COMMUNITY IN AN ONLINE CLASS

While community looks different in an online class, simple things can encourage community in the classroom despite the different medium for teaching and learning.

If your online classroom has a discussion board try the following:

1. Have smaller “pods” so students get to know their discussion peers better
2. Have students begin replies to their peers with their (preferred) name
3. Have an introduction board posts that include a picture

Use technology to your advantage:

1. Have social media pages for your classes. Use tumblr, twitter, facebook, and youtube. Encourage assignments that use these mediums as well.
2. Remind students that you are a real person! Give meta-analysis and small personal details to help personalize yourself as the instructor.
3. Check out Araceli Perez’s technology page: https://isitinthesyllabus.wordpress.com/group-three-teaching-through-current-events/araceli-perez/