Using Webex in a Synchronous Classroom with a Remote Instructor

Overview

WebEx is Rutgers-New Brunswick’s video conferencing solution. It can be used on personal computers and mobile devices to connect with one or more people. DCS’s Synchronous Classrooms are designed to facilitate the use of video conference by classes. They include built in cameras that can capture an instructor at the front of the room or audience members. Synchronous Classroom microphones are capable of picking up voices of anyone speaking. Screens at the front and rear of each room can display remote participants and presentation material. More information on connecting and using conference settings is available at https://webex.com

Instructions for the Classroom

Getting Started

- At the instructor hub, if the touchscreen is black or displaying the screen saver, press the spacebar on the keyboard. Wait for the login screen to appear. When the login screen appears, enter your Rutgers NetID and password. Press Enter.
- After you have logged in, the Rutgers Room Control (RRC) window will automatically open. This is the dashboard from which you control the room.

Starting a Conference

- In the left column of RRC, select Video Conference. The center section will change to Video Conference Controls.
- In the text field below Meeting Number, enter the room information. The room information is the instructorNetID@rutgers.webex.com (e.g. robeson@rutgers.webex.com). Press Dial. When any remote attendees connect, they will appear on the room’s screen(s).
- If a message prompts you to enter a host pin, you may ignore this message.
- In the middle section, select the Cameras Share Contents ribbon.
- Choose the camera preset you would like. To see what is being displayed to remote participants, toggle on and off self view by pressing Self View under Camera Selection. This will put the camera view in a small box on the screen(s) at the front of the room.
- If you wish to use and share a source from the podium over the conference, select that option under Share Source. If you are playing audio from that source, use the Program Volume slider to adjust the audio level. More information on using podium sources is available at http://dcs.rutgers.edu/dcp. In certain rooms, you may select the Speaker Track button under Camera Selection. In this mode, the cameras will automatically turn to the portion of the audience where someone is speaking.

Ending the Session

- In the Call Control tab, press End Session. This will break the room’s connection to the video conference and return the podium to normal mode.
- When you are finished in the room, press Log Out.

The DCS Help Desk and Campus Staff are available for assistance whenever classes are in session.
Creating a Webex Account
All members of the Rutgers community have access to a Webex account. One does need to sign up to utilize their account. To sign up:

- Visit https://webex.rutgers.edu.
- Select Sign Up.
- Login with your Rutgers NetID and follow the instructions to active the Rutgers Webex service.

Connecting to the Classroom
There are several ways for remote participants to connect to the Synchronous Classroom depending on the device they are using.

- If connecting via a computer that does not have WebEx installed:
  - Visit https://webex.rutgers.edu. In the menu, select Log in.
  - If you are not automatically logged in, select Sign In and Webex in the top right corner.
  - Log in with your Rutgers NetID and password.
  - Select Start a Meeting.
- If the participant is connecting via a laptop, phone, or tablet and has WebEx Installed:
  - Open Webex.
  - Log in with your Rutgers NetID and password. If you are prompted to enter a company site, it is rutgers.webex.com.
  - Select Start a Meeting.
- If the participant is connecting via a video system:
  - Dial NetID@rutgers.webex.com (e.g. robeson@rutgers.webex.com).
- If the participant is joining by telephone:
  - Dial 1-650-429-3300.
  - Enter the Room ID. The host can obtain their room ID by logging into https://rutgers.webex.com and clicking on More ways to join.

Tips for a Successful Connection
- In order to ensure a high-quality connection, we recommend that remote participants:
- Use headphones and a head set microphone.
- Ensure their Internet connection is fast and reliable.