ONITA BASU: Hi, everyone. Welcome to my classroom. My name is Onita Basu, and I'm a professor in civil and environmental engineering here at Carleton. The Fall term was the first term that I was teaching online. I was on sabbatical last year, and it was a really steep learning curve, like I'm sure most of us know.

So I just wanted to share with you, like my goal today is to share with you some tips and tricks about what I did in the Fall, and how I'm carrying that forward as well. And one thing I really want to make clear is I attended a couple of sessions to learn, and there was a couple that I felt like there was some people who are amazing at Carleton and can do so many things. And that's awesome, so I'm going to give you a bunch of things that I'm doing. But please, just try and find maybe one thing that you want to incorporate into your classroom, and don't feel like any pressure to try and do it all.

I think every time I go to a workshop, I'm always trying to get one take away that I can use out of all of the things that I might actually learn in a workshop. I think one comment that I wanted to also make at the beginning is that I run a blended course, so that's synchronous and asynchronous. And I really treat it as such.

So if it's synchronous, I'm not recording it. I'm not providing it to the students afterwards. That really helps facilitate classroom attendance, and the students, although reluctant at the beginning, have told me at the end that they found it very helpful to set their own schedules. And then on top of that, I have asynchronous content as well to help out because of just listening in a long lecture can be tiring.

So it's a little bit of online time, and then the other half or other third is the asynchronous content time. I really wanted to make sure that I had engagement in my classrooms, because that's how I run my classes in the in person mode. And I spent a lot of time thinking about that, so that's what I really want to-- well, there's a lot of things I want to talk about in terms of how I set up my classroom. So I'm just going to pause and pull up another slide. So you can see that now.

All right, so what are the key points I want to get across in my classroom that's coming up? I've broken it into two groups. One is the classroom activities, and one is

behind the scenes. So for the classroom activities, I think the most important point for me that I'm hoping to share with you guys at the workshop is the engagement section.

So I use Zoom at the platform, and I use poll questions in pretty much every class. I find that it's a really nice way to do like a three minute review at the beginning of each lecture on the content from the last class. And then I can use it also throughout the class, if I'm doing a point, and then I've got a quick question that I want to get and see where everyone's at. And then, of course, depending on the answer that they pick, I can have a little conversation about it.

Another one that I actually learned from my son who's in elementary school is to use Kahoot, so we use that for trivia review. So I did it, I think, three times in the Fall, so one was like a mid-term review style. One was like a final exam review, and then the students had so much fun with it that I just did a Christmas trivia as well.

The other one is breakout sessions. I use breakout sessions. It's on some of the lessons, not all of the lessons, and we'll talk about that. A new one that I started using is the whiteboard for discussion. So if you want the students to engage with you, you can pull up the whiteboard feature and just type in notes as you're going, and capture that content, and then share it with the class later on.

And then the last one that I do for active engagement is that I have a second camera that we'll see in the workshop, and I do live examples in it. And it could either be a second camera, or, of course, a lot of people are using like a Surface tablet and showing notes that way. I did both, and the students actually liked the kind of live second camera version.

I think that is just because it was like a change of pace compared to what most other examples they were getting in their classrooms, and then the other point I wanted to get across is, I think, the behind the scenes is really important too. So I think lighting is important. Because, if the students can clearly, then they're going to be able to pay attention to you better.

Of course, our microphone is important. What software are you going to use for recording your videos for your asynchronous content? I use Open Broadcast Studio, also known as OBS. I am no expert at it, and I make mistakes all the time. But I have

learned a lot.

And then, if you're going to do any editing in your videos, I use Filmora. It was cheap and pretty easy to use. It's very basic, but nice.

And then how are you going to post your videos? So I think these are all kind of like in the package of online that we need to consider and that I'm hoping to share with you and discuss when we get together at the workshop. That's it, and see you at the workshop.