



Emergency Weather Alternatives

Did You Know?

In times of weather emergencies, offering an online class session can be a useful way to keep students engaged with course content. Clemson University's instance of Canvas provides tools to create an asynchronous make-up class session. Every class that has been established through iRoar has a class shell in [Canvas](#). A Canvas course offers instructors the ability to:

- Post class announcements and send messages directly to your students
- Post documents that students can download
- Link to content online for students to access
- Create a discussion forum in which students can interact
- Create graded or non-graded assignments
- Create a quiz to test students on information posted

Tips for Online Class Sessions in Emergency Weather

1. Determine an **objective** for your class session, which should be short, specific, and measurable.
2. Decide upon **learning activities** that will enable students to meet the stated objectives. Examples might include:
 - Reading a chapter of a textbook or online article
 - Watching a video or recorded mini-lecture
 - Participate in a discussion
 - Complete an online activity, assignment, or quiz
3. Prepare your **materials** for the session. Some useful suggestions include:
 - Textbooks & Related Activities: Most textbooks have online companions or websites that could be of use. For example, some textbook websites offer additional interactive problems or simulations. (***Please note: Clemson does not directly support or troubleshoot textbook materials. Users will need to contact the company for support***)
 - Online Articles: For best practices and support finding articles to use, please contact your departmental librarian or [use this helpful page](#). Department librarians can assist you in your search. To avoid copyright issues, please link to external articles instead of uploading directly to Canvas.
 - Online Videos: YouTube and TedEd have a direct integration with Canvas so you can easily post videos. For more information [click here](#). This option also helps you avoid copyright issues. Be sure to try and locate videos with Closed Captions.
 - Recorded Lectures: Faculty can self-record their lectures with any device that has a webcam using Camtasia. Learn more about Camtasia [here](#). Classes can also meet synchronously with [WebEx](#). Learn more about WebEx [here](#).
 - Canvas Announcements: Learn more about setting up Canvas Announcements [here](#).



Emergency Weather Alternatives

- Canvas Quizzes: Learn more about setting up Canvas Quizzes [here](#).
- 4. **Setup** your Canvas Course for students. Tips for setting up and publishing your Canvas course can be found [here](#). Questions regarding this process can be directed to ITHelp@clermson.edu.
- 5. **Announce** to your class that a session will be on Canvas. Following the [directions](#) for posting an announcement will let your class know what to do via email. Make sure your class is published to activate this feature.

Important Things To Remember For Instructors

- For online classes, understand that your students may be in areas more directly impacted by inclement weather than you. Alternatively, you may be more directly impacted than your students. Be sure to communicate clearly expectations through announcements or messaging in the course.
- Remember that there are mobile apps associated with Canvas and some of our products. However, during times of massive power outages, understand that students may not have access to networks so please be flexible with deadlines and expectations.
- CCIT has a plan in place to support campus system logins in case of a weather event, but please be patient if errors do occur.

Support

For assistance and technical support, please contact the ITHelp Desk at ITHelp@clermson.edu.

*Some of this document is based off 'Inclement Weather Quick Tips' from the Center for Teaching Excellence at USC, <http://www.sc.edu/cte>