

# Quality Matters Resources

July 16, 2020

# What is Quality Matters?

- Non-profit organization dedicated to “mission of defining and maintaining quality assurance in online learning”
- Started as consortium of institutions in Maryland
- Provide professional development for teaching and designing on-line courses and peer review and certify online courses according to their quality standards
- Their research-based quality standards are encapsulated in a series of rubrics
- Have expanded to K12 online learning standards as well

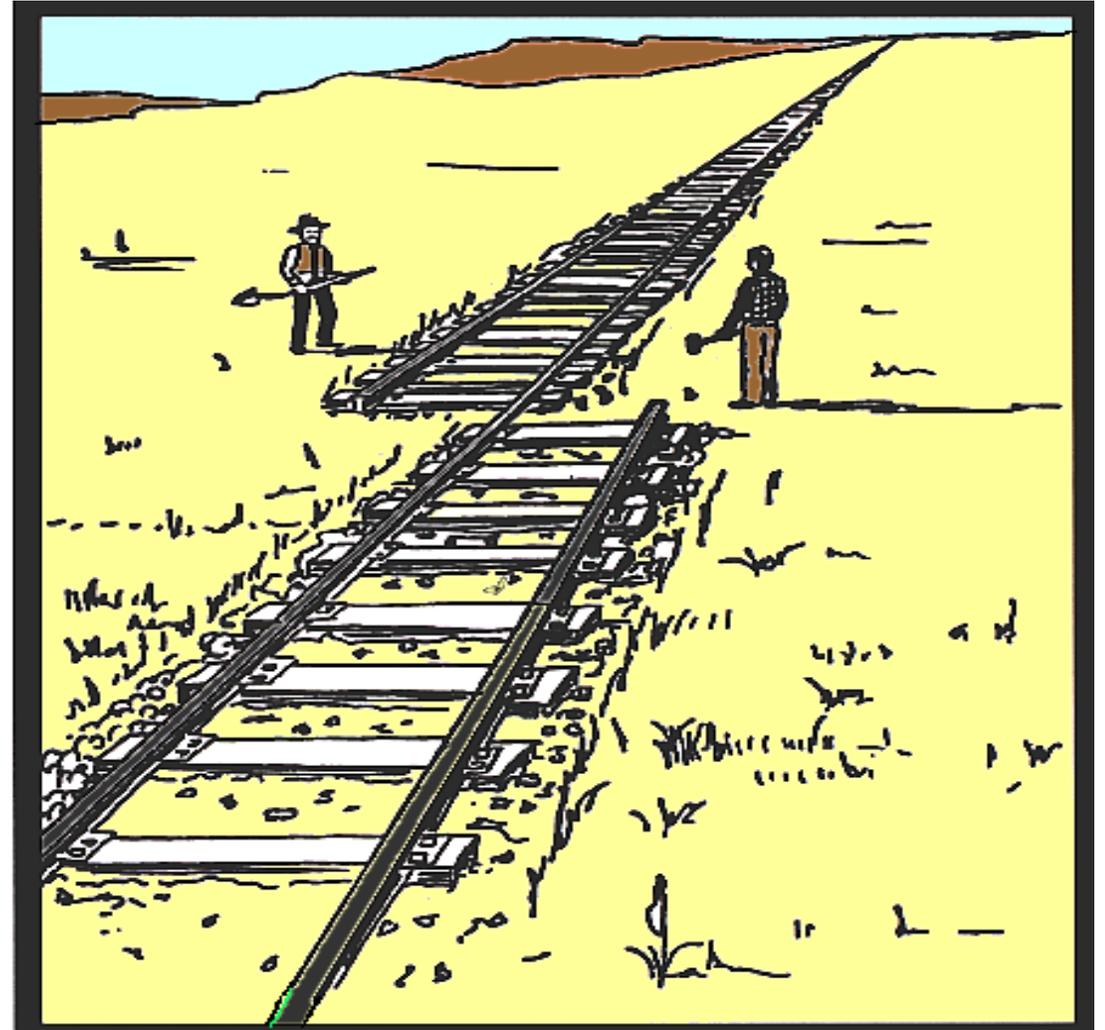
# Getting Started

(this rubric had the largest number of standards)

- Introductions of you and them to build community
- Introductions to purpose and learning outcomes of course
- Introductions of course structure and organization in Moodle
- Assuming that your course has more students than can safely fit into your classroom, how will that work for them? Expectations for in person vs. remote days? What about students who will only be remote?

# Alignment, Alignment, Alignment

- Alignment between
  - course learning outcomes
  - unit/weekly outcomes
  - Materials/media used in class
  - Learning activities
  - Assessments
- Communicating this alignment to students may address “busy work” comments that were frequent in the spring survey



# Setting and communicating clear expectations

- Communication expectations for how to communicate with you, classmates including
  - Timeframe for expected replies
  - Standards for professionalism, civility, respect
  - Standards for video and written communication
  - Standards for course participation both face to face and digitally
- Course policies on academic integrity, late work, attendance, accommodations, etc.
- Technology requirements including hardware and software
- Digital/technology skills needed for success in the course
- Clear grading policy at the course level and information about how individual assignments will be graded including how to submit assignments and how to expect to receive feedback
- Clear, consistent ways that course information and materials are presented in syllabus and Moodle
- Information about how to access support services is transparent and accessible (ASC, tutoring, writing center, library, IT, etc.)

# Prioritizing interaction

Active learning involves learners engaging by doing something and entails guiding learners to increasing levels of responsibility for their own learning

## **3 types of interactions:**

- **learner-content**
  - assigned readings,
  - completion of activity responding to course readings, etc.
- **learner-instructor**
  - assignments submitted for instructor feedback
  - discussion with instructor in synchronous sessions or through discussion boards, FAQ discussion forum moderated by the instructor, etc.
- **learner-learner**
  - group discussions in synchronous sessions or through discussion boards
  - small-group projects
  - group problem-solving assignments
  - peer critique/review, etc.