

# CREATING A HUMAN CONNECTION IN AN AI WORLD

## WITH Yellowdig

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This innovative approach has increased participation, connected course content to real life, and empowered quieter students to actively contribute, enhancing their sense of belonging and learning experience.

## PERKS OF USING YELLOWDIG

- Social media, feed-like platform
- Topic tags guide student discussion
- Helps students connect course content to their own real-life examples and continue the discussion beyond the parameters of the class/lecture
  - Students continue unprompted research from guest speaker presentations
- Different than Canvas Discussion Board
  - Seen as place to connect to peers, the instructor, and the content of the course.
  - Attached videos or photos highlighting what they did over the summer as an icebreaker activity
  - Post about recent events using photos, videos, or incorporate web links
  - Ask classmates feedback through polling questions
- Low cost - \$14-16/student

## IMPACT ON AEC3030C: EFFECTIVE ORAL COMMUNICATION FOR AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

- Fosters community and engagement
- Helps create a sense of community and belonging, particularly for the online distance learners, & the in-person students' connection and community with each other
- Can pull student statements from Yellowdig discussion and anonymize them to share with guest speakers
  - Allowing speakers to reflect on their presentation to determine if key messages were grasped
- Unintended impact was the voice it has given students, typically quiet and unnoticed, due to fear of speaking up in class
  - Allowed quiet student space to reflect on the 'safe feeling' my lab provided her, unknowingly finding a wealth of supporting feedback and agreement with her feelings from fellow classmates

## RESULTS

- High conversation ratio
  - Depth of conversation & member participation
    - Aim for 8.0 → we got 11.80!
- Community Health Report & Networking Graph
  - Quickly identify students not recently active or not engaging in others' conversations
- Yellowdig support team
  - Value reports help further assess data, identifying conversation depth, engagement, participation

**AEC3030C: Effective Oral Communication in Agricultural & Life Sciences**

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**Dr. Bond**

**INFORMATIVE SPEECH**

I really enjoyed Dr. Bond's presentation during lecture! I'm taking a PR class right now so to hear her connect her PR background to communicating about natural resources was really cool for me!

Comment

I really enjoyed Dr. Bond's presentation as well! I liked how she pointed out things we could do and compared it to her presentation. I also thought the content she talked about was very interesting because I grew up around many wildfires and haven't seen them as the most positive things until now.

Reply

**9/24 Lecture with Guest Dr. Ludie Bond**

**WAYS ORAL COMMUNICATION IS USED**

Today's lecture from Dr. Bond was very informative on how oral communication is used by the Florida Forest Service, especially with a controversial topic such as prescribed burns. I had never realized that some people had holdbacks on burns, but I now understand that the Forest Service works to educate nay-sayers. I also enjoyed learning about internal vs external audiences. I realized that internal vs external audiences are present in so many different aspects of life, even in personal conversations, not just in the professional world. I found this interesting video produced by the Florida Forest Service on prescribed burns.

prescribedburns.mp4

0:00 / 0:22

prescribedburns... VIDEO

Hi! Thanks for attaching this video. I completely agree and also never thought of there being holdbacks regarding burning because it's so normal for us here in Florida. But when she was talking about people from California and people who have faced tragedy from burning, it made a lot of sense!!

Reply

**Re: Hey everyone :) COMMENT**

I think its so cool that you used a poll, I cant wait to see what other fun features Yellowdig has for us to use to communicate with each other!

**Re: Speaking Notes COMMENT**

hey [redacted]. I like how you used this yellowdig platform to try and get the perspectives of all of your classmates who had to do the same assignment. I used speaking notes, and feel as though they helped ground me and guide me throughout the speech.

**Re: [redacted] Introduction COMMENT**

[redacted] awesome to meet you via Yellowdig. I used to be a psych major but have since switched to APK. I want to be a PT one day, so it's cool to see that you're on the pre OT track. How has that been? Any advice on grad school or anything of the sort?

**Re: Another week behind, but a greater chance to prepare. COMMENT**

I am more than confident, however, that from this yellowdig forum and from hearing all the earlier speeches that you'll definitely be able to knock it out of the park!

**Thoughts after first week of labs**

**SPEAKING PUBLICLY SCIENCE ISSUES**

Hi everyone, I just wanted to share my experience after our first full week of lecture and in-person lab. I was very nervous going in because I'm an anxious public speaker, but everyone in my lab period was very friendly and Dr. Young made the space very comfortable to speak in. I'm guilty of staying silent during classes - even during discussion based periods so shout out to everyone who is brave enough to speak out- you lead by example to quiet people like me.

1

I just had my first day of lab today! I agree with you because I also get nervous talking in front of big groups. I think breaking into small groups for our audience analysis was beneficial to me because it provided a good introduction for speaking in front of people.

Reply

I am also an anxious public speaker. My first lab made me feel a lot better about this class and helped a lot with my nerves.

Reply

I definitely share your experience of being nervous going in to the impromptu speeches but also being made more comfortable by the low-stakes atmosphere and interesting topics.

Reply

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**9/17 lecture - Watermelon Queen Speech**

**WAYS ORAL COMMUNICATION IS USED**

The lecture today presented a great example of how the skills that we learn in this class is applicable to real-world situations. We had a student today practice her candidate speech to hopefully be named Watermelon Queen this year. Her background in the agriculture industry puts her in a perfect position to be a spokesperson for the Florida Watermelon Industry. I didn't even know that this program existed, so it was educational for me as well.

I really enjoyed getting to experience her speech and give both constructive criticism as well as words of encouragement!

Has anyone heard of the Watermelon Queen Program before today?

2

Comment

Sort (Newest)

**My Science Issue - Audience Analysis POST**

I am following the idea of many to use Yellowdig to get more information about you all (my audience). Here is two wording versions of my science issue topic, so I am asking that you please comment with any information in either version that you 1) know at least a little bit about, 2) know nothing about, 3) the one part of the issue you really want to learn/hear more about. Thank you! A.

Total Posts <b>489</b> Posts Per Active Member 3.88	Total Comments <b>5768</b> Comments Per Active Member 45.78
Total Reactions <b>355</b> Reactions Per Active Member 2.82	<b>11.80</b> Conversation Ratio

