Why students have them off

**Technology**
Students may lack webcams, sufficient WiFi access, or the computer processing capability to handle all Zoom features.

**Fatigue**
Students may be in Zoom classes or meetings for many hours a day and may need a break from constantly being on.

**Anxiety**
Students may have anxiety, image concerns, or a history of trauma that makes showing their videos difficult.

**Privacy**
Students may not want to share their surroundings with others. They may not want their image recorded.

**Illness**
Students may feel well enough to attend a virtual class, but may not want to share video due to their symptoms.

**Caregiver Needs**
Students may have parental, custodial, or elder care obligations that compete for attention.

---

Why instructors like them on

**Simulates face-to-face learning**
It can be difficult to teach to 'empty boxes'

**Assists with community-building**
To confirm student engagement

---

Is there a learning- or student-centered reason to have cameras on in your class?

**No**
As an instructor, I just prefer to have cameras on.

**Yes**
I believe we need cameras on to achieve learning goals that pertain to:

---

**Observable skills**
I am teaching observable skills, such as public speaking, dance, or sign language. I need to be able to see my students to give them effective feedback.

**Engagement**
Students are more likely to connect with the class when they can see each other.

**Community-building**
Community is important to me, and it feels easier to build when cameras are on.

---

Why instructors like them on

**Simulates face-to-face learning**
It can be difficult to teach to 'empty boxes'

---

Why instructors like them on

**Assists with community-building**
To confirm student engagement

---

Camera Use in Zoom: Making the Right Choice for Your Class

---

Adapted from Lindsay Maxwell at the Center for Academic Excellence Appalachian State University