



Online Synchronous Instruction

VS

Online Asynchronous Instruction



Online instruction that happens in real time, with a teacher and students interacting in a virtual space.

Online instruction that does not happen in real time, with no direct teacher instruction.



Uses online platforms like Google Meet & Cisco Webex for live classes.

Uses self-guided lessons, websites, videos, teacher assignments, and posted class notes.



Provides classroom engagement, dynamic learning and depth of instruction.

Provides flexibility, self-directed learning and pacing on own time.



Requires a shared schedule where everyone has to be online at the same time.

Learners have more options for when they can use their devices and connectivity in a busy household.



Technical difficulties, on both sides, can lead to frustration and discouragement.

Risk of isolation, loss of interest in classwork and not turning in work due to lack of engagement and support.



Sources:

HIDOE Office of Student Support Services handout "Specially-Designed Instruction Across Delivery Models"

<https://thebestschools.org/magazine/synchronous-vs-asynchronous-education/>

https://pierce.instructure.com/courses/983325/pages/synchronous-vs-asynchronous?module_item_id=12922163