

Abstract

In the spring of 2020, due to a world pandemic known as COVID-19, higher education delivery changed overnight. Courses that were once taught face-to-face and or in hybrid format, all went entirely online with the exception of a few labs. Isolation, fear and anxiety soon followed; yet, immediately, Southern Utah University's (SUU's) master of interdisciplinary studies (MIS) Program "upped the auntie" and became a lifeline of positivity through social connection to create inclusiveness during a time of extreme uncertainty. Throughout this workshop presentation, participants will hear from the interdisciplinary graduate director along with a current interdisciplinary graduate student who will share five ways virtual inclusiveness, through positive social connection, was achieved, during this extreme time of uncertainty. Participants will leave the workshop with methods they can immediately implement in their own virtual classrooms.