



Hi, I'm Kizer

Dear Kizer,
I am having an issue with my online classes. I have a busy home and I don't feel comfortable turning on my microphone and camera. Plus, sometimes my room is just a mess and I don't want my professor seeing my messy bedroom. It makes me uncomfortable, but my professor is requiring it. What do I do?
Thanks
Stew Dious

Dear Stew,
I can appreciate your concern! It can almost feel like an invasion of privacy when your professor can see into your living space. The best advice I can give you is to....

Communicate with your professor and explain your situation. For example, do you have a lot of noise in the background because of the people in your home? You will find that most faculty are understanding, and being able to communicate is vital! Don't be afraid to reach out to your professor to explain your situation.

Understand, your professor really just wants to see your face. Many times, your facial expression tells the professor if you understand what they are saying. A confused face is a cue to the professor to slow down or repeat what they just said.

Take action! You can use a background. When in TEAMS, at the top of the screen are three dots. If you click that, one of the choices is Apply Background Effect. There are many choices to pick from that will shield what is behind you.

And remember, this is new territory for all of us. We all are trying to do the best we can. Have a great semester and if the conversation with your professor does not go in the direction you hoped, reach out and let me know so we can problem-solve this together.

Sincerely,
Kizer