinking of a case study format. Can you revise my initial discussion post?"

- **Follow-up Prompts**

"Can you connect the discussion questions to the case study?"

"How can I give directions and objectives for this discussion post"

REVISED DISCUSSION PROMPT: CASE STUDY

Case Study: Jordan's First College Speech

- Jordan is a first-year college student preparing for a persuasive speech in public speaking class. Jordan spends hours researching the topic and feels confident about the content. However, when practicing the speech, Jordan realizes the ideas feel scattered, transitions are unclear, and important points are either repeated or forgotten. During the actual presentation, Jordan relies heavily on a nearly full script, struggles to maintain eye contact, and runs out of time before finishing the conclusion.

- After reflecting on the experience, Jordan's instructor suggests focusing more intentionally on creating both a **preparation outline** and a **speaking outline** before the next speech.

REVISED DISCUSSION PROMPT WITH INITIAL PLANNED REPLY POST

After reviewing the case study, identify **two specific preparation missteps** Jordan made before delivering the speech.

Explain how those missteps contributed to:

- Repetition

- Weak transitions

- Rushed conclusion

- Overreliance on a script

- Reduced confidence

REVISED DISCUSSION PROMPT WITH INITIAL PLANNED REPLY POST

Explain how creating a detailed preparation outline could have prevented the problems identified in the case study.

Explain how using a concise speaking outline or note cards could have:

- Reduced reliance on a script

- Improved eye contact

- Increased confidence

- Improved pacing and time management

REVISED DISCUSSION PROMPT WITH INITIAL PLANNED REPLY POST

- Reply to **two classmates** .

- In your reply:

- Identify one insight from their post that you had not considered.

- Explain how their analysis deepened your understanding of how outlining impacts speech organization and delivery.

- Add another delivery and preparation tip in the reply

THOUGHTS?

What are some of the changes you see between the initial post and the AI-modified post?

CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Go to the Padlet link and respond to the following question:

"What are the most effective strategies for building meaningful connections with students in online education environments?"

Questions?

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US