TIPS FOR SYNCHRONOUS MEETINGS

- Students may prefer to mute their videos (i.e., not groomed for a public appearance, conscious of their room backgrounds, etc.). When using video-conferencing, it would be nice if you give them the option of not showing their faces. They would appreciate it.

- Bb Ultra shows only 6 faces at a time. If you use video, you may see that faces come in and drop out of the frame constantly depending on the order of joining or speaking. This in real time can look disruptive. If you are teaching a relatively large class, it may work to mute their audio (to prevent background noise) and video and only let activate their audio (and/or video) when they raise their hand (There is an hand-raise icon on the screen).

- Record synchronous class sessions so students can view them for review, or if they missed it. A couple of details to know: 1) it takes at least as long as it took to run the session to make the recording. Expect a delay in getting the recorded session shown in your course for your students’ viewing; 2) everyone has to leave the room before Bb make the recording (Consider making the session timed so that everyone will be forced to leave at the end).

- One issue we found when testing Bb Ultra is that audio from a shared file is only streamed if it’s played through your computer speakers and picked up by your microphone. If you are using a headset for audio, no sound will be attached to the video, whether you share via application, screen, or Chrome tab. Something to keep in mind for those of you who might be using headphones.