

# February 3, 2003 - New Publication: Facilitating Online Learning

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As in face-to-face learning situations, the types of relationships that develop in an online course are central to the success of the class. The course facilitator plays an essential role in encouraging group members to become thoughtful inquirers, autonomous thinkers, and constructive co-learners.

Designed for faculty in the TERC/Lesley University master's in science education program, this research paper starts with the hypothesis that a good facilitator is someone who can step back and allow participants to build understandings together, yet who also knows when to come in gently and redirect a conversation or provide encouragement. The paper goes on to provide a set of seven major guidelines for faculty that most educators working in an online setting will find instructive. Written by Sue Doubler and Gail Matthews-DeNatale.

[Facilitating Online Learning article](#)