

## Taking Ground-based Classes Online

The following ideas and articles are suggestions and we hope they help you find inspiration to solve challenges you are currently facing. Welding is hands-on, and difficult to teach online, but your effort to continue to engage your students while schools are not meeting in-person is greatly appreciated.

### Online Articles Related to Taking Ground Based Classes Online

The internet and social media are filled with similar articles. These are just a couple of examples.

Please do a bad job of putting your courses online: <https://anygoodthing.com/2020/03/12/please-do-a-bad-job-of-putting-your-courses-online/>

So You Temporarily Want to Teach Online: <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2020/03/11/practical-advice-instructors-faced-abrupt-move-online-teaching-opinion>

### Considerations When Trying to Move a Course Online

- Online course development usually takes months, you are trying to pull something together quickly, so don't expect your best teaching effort.
- Students that want to continue learning will appreciate whatever content you can provide.
- Neither you or your students signed-up for an online class so technical resources (devices, internet access, etc.) may be limited.
- Present information in smaller portions than you usually would. If you want to try recording lessons, don't record an entire hour-long class, break it into 5-10 segments.
- Check in with students more frequently.
- Be flexible with students – reading or watching material, completing assignments, etc. Everyone is currently dealing with an unusual situation.
- Focus on project-based lessons. Have students create blueprints, materials lists, and cost sheets, and write out weld procedures.
- Record videos answering common questions, or allow students to send you questions that you will answer in brief videos.

### Technical Resources

- What does your school offer? Is there a LMS (learning management system) that you could use?
- Zoom (video conferencing) is offering free or discounted services for educators and students
- Internet – some internet providers are offering free or local service and some mobile phone carriers are offering free or low-cost data plans for educators and students.
- Google Classroom is a free resource with discussion board capabilities, google dox to integrate lesson plans, work submission tools, video uploads from instructor and students. You can also use the forum feature to have students chime in daily as a way to take "attendance".
- YouTube
  - Share videos with students without making them public by sending students a link to view a specific video
  - Welding-related YouTube Sites (send video links to students along with comprehension questions)
    - WeldDotCom- <https://www.youtube.com/user/Welldotcom>
    - The Fabricator Series- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcxIBLmujrjTVSSUkzZ2Jlg>
    - WeldTube-<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV7Lp64L0qjkptWHufsBJew>
    - Welding Tips and Tricks-<https://www.youtube.com/user/weldingtipsandtricks>