In an online class, developing healthy patterns of communication with professors is very important. Below are some common do’s and don’ ts for online learners.While I have only listed two of each, these are obviously many other situations that can arise. Students should be able to extend the logic（逻辑）of each to their particular circumstance.

**Do's**

• Ask questions, but make sure they are good, thoughtful questions. Questions about subject content are generally welcomed. Before asking questions about the course design, read the syllabus（教学大纲）and learning management system information to be sure the answer isn't hiding in plain sight.

• Participate in discussion forums（论坛）, blogs and other open-ended forums for dialogue. That's what they are for. Be sure to stay on topic and not offer irrelevant information. Make a point, and make it safe for others to do the same.

**Don'ts**

• Don't share personal information or stories. Professors are not trained nurses, financial aid experts or your best friends. If you are in need of a deadline extension, simply explain the situation to the professor. If more information is needed, they will ask.

• Don't openly express annoyance at a professor or class. Everyone has taken a not-so-great class at one time or another.When a student attacks a professor on the social media, the language used actually says more about the student. If there is truly a concern about a professor's professionalism or ability, be sure to use online course evaluations to calmly offer your comments.