Draft of Interaction Section of Paper

 When developing an online course, it is important to include three different types of student interactions. These interactions are student-content, student-student, and student-instructor. Developing an online course involves introducing course content to students. While it is important to introduce students to the course content, it is equally important to develop material students can interact with. This interaction is called student-content interaction. Students must also feel a sense of community while enrolled in an online class. The best way to develop a sense of community in an online course is to make sure the course offers student-student interaction. This will eliminate a sense of isolation within the online course. There is also a need for student-instructor interaction. This interaction helps the student to understand how well they are doing in the course.

 Throughout my course I have developed ways for my students to interact with the course content. In lesson one the students will need to read the introduction and syllabus. They will be tested on these items for clarification. They will also post an introduction to the discussion post. During lesson two they will read the Lecturette for the course, read the first lesson in the book “Lessons from the Mouse,” and post in the discussion board their answers to the discussion questions. The students will complete a blog at the end of week four that must include information from lesson two. The midterm at the end of week seven will also allow the students to absorb more from this lesson. Lesson three will require students to read the Lecturette and read lesson two in “Lessons from the Mouse.” They will then answer the discussion questions, complete the blog at the end of lesson four, and take the midterm exam at the end of lesson seven. These activities will allow the student to interact with the content throughout this online course.

 Students will not feel isolated during this course because I have implemented ways in which students will develop student-student interactions throughout the course. In lesson one the students will post to the introduction discussion post. They will introduce themselves to their classmates and post two truths and one lie about themselves. The students will then have fun trying to guess the lies of their classmates. This is a great way for students to interact with one another. In lessons two and three, students will be required to post their answers to the discussion questions on the discussion board and respond to at least two of their classmate’s discussion post. The students will also be required to respond to someone that responded to their original post. This is required to offer more interaction between students.

 Student-instructor interaction is also extremely important during an online course. This is insured throughout the course with the grading of the blog, midterm and interaction within the discussion posts. I plan to make sure I am involved throughout the course and answering student questions and concerns in the course questions section of the online course. Students also have questions they may not want to include the whole class in. I plan to actively check my email and answer student emails and inquiries throughout the course.

 In conclusion, it is extremely important to include student-content interaction to ensure the student is learning the course material, student-student interaction to ensure the student does not feel isolated throughout the course, and student-instructor interaction to ensure the student is receiving the feedback needed and deserved throughout the course. These things are important for different reasons, but it is important for them to all be included when dealing with an online course. Throughout this course the students will be given the interactions needed to succeed in the course.