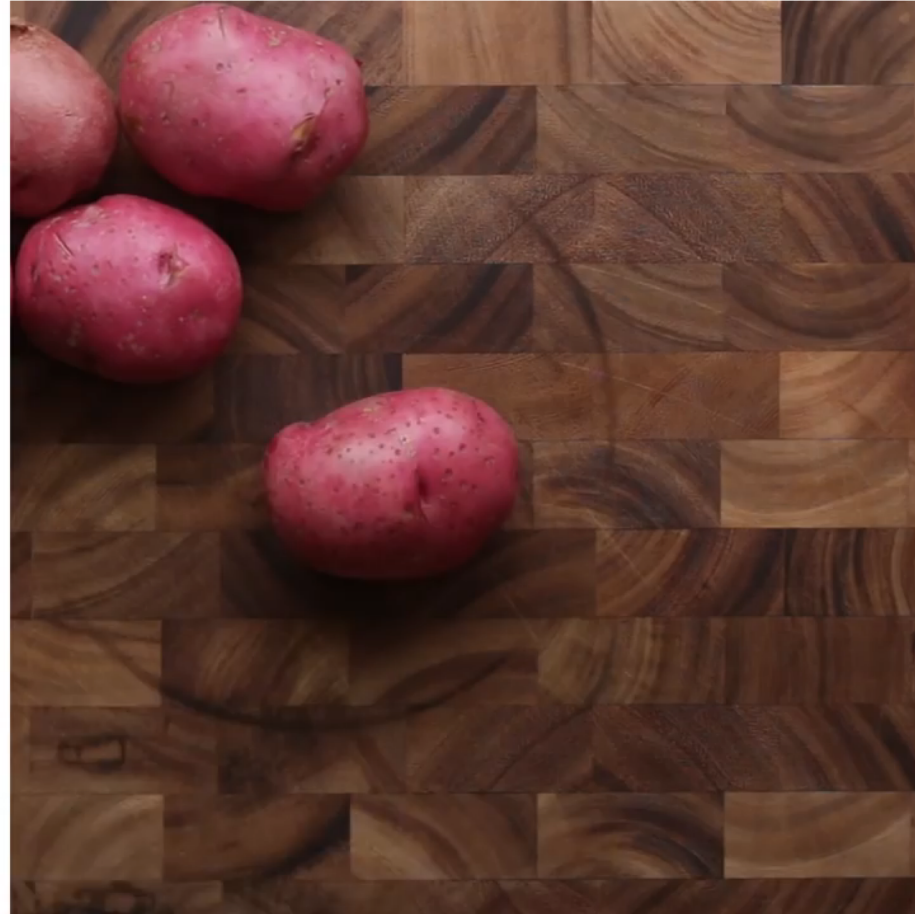


# My Experience of Teaching First Year Online

School of Engineering Strategic Retreat 2020

Mehran Shirazi

# Cheesy Baked Hash Brown Patties!



# Why did I like that video?

- Brevity: Nowadays we have the attention span of an [over-caffeinated squirrel](#)
- Potato peeling
- Simplicity: “yeah, I could probably make that!”

But, wasn't that too fast? How much chives was added?

The magic [rewind](#) button.



# Why did I go for asynchronous learning?

- Convenience is not a marginal issue!
- Different pace
- Time-zones
- Synchronous meetings are culturally unaware
- Asynchronous learning promotes deeper reflection

“I like **not feeling pressured** to communicate right away – I like to have **processing time** and feel as though I can come back to the conversation later and still participate. It helps me to be more **thoughtful**.”

“Asynchronous communication links with my local time, my skills, my preferences, my interests, my agenda. So it is **focused on ME**”

“I enjoy reading and reflecting; turning things over in my own mind before contributing; being able to stop, walk away, **look something up**, before responding.”

# Students are stressed!

- Be available
- Connect
  - Instructor introduction video
  - Icebreakers
  - Question of the day activity
- Use fun activities to engage students

# Students are confused!

- Communicate Send weekly emails and explain all the tasks they have in that week.
- Don't spam them!
- Organize your course in weekly Canvas modules.
- Use Canvas discussion

# Students have too much work to do!

- Credit hour policy
- Estimate time required for each activity
- Talk to the other faculty members





## Mehran Shirazi's anonymous feedback page:

| This page has received 114 feedback messages.

Mehran says: Dear students, if there is anything you don't like about my teaching, please feel free to mention it here :-)

Type in ARABIC ▼ (Press **Ctrl + G** to toggle between English and the other language)

and you are..  Anonymous!  my name is..