

What is the best video conference app or platform for me to use?

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Curious about the best videoconference (VC) platform to use? As you probably already understand, it depends on your specific circumstances, whether you're hosting simple one-on-one meetings or small-group sessions, or whether you're hosting an online conference or teaching a class with hundreds of students.

This chart compares the primary features of the four VC platforms supported by UBCO; we can help you get started with any or all of these.

Features	Collaborate Ultra	Pexip (UBC Collaboration Suite)	Skype For Business	Zoom
Canvas Integration	Yes (by default)	No	No	by mid-August 2020
Max. # Simultaneous Webcams	4 on screen	up to 21	6 on screen	Up to 49 on screen
Max. # Simultaneous Audio	4 at a time	up to 21	6 at a time	Up to 49 at a time
Max. # Participants	250*	100	250	300
Multiple Moderators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Supported Browsers	Chrome/Firefox/Safari	Chrome/Firefox	Chrome/Edge/IE	Chrome/Firefox/Safari /Edge
Plug-in Required	No	for screenshare only	Yes	No
Mobile App Available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Desktop App Available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chat Feature	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chat with everyone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chat with individuals	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Share White Board	Yes	No	No	Yes
Polling	Yes	No	No	Yes
Hand Raising	Yes	No	No	Yes
Session Scheduling	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes
Can Record Session	Yes	No	Yes*	Yes
Recording Format	MP4 Video	N/A	MP4 Video	MP4 Video
Recording Downloadable	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
Phone Conferencing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Share/Download Files	No	No	Yes	Yes
Screen Sharing Capabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Breakout Rooms (Group Work)	Yes**	No	No	Yes
Remembers Content	No	No	Yes	No*
Browser Based (no download required)	Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes**
Live Captioning	Yes (manual)	No	No	Yes (manual)
Students can Create a Session	No	No	No	No***
FIPPA Compliant	Yes***	Yes	Yes	Yes
	*500 possible if enabled in Canvas https://ctl.ok.ubc.ca/teaching-remotely/teaching-online/	*if done by IT Services	*recording possible on PCs but not on Macs	*Chat sessions on the app outside of calls are remembered
	**for groups of 250 or less		**browser still requires Skype Web App installation	**download of app recommended and prompted, but does work in browser alone.
	***compliant in that recordings are stored on Canadian servers			***accounts currently restricted to Faculty and Staff with @ubc.ca email addresses.

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