

Zoom Technology Pilot

Fall 2016

Building on President Smart's vision of distributed distance education, Missouri State Outreach will embark on a pilot project to test the capability of a video conferencing cloud-based product, Zoom. Currently, video conferencing at MSU is primarily a hardware solution connecting classrooms through Interactive Video (ITV). Missouri State has been updating the technology of ITV classrooms by providing larger monitors and a content channel allowing students to see the instructor and PowerPoint presentations simultaneously. While students prefer to have the instructor in their classroom, students at off-campus locations understand that having a program available close to home via ITV can be the difference between getting a degree or not. This is particularly the case for programs that are not delivered 100% online.

Zoom is a new product that will be available this spring through MOREnet, the state's broadband internet provider. Zoom was developed for educational applications and Missouri State is one of the first Missouri institutions to explore ways to use Zoom technology, receive the MOREnet educational discount, and provide support for this video conferencing tool. Zoom is a robust solution that can connect to established ITV classrooms and individual computers or handheld devices. Zoom rooms provide video conferencing, wireless content sharing, and integrated audio. Connecting to the Zoom room is as simple as participants clicking an invitation link.

The purpose of the pilot is to deliver Lebanon classes to a broader student base increasing the total students served and making programs more cost effective. The fall semester 2016 Zoom pilot has the following components:

- One 16-week criminal justice class originating from a Missouri State ITV classroom at OTC Lebanon will provide a Zoom room experience for students at other off-campus locations including West Plains, OTC Waynesville, and OTC Table Rock.
- The Missouri State fulltime criminal justice instructor in Lebanon will conduct the pilot.
- Students at Lebanon will be in the ITV classroom connecting with other students through a Zoom room at a central location or through individual computers.
- Zoom has the capability for students to see each other and the instructor through sound activation.
- Zoom has break-out room capability so students can be instructed to meet in a small group or one-to-one and then rejoin the class.
- Planning and testing for the pilot is taking place, a session for Lebanon criminal justice students was conducted on March 14.
- Press releases, social media, classroom visits, and outreach to law enforcement agencies is occurring at West Plains in preparation for fall.
- The criminal justice department is excited to participate and faculty in several departments are learning about Zoom and planning a variety of applications.

ZOOM OVERVIEW

“ZOOM, a cloud meeting company, unifies cloud video conferencing, simple web meetings, and group collaboration into one easy to use platform.”

Website zoom.us

History of ZOOM

“ZOOM is a cloud based video conferencing and webinar software that was founded in 2011 by engineers and development teams working for Cisco and its collaboration unit WebEx. The founder of Zoom, Eric S. Yuan, was formerly the Vice President of engineering at Cisco. The official launch of ZOOM was in January 2013 and by May of that same year had reached 1 million users. “

Taken from zoom wiki

Why ZOOM

1. Ease of use

Participants receive an email invitation with a link that connects them directly. They can be given a meeting address to simply connect.

It's an automated process – no additional training required.

2. Promotes synchronous classroom options

Connects to H.322/SIP room systems, desktops, tablets, and mobile devices.

Provides video and audio with sound activation to feature speakers.

Has break-out room capability – students can meet in small groups and rejoin the class at a designated time.

Allows private chat between students and professor as well as student to student, and group chat with all participants at the same time.

Allows real time recoding of class's either on the device locally or to the cloud.

Has the capability to stream Webinars to up to 10,000 view-only attendees.

3. Affordable

As a MOREnet partner, MSU costs are reduced.

Each host can have 50 participants in a meeting.