

Angela Aneiros
Campus: Bloomington
Title: Lecturer
Department: Business Law & Ethics

In the first week of transitioning to virtual classes, Angela decided to create a classroom experience as “normal” to the IU and the Kelley college experience as possible. Her classes were not “online” but virtual: live, synchronous sessions.

One of her biggest challenges has been teaching L375, a discussion-based class which features a deep dive into the “Diversity in the U.S.” learning objectives, in both an in-person (rotating hybrid) and synchronous Zoom format. Her classes traditionally involve extensive small group exercises to help create an environment of inclusiveness, encouraging students to share their thoughts, concerns, and questions. To make such a class work, she needed to be creative and find new ways of creating such an environment. She employed adaptive small-group activities, breakout rooms, polls, Top Hat (a platform that allows instructors to interactive and receive real time feedback from students), Kahoot (a game-based learning platform), and discussion boards to engage students and help create an inclusive environment.

Realizing this year has been extremely challenging for students, Angela strived to expand her already outstanding outreach and support for students, to create a more understanding and compassionate environment for students. In addition to office hours, she held virtual “coffee hours” where students could talk about anything they wanted – to vent, ask questions, find resources, socialize, discuss the weight of events happening in the country, etc. Further, for her hybrid classes, she held “make-up” classes every Friday to accommodate students who were isolated, quarantined, located abroad, or facing other challenges that disrupted their ability to participate during originally scheduled class times.

Angela received exceptionally positive feedback from students about her teaching and support during the pandemic. Below is a sample of student feedback from this past year:

“I wanted to reach out to you and thank you personally for our class session. That meeting was one of the first classes that I have had since the pandemic that felt normal. Normal being that it provided a familiar structure to what would have been an in person class. I know that all professors are trying their best to convert to our new online environment, but you have made the impossible possible.”

“Probably the professor I had that handled a covid semester the best. Professor Aneiros was very flexible and understanding of technology issues and always went out of her way to make sure everyone was keeping up.”

“I really liked the setup of the hybrid and meeting over Zoom to complete discussion logs. I thought this kept the class more interactive, rather than watching a lecture twice a week (which can get very dry). I enjoyed being able to have in person class! I also really loved Professor

Aneiros's enthusiasm and personality. She is a very intelligent, kind, and awesome teacher. She really sets you up for success. Professor Aneiros is also very understanding and makes time to meet with her students.”