Zoom for Students

In the event that classes are held virtually, please use the instructions below to prepare and familiarize yourself with the Zoom platform. Zoom is a web conferencing tool that is available to all Northwestern students, faculty, and staff.

Prepare
1. You will need a computer (preferred) or mobile device in order to join a Zoom session. It is recommended that you use a wired internet connection when connecting to Zoom, but it is not required - if you do use a wireless connection, it should be a strong connection.
2. [Download the Zoom app](#) to your device.
3. Test your audio and video by joining a [test meeting](#).
   - You are welcome to connect your audio via computer or phone. If you have a weaker internet connection, phone audio might be the better choice. You may want to use headphones or a headset if you have any background noise.

Using Zoom
Joining the Meeting
1. Find a quiet place to participate in the synchronous sessions, free of outside distractions. Be sure to close all extraneous windows or programs on your computer.
2. Join your class session by navigating to the "Zoom" tab in your Canvas course and clicking "Join" to connect to the Zoom meeting. The meeting will begin once the instructor has entered the Zoom meeting.

During class
3. Once you've joined the Zoom meeting, there are a few features you may use during the class session. Most of these features can be found on the Zoom menu at the bottom of the screen.
   - **Video/Audio –** The buttons on the left of the menu allow you to mute/unmute your audio and turn your video on and off. Be sure to mute yourself when you're not speaking to avoid excess background noise.
   - **Raising your hand –** Clicking on "Participants" will open the Participants list, where you will find a "Raise Hand" icon.
   - **Chat –** You can also use the chat feature to make comments or pose questions.

Getting Help
- **[Zoom Help Center](#)**
  A comprehensive, searchable guide to using Zoom, including FAQs, step-by-step guides, and short how-to videos.
- **24/7 Zoom Support**
  - [Submit a request](#)
  - [Live chat with Zoom support](#)